

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

June 4, 2002

7:30 P.M.

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

ATTENDANCE: In attendance were, Vice President Eichelberger, Councilman McDermott, Ritter, Seagrist, Whitcomb, Winchell, Junior Councilman Lopez, Chief Spotts, Solicitor Shorpp, Secretary Stough, and Assistant Secretary Boyer. Also present Cress – Sentinel, Ron Blauch, Bob Dietrich, Rich Corman, Phil Dolson, Daryl Hench, David Hoover, Marty Kaberle, Floyd Kautz, Keith Marston, Jack Neibert, Jack Otstot, Larry Seagrist, and Charles Sheriff. Mayor Ritter was late at 8:45 p.m. and President Rider was absent.

AGENDA ITEMS

◆ **Consider award of Recreation Grant Bid for restroom, concession stand and pavilion.**

Phil Dolson of the Recreation Commission was present to review the bids with Borough Council. Mr. Dolson noted that no bid was received for the plumbing and that the bids received were over the budgeted costs for this project. The Recreation Commission is requesting that Borough Council reject the bids and authorize re-bidding of the project, with several bid revisions to try to bring the project in at budget. Councilman McDermott made a motion to reject the bids received and to authorize the re-bidding of the project with the modification as described by Mr. Dolson. The motion carried by a vote of 6:0.

GUESTS:

◆ Daryl Hench, Chief of Washington Fire Company, read a letter to Borough Council in reaction to recent actions of Borough Council. The letter addressed the issue of the housing of Truck 8 and statements made at the Council meeting of May 22, 2002. Chief Hench expressed his dissatisfaction with the level of communication between the Fire Chief Seagrist and Washington Fire Company. Also discussed in the letter was the condition of Truck 8 and the missing page of the report on the trucks condition provided to Borough Council. Chief Hench stated that he would make the following recommendations to the Washington Fire Company:

1. That the Company not support any purchases for Truck 8 until a complete history of requests and the role Chief 8 played in them can be established.
2. All communications with Chief Seagrist be documented in writing; all information from Chief Seagrist be in writing and submitted to the Chief, President or Board Chairman personally.
3. The Washington Fire Company pay for an independent inspection of Truck 8 out of its own relief funds. Should myself or any of my officers find an area of deficiency I will enact our Safe Vehicle Policy.

Chief Hench closed by asking for a response to his letter of May 6<sup>th</sup> regarding answers to his questions on the safe operating condition of Truck 8.

◆ Chief Seagrist addressed Council in response to Mr. Hench's comments. Chief Seagrist stated that a copy of the policies and procedures referenced in the letter request to house Truck 8, were not included for review by himself or Borough Council. He stated that he is in favor of Washington Fire Company taking over operation of Truck 8, as requested. Chief Seagrist stated that at no time did he feel Truck 8 was unsafe to be in operation.

◆ Vice President Eichelberger requested that Mr. Hench provide a copy of his letter for Borough Council. He also suggested that these issue be discussed further at the next Fire Committee meeting.

◆ Councilman Seagrist addressed Mr. Hench's comments on his actions at the May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, stating that he felt the Fire Chief should have received a copy of the letter prior to the meeting. Chief Hench stated that since Chief Seagrist was aware of the request, he did not feel it was necessary to see that he had a written copy. He asked that correspondence be sent to Council before the meeting, so that they have time to review it prior to the meeting night.

◆ Councilman Winchell voiced his concern about communication with the Fire Companies and Fire Chief. He voiced concern about the fact that the Number 2 rating was received on Truck 8 and it was never brought to the attention of Borough Council. He stated that this is a Borough Council problem, not just a Fire Committee problem.

◆ Jack Otstot, Truck Captain, Truck 8, informed Borough Council that he asked to met with the Fire Chief and Councilman Winchell because he is vacating his position with Truck 8. A discussion followed about when the letter was

received and distributed. Manager Stough noted that one of the items he wants to discuss is setting a deadline for submission of materials to be distributed to Council to prevent items being dropped off on Tuesdays, for the meeting that evening. A long discussion followed on past discussions about the housing of Truck 8.

- ◆ Jack Neibert, Citizens Fire Company, stated that he is upset that meetings are taking place regarding Borough owned Fire Equipment and no one from Citizens Fire Company is included in the discussion. He feels that all these issues should come before the Fire Committee, not be handled privately. Mr. Neibert stated that he feels items such as this should go to the Fire Committee before Borough Council reviews them.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

- ◆ Manager Stough noted that a letter and petition from a resident on East Main Street was distributed to Borough Council. She has objections and concerns about the new two-hour parking regulations in the downtown area.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT

- ◆ Manager Stough will be attending the PSAB conference in Seven Springs.
- ◆ Attended a GIS seminar in Carlisle that was sponsored by PSAB.
- ◆ Manager reported that two new sink holes have appeared on Apple Drive and the Borough is dealing with United Water to resolve this problem.

Manager Stough asked Solicitor Schorpp if Council could establish submission deadlines for information to be discussed at the Borough Council. The Solicitor stated that could be established by a motion of Borough Council. Manager Stough asked to have this added as an agenda item for the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor 's report was moved to later in the meeting, as the Mayor had not yet arrived.

#### CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

- ◆ Officers Kreitzer and Demmy received a letter of commendation from a citizen for their efforts in recovering lost property.
- ◆ Regarding the agenda item for June 18<sup>th</sup> regarding the Special Events Permit for Gross Drive, Police Department sees no significant law enforcement or traffic problems relating to the Special Event application for Gross Drive on August 10, 2002.
- ◆ Two Hour parking signs were up Monday morning and the Police Department got the first complaint Monday afternoon regarding non-compliance. Officers have been directed to issue written warnings to begin enforcement. It will be a couple weeks till the Department begins ticketing of vehicles.

Chief Spotts requested the addition of a handicapped parking permit for Mr. Eisenhouer to the June 18<sup>th</sup> agenda.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There have been significant changes to Act 600, which is the Police Pension Plan legislation. Changes involve enhance benefits for Police Officers.

#### FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- ◆ Council has received the Fire Report for the month of May.
- ◆ Two quotes have been received on repairs to Engine 127. Cost will be in the \$8,200 to \$8,500 range.
- ◆ Engine 127 and 128 are scheduled for pump test on June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ Truck 8 annual maintenance was completed last week.
- ◆ 15,000 feet of fire hose is scheduled to test later this month at a cost of \$3,000.
- ◆ American Testing Company will be conducting ladder testing in July.
- ◆ Chief Investigated one burning complaint and has notified the resident to remove the burning pit as it is not in compliance with Borough Ordinances.
- ◆ Received a subpoena from the District Attorney's Office on an appeal of a burning citation issued last year.
- ◆ Chief Seagrist asked that the Washington Fire Company provide Councilman Winchell with the policies and procedures referenced in their letter.

Chief Seagrist asked Councilman McDermott about the date and time of the meeting to review specifications for the new fire truck. Councilman McDermott noted that the meeting has not been rescheduled and he would notify all parties of the new meeting date as soon as it was scheduled.

Councilman Whitcomb asked Chief Seagrist who installed the poles on the fire hydrants. Chief Seagrist stated that the Fire Companies installed the marks. Councilman Whitcomb reported that one was broken off on Market and Allen Street and one was bent on Market and Green.

#### COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recycling Committee: Winchell: NONE

Finance-Appropriations-Insurance: Rider. NONE

Health-Recreation: Rider: Councilman McDermott asked if there were any questions on the Recreation Bid or recent park health inspection. Mr. Dolson informed Borough Council that all deficiencies on the health inspection were corrected with the exception of the ladder locks, which will be replaced as soon as they can find the correct size. Manager Stough noted that the scheduling of the inspection needs to be better coordinated to allow time for some of the work to be completed before the inspection is done. Manager Stough noted that a bill was received by the Recreation Commission for the safety training provided by Beth Burkholder for park staff and the Commission is questioning if the Borough should pay for the training since the Borough is requiring the park employees be trained. A discussion followed about the training, requirements and costs. The matter of this bill will be added to the next agenda. Recreation will pay the bill and if Council decides to assume responsibility, they will reimburse the Recreation Commission.

Public-Safety-Highway: Eichelberger: Addition of the handicapped application to the agenda, as noted in Chief Spotts report.

Public Communications: Eichelberger: Newsletter is in development; the deadline for information is June 7<sup>th</sup>. Newsletter will be mailed before the end of June.

Ordinance-Administration-Legislative Action: Seagrist: Councilman Seagrist requested a Committee meeting to be scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss a possible cost of living increase for retired Borough Employees. He also requested the addition of a Resolution honoring Richard Kaberle for his Fire Department Service. Mr. Kaberle past away June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Councilman Seagrist also asked for the addition of Senate Bill 1314 to the agenda for June 18<sup>th</sup> for discussion.

Property-Building: Ritter: Councilman Ritter noted that a schedule for the bidding process has been provided to Borough Council. A public meeting will be held June 17<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. to review the project.

School Board: McDermott: School Board will meet June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Community Development: McDermott: Crime Watch meeting to be held next Monday. Councilman McDermott thanked the Police Department for their participation at Saint Joseph's Community Fair on Saturday. Chief Spotts noted that the Police Department, Borough, Crime Watch and possibility Fire Chief would have a joint booth at Jubilee Day.

W.S.C.O.G.: Ritter: Chief Spotts asked Councilman Eichelberger the date of the COG auction. It will be held July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Fire Committee: Winchell: NONE

#### AGENDA ITEMS FOR June 18, 2002

- ◆ **Museum Association to make rental payment.** – Representatives from the Museum Association will be present to pay the rent of four Strawberries.
- ◆ **Consider action on Ordinance 1041 amending the Borough Code in regard to Street Cut Permits.** – Information needed for this revision has not been received from the Borough Engineer, so this item will be removed from the agenda.
- ◆ **Consider action on Ordinance 1042 revising the Borough's subdivision and land development fees.** – Manager Stough explained this proposed revision to Borough Council. He will provide a copy of the Carlisle Borough Ordinance, which will be the model for the proposed changes. Solicitor Schorpp noted that these changes would require a public hearing and review of the Planning Commission. This item will be removed from the agenda, to be rescheduled for July.
- ◆ **Consider action on Resolution 8-02 approving changes to the control and internal reorganization for the Cable Franchise Agreement.** – Changes have not yet been received from Dan Cohen. Copies will be distributed to Borough Council upon receipt.
- ◆ **Consider approval of the special events request for a block party on Gross Drive August 10, 2002.** - Borough Manager noted that he has no objections to approval of this application. Councilman Winchell asked if all the neighbors have been informed of the potential street closing. Manager Stough noted that a letter could be sent to the residents informing them of the impending request. Councilman Winchell requested that a letter be sent.
- ◆ **Delta Development's request to form a steering committee for the strategic plan.** – Manager Stough reviewed the request with Borough Council. It was decided that the Community Development Committee should be in charge of directing the Steering Committee. Councilman McDermott will provide a list of names to Borough Council at the next meeting for their consideration. Council is asked to make any suggestions on members for this committee to Councilman McDermott.

- ◆ **Review and consideration of three quotes for repair work to Engine 127.** – Discussed under the Fire Chief's report
- ◆ **Discussion on Street Sweeping in regard to the drought situation.** - Sweeping being done on rainy days.
- ◆ **Update on expansion of the Shade Tree Commission.** - Two interested citizens have contacted the office about serving on this committee. Copies will be distributed to Borough Council. Councilman McDermott asked if residents that expressed an interest on the Borough Survey were contacted. Manager Stough noted that the staff would send out a letter. Also an article will be placed in the newsletter asking interested residents to contact the Borough Office.
- ◆ **Update on sidewalk and curb reconstruction project.** - Memo was included in Council packets. Manager noted that both curbs and deteriorated sidewalks have to be repaired on streets where paving has been scheduled. One of those areas is the sidewalk adjacent to the Borough parking area, which is owned by the Museum Association. Manager will look into options for the brick replacement versus concrete replacement.
- ◆ **Update on proposed T-shirt sale to raise funds for holiday decorations.** – Sponsors have been obtained and tee shirts will be ready for Jubilee Day. Rotary Club has agreed to help the Borough with this project.

#### MAYORS REPORT

- ◆ Mechanicsburg Area Veterans Council held their annual Memorial Day Parade ending at the Mechanicsburg Cemetery. Councilmen McDermott and Seagrist were in attendance. Lunch followed at the American Legion.
- ◆ The Vietnam Veterans of Mechanicsburg held a Memorial Day service at the Lincoln Cemetery.
- ◆ A proclamation was delivered to the Business Men's League thanking them for being a proud part of Mechanicsburg History for the past 100 years.
- ◆ Crime Watch meeting June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:p.m. and will feature speaker Ed Rouse, Supervisor for Cumberland County Children and Youth Services.
- ◆ Police Officers Margaret Myers and Scott Pellman will be promoted June 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall. All are welcome.

Trivia Questions: Something of extreme historic value came through Mechanicsburg in 1902, what was it?

Answer: The Liberty Bell traveled through the Borough on a trip from Philadelphia to Charleston, South Carolina. Floyd Kautz knew the correct answer and received a Mechanicsburg Library tote bag.

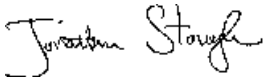
GUESTS: NONE

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilman Seagrist asked the Fire Chief to make Borough Council aware of any safety issues that arise with any of the Fire Equipment in the future.

Councilman Eichelberger spoke to the Manager of Silver Springs Township about the possibility of a joint leaf composting program. He asked Manager Stough to draft a letter opening up conversation on the topic.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before Council, Vice President Eichelberger moved to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. An Executive Session on a personnel issue to follow with no action to be taken.



Jonathan S. Stough  
Borough Manager