

MECHANICSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BOROUGH OFFICE BUILDING
2 West Strawberry @ North Market Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6282

February 5, 2002

7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: President Rider called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

OATH OF OFFICE: Mayor Ritter administered the oath of office to Junior Councilperson Michael Lopez.

ATTENDANCE: In attendance were, President Rider, Vice President Eichelberger, Councilman, McDermott, Ritter, Seagrist, Whitcomb, Winchell, Mayor Ritter, Jr. Councilperson Lopez, Chief Spotts, Solicitor Shorpp, Secretary Stough, Engineer Bruening, Codes Officer Ressler and Assistant Secretary Boyer. Also present Cress – Sentinel, Miller – Patriot News, Ron & Georgia Blauch, Bob Dietrich, David Hoover, Floyd Kautz, Ken Kephart, George Lake, Dave Miller, Jack Neibert, Mark Passaro, Twilo Rife, Larry Seagrist and Jay Stoner.

GUESTS:

◆ George Lake, 41 West Main Street, address Borough Council representing a group of Senior Citizens concerned about recent changes at the Mechanicsburg Area Senior center. Mr. Lake distributed a letter and petition with ninety-one signatures that was sent to Diakon Lutheran Services calling for the reinstatement of Marilyn Chastek, the center's director who was recently discharged. Mr. Lake asked for help from the Borough Council in the efforts of the senior volunteers to have Ms. Chastek reinstated. The Manager stated that he has been in contact with the County Office on Aging on this matter. He added that the lease for the building is with Tressler Lutheran Services, but contains a successor's clause, which would allow successor companies to continue the lease. Mr. Barley, of the County Office of the Aging, has assured the Manager that the center will remain open. Mr. Lake asked Borough Council to send a letter in support of the citizens assembled position. A lengthy discussion followed on the contract for the center with the County which expires in July and the terms and expiration date of the Borough lease. The funding and financial issues associated with the Senior Center were also discussed. In conclusion, Council directed Manager Stough to send a letter to Diakon and the County Office of the Aging outlining the Borough's concerns on this matter. Mr. Lake asked if a copy of the letter could be made available for posting at the Senior Center. Mr. Stough stated that he would see a copy was provided to Mr. Lake.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- ◆ Manager Stough noted that a thank you letter was received from New Hope Ministries for the continued support from the Borough.
- ◆ Thank you letter was also received from the Intermediate School 8th grade class that held the Walk for Diversity on Martin Luther King Day.
- ◆ Information was distributed on the Robert C. Edwards foundation Scholarship. Application deadline is May 11th.
- ◆ A survey was received from the Library as part of their feasibility study for the proposed expansion project.
- ◆ A letter was received from Rheta Holeran of 413 South York Street regarding the traffic problems on South York Street between West Marble Street and Simpson Street. The Chief has directed that the traffic counter be deployed to this location, to compile information on traffic patterns in this area. Warmer weather is needed to effectively use the traffic counter.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- ◆ On Monday, January 28th the Borough staff mailed out 5, 218 annual Manager's reports to all borough residents. A saturation mailing was used to reach all resident, tenants and landlords. We have had a good response to this mailing.

- ◆ Update was given on the DriveKore building project. The construction documents should be prepared by beginning of April. A meeting will be scheduled in middle of February to discuss the plan. Chairman Ritter will discuss possible dates with Manager Stough.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- ◆ The Mayor spoke at the Wesley United Methodist Saturday Morning Breakfast.
- ◆ Attended West Shore Council of Government dinner January 21st.
- ◆ Attended Tri-County Boroughs Association dinner and reorganization on January 22nd.
- ◆ Five appointees are left to be sworn in. Letters will be sent to those individuals by the Borough Office staff.
- ◆ Crime Watch Meeting will be held February 11th at the Senior Citizens Building.

Trivia Question: What is the motto of the Citizens Fire and Rescue Co. No. 2 ?

Answer: The correct answer was "We Strive to Save in Time of Need" given by Jack Neibert.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

- ◆ Officers Kreitzer, and Anthony received citizen letters of commendation on various investigations.
- ◆ The Chief requested an executive session to be held at the close of this meeting for a personnel matter with no action to be taken.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – NONE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recycling Committee: Winchell: NONE

Finance-Appropriations-Insurance: Rider: NONE

Health-Recreation: Rider: Manager Stough noted that he had provided Council with a copy of the proposed Joint Recreation Committee agreement for their review. Please review and get any changes to the Borough manager before the item is discussed at the meeting on February 19th. The Manager will get a copy of the agreement currently in place and review the new agreement and outline any changes for Borough Council.
Public-Safety-Highway: Eichelberger: Chief Spotts reviewed the handicapped parking space list and Manager Stough noted that the information would be forward to Solicitor Shorpp to draft the needed Ordinance changes. Manager Stough said that Solicitor Shorpp has provided a draft of another municipalities Parade Policy. The Manager and Chief Spotts will review this policy and provide comments to the Solicitor, who will prepare a draft for Council's review.

Public Communications: Eichelberger: Councilman Eichelberger shared sample drafts of the next edition of the Borough Newsletter. Council members were asked to review the drafts and get back to Manager Stough with any comments. Manager Stough noted that this is a very rough draft and a finished draft will be provided as soon as details are finalized. Manager Stough and Councilman Eichelberger have been soliciting advertisers for the publication. Councilman Eichelberger noted that future editions of the Newsletter will be mailed in a saturation mailing, as was the Manager's report.

Ordinance-Administration-Legislative Action: Seagrist: Councilman Seagrist asked if sample ordinances on ball field signage have been received from PSAB. Manager Stough said that he was unable to find a sample ordinances, however, the matter was discussed with some other municipalities at the Tri-County Borough's Association. Solicitor Shorpp stated that he would review the Zoning Ordinance and get back to the Manager. It may require an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance; however, the signage could be controlled through a policy adopted by Resolution of Borough Council. Councilman Seagrist said that he would have Jeff Shatzer attend the next Council meeting to discuss this matter further.

Property-Building: Ritter: NONE

School Board: McDermott: Councilman McDermott said that the school board will meet next Tuesday, February 12th.

Community Development: McDermott: Councilman McDermott stated that next week is "Random Act of Kindness" week. Halloween Parade Committee met last evening to start planning for this annual event. The parade route will be shortened this year, and Council will receive the revised route for review when it has been finalized. Last week the President urged American's to get involved in volunteer actives in their community

during his State of the Union address. Councilman McDermott suggested that the Borough compile a list of community organizations that are looking for volunteers. He suggested using the Newsletter to gather information. Information compiled could be made available to resident on the Borough's Web site. The topic of two-hour parking in the downtown area was discussed. The exact area and enforcement issues were discussed. Solicitor Shorpp noted that this would involve a change in the Borough Ordinance and proper signage would have to be installed, so that the two-hour rule could be enforced. The Solicitor and Chief noted that enforcement would be difficult and somewhat inconsistent. Manager Stough said that he would work with the Chief to determine an exact area and have that information ready for the next Council meeting. Council can then forward the matter to the Solicitor for preparation of the needed ordinance changes. Councilman McDermott noted that the foot traffic group put Mechanicsburg brochures together and are available at the Borough Office and other downtown locations.

W.S.C.O.G.: Ritter: NONE

AGENDA ITEMS FOR February 19, 2002

- ◆ **Discussion and action on subdivision plan for 220-222 South Washington Street and Mechanicsburg Commons subdivision & land development plan.** – Manager Stough stated that on January 31, 2002 Solicitor Shorpp, Engineer Bruening, Codes Officer Ressler and I met with Mr. Hughes and his legal and engineering representatives to discuss these plans and the outstanding items yet to be addressed. Mr. Hughes has granted time extensions of 90 days on both of these plans. Mr. Hughes will be requesting some waivers from Borough Council at the next regular Council meeting. Cartway and right-of way width waivers and waiver of some of the sidewalk requirements will be submitted. A sketch plan will be provided to Borough Council next week with the waiver requests. Additional discussion followed on the parking, and storm water issues that are pending.
- ◆ **Information on the upcoming PSAB Spring Legislative Conference** – The Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn, Harrisburg/Hershey on March 18th through March 19th. If interested, contact the Borough Manager.
- ◆ **Consideration of Ordinance 1037 amending the code of Ordinances relative to descriptions for Handicapped Parking Spaces.** – The Manager stated that information on the existing spaces is being compiled and will be forward to the Borough Solicitor
- ◆ **Consideration of Ordinance 1038 amending the code of Ordinances to include the Lieutenant position** – Yesterday the Civil Service Commission met to consider the lieutenant position. Manager Stough noted that Council would have to act on the revision to the Civil Service Commission rules and regulations at the February 19, 2001 meeting as well as the Ordinance to change the regulations as drafted by the Solicitor. The Ordinance has been properly advertised and will be ready for action of Council at the next meeting.
- ◆ **Settlement 2001 Per Capita Tax & 2001 Real Estate Tax** – Figures will be provided to Council of delinquent taxes to be forward to collection.
- ◆ **Submission of the 2002 tax duplicates to the tax collector, Barry Heckard, for collection** – After receipt, Council will need to authorize the tax duplicate to be forward to Barry Heckard for collection.

GUESTS:


- ◆ Ron Blauch, 215 South Broad Street, asked the Manager if he could view the sketch plan of Mechanicsburg Commons. The Manager stated that Mr. Blauch could call him next week to make arrangements to view the plans at the Borough Office.
- ◆ Fire Chief, Larry Seagrist, also asked to review the Mechanicsburg Commons plan when it is received. Fire Chief also informed Council that he has tour the new dialysis center at Siedle Hospital. Service is provided on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Mr. Seagrist also advised Council that the Fire Department has purchase new software. The Chief also asked Council members to review their copies of the Fire Study and get comments back to him as soon as possible.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Councilman Seagrist asked Chief Spotts about the status of Officers Bittner's health insurance. The Chief noted that although no correspondence has been receive, from his conversation with Bittner he feels that he will not be exercising his right to COBRA insurance benefits.

Manager Stough introduced the Borough Engineer, Mark Bruening, of Pennoni Associates, to those assembled. Manager Stough noted that this week we received a grant for the Borough Leaf Machine in the amount of \$33,746.27 and also a \$10,000 grant towards the construction of the Highway Garage Roof.

Mayor Ritter thanked the volunteer fire fighters for their prompt response to the fire on Robert Street.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before Council, President Rider adjourned the Council Committee meeting at 8:35 p.m., with an Executive Session on a personnel issue to follow with no action to be taken.



Jonathan S. Stough
Borough Manager

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