

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

July 2, 2002

7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: President Rider called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ATTENDANCE: In attendance were, President Rider, Vice President Eichelberger, Councilman McDermott, Ritter, Seagrist, Whitcomb, Winchell, Mayor Ritter, Chief Spotts, Solicitor Schorpp, Secretary Stough, and Assistant Secretary Boyer. Also present Cress – Sentinel, Miller – Patriot, Dan Andrick, Tom Bender, Ron & Georgia Blauch, Floyd Kautz, Keith Marston, Jack Neibert, Larry Seagrist, and Scott Zimmerman, Junior Councilman Lopez was absent.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman Whitcomb, to approve the agenda. The motion passed 7:0.

AGENDA ITEMS

◆ **Consider authorizing the advertisement of bids for the renovation work at the new Municipal Center.**

Manager Stough reviewed the revised schedule for the bid award for this project. The new schedule is as follows:

July 19<sup>th</sup> bid specifications will be finalized. July 23<sup>rd</sup> the Borough will go out to bid. July 31<sup>st</sup> a pre-bid meeting will be held. August 6<sup>th</sup> will be the deadline for request for substitutions & final addendums. August 13<sup>th</sup> the Bid Opening will be held. Council will award the bid at the Regular Council meeting August 20<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Winchell made a motion to authorize the Manager to advertise for bids for the renovation work as per the schedule submitted. Councilman Ritter seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

GUESTS:

◆ Fire Chief Seagrist addressed Council regarding the control and housing of Truck 8. He asked Borough Council to consider this memo of June 28<sup>th</sup>, expressing his support for Washington Fire Company Housing Truck 8. Chief Seagrist asked that this item be put back on the Council agenda. After some discussion, Borough Council indicated that it first needed to be reviewed by the Fire Committee, and then it could be added to the agenda, upon recommendation of the Fire Committee.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough stated that he has received a number of letter and e-mails regarding the new two-hour parking regulations in the downtown area. Copies of all correspondence have been forward to Borough Council for review. Manager Stough noted that all the letter and e-mails regarding this issue would be compiled into a list for Borough Council closer to the ninety-day deadline.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- ◆ The Manager commended the Highway Department for their storm clean up efforts. Fifteen loads of debris have been collected and hauled to the wastewater treatment facility for disposal.
- ◆ A memo was distributed outlining the approximate cost for replacement of the salt shed at the Highway Department.

Councilman Winchell asked the Manager to direct a letter to United Water regarding the lack of communication during the water service interruption that occurred over the weekend. President Rider expressed his support of this type of letter and noted that it should be copied to the Public Utilities Commission. A discussion followed on emergency service procedures as it relates to utilities service. The possibility of developing a list of residents that are shut in and may need help during an emergency was also discussed. Emergency Service procedures will be added to the next agenda for additional discussion.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- ◆ Attended the rent paying ceremony at the Mechanicsburg Area Senior Adult Center with Manager Stough.

- ◆ Mayor participated in the noon opening ceremonies at Jubilee Day.
- ◆ The Mayor officiated two weddings.
- ◆ The Mayor reported the interior painting has been completed at the Union Church.
- ◆ Crime watch meeting will be July 8<sup>th</sup>. The guest speaker will be Grace Cunningham, a consumer advocate, talking about Public Utility problems.

Trivia Questions: The Methodist Home for Children was established in Mechanicsburg in 1917, where was it located?

Answer: It was located at 318 West Main Street, now the home of the Kerr's. In 1920 it moved to Lower Allen Township. Floyd Kautz knew the correct answer and received a Mechanicsburg pen.

#### CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

- ◆ Chief requested a brief executive session for personnel matter, with no action to be taken.
- ◆ Chief noted that the monthly report is not ready for distribution yet.
- ◆ Chief reported that Jubilee Day was relatively calm:
  - 46 Incidents related to Jubilee Day
  - 1 Criminal Arrest (Misdemeanor Disorderly Conduct & Resisting Arrest)
  - 4 Non-Traffic citations
  - 0 Traffic Citations
  - 1 Traffic Warning
  - 11 Parking Tickets
  - 2 Unfounded Criminal Complaints (both Theft)
- ◆ Report was given on two hour parking:
  - Enforcement began last week; 92% compliance (13 tickets/154 vehicles)
  - Summary is contained in my June 28, 2002 Memo
- ◆ Chief made Council aware that with the passing of Don Diehl, a new Civil Service Commission member needs appointed.
- ◆ Reflective markers were placed on the Stop sign posts at Coover & Arch. Council members are asked to get any comments on the newly installed markets to the Chief.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor had no report.

#### FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- ◆ Chief Seagrist reported that the fire department post cards sold out at Jubilee Day.
- ◆ Job description for Fire Chief was reviewed with representatives from both Fire Departments.
- ◆ The aerial and ladder testing will be scheduled during July and August.
- ◆ The testing of fire hose will start on July 17<sup>th</sup> and be completed July 19<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ Chief attended the Cumberland County Fire Chiefs meeting.
- ◆ A meeting was held, with the committee and Councilman McDermott to review specifications for the new fire truck.
- ◆ Structure fire in a building which was on fire a year earlier, prompted a request for a review by the Pennsylvania State Police Fire Marshall to confirm the department's findings that the fire was accidental. It was determined that the fire was accidental and sparked by an electric fan malfunction.
- ◆ Fire Departments responded to the storm and electrical outage on June 27<sup>th</sup>, working to help with traffic control. The Chief reviewed the calls received, and department responses to this emergency situation with Borough Council.
- ◆ Chief noted that the fuel pumps were not functioning due to the power outage and he has discussed the possibility of installing a back up generator with the Borough Manager.
- ◆ Chief Seagrist expressed his dissatisfaction with information received from United Water after the water main break and service distribution this past weekend. Chief Seagrist noted that he has informed the County that the Borough would like to be included and update, if any further investigation into this matter is pursued. Chief Seagrist asked that any correspondence with United Water on this matter be carbon copied to the Cumberland County EOC, the PUC and also PEMA.

Manager Stough asked Borough Council to allow him to send letters to both Fire Companies, commending them on their service during the recent emergency situation. Borough Council approved this request unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recycling Committee: Winchell: NONE

Finance-Appropriations-Insurance: Rider. President Rider reported that this committee is looking into the possibility of providing non uniform retirees with a cost of living increase.

Health-Recreation: Rider: Councilman McDermott reported that the Recreation Commission will meet next Tuesday, to recommend action on the recent bid opening to Borough Council.

Public-Safety-Highway: Eichelberger: NONE

Public Communications: Eichelberger: Newsletters were mailed Friday.

Ordinance-Administration-Legislative Action: Seagrist: Councilman Seagrist reported that he will continue to look into the way in which neighboring municipalities are handling cost of living increases for retirees, and will provide this information to Borough Council.

Property-Building: Ritter: NONE

School Board: McDermott: Councilman McDermott discussed the problem that the School Board is facing with the cost of bleacher repairs needed at the Stadium bids coming in way over the budgeted cost for the repair work needed. As the Borough owns the property on which the stadium is erected and leases it to the School District, are we as the Borough under obligation to assist in the cost of the needed repairs. Council directed Solicitor Schorpp to review the lease to determine the liability to the Borough, before Council acts on this request. A discussion on the possibility of the school re-bidding the project was discussed and President Rider noted that after the Solicitor reviews the lease, Council can revisit the request.

Community Development: McDermott: The fourth grade art exhibit has opened at the museum. The Delta Development Steering Committee will be meeting next Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Borough Office.

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

Fire Committee: Winchell: NONE

AGENDA ITEMS FOR July 16, 2002

◆ **Award of bid for work at the Solder's and Sailors Park.**

The Recreation Commission will review bids next Tuesday. It appears that the new bids will come in under the amount budgeted for the project.

◆ **Award of bid for Brandy Lane Paving Project.**

Four companies have already picked up bid packets, and it is anticipated that two other companies will also be picking up packets, which should make the bidding for this project competitive.

◆ **Action on the Mechanicsburg Commons subdivision and land development plan.**

There have been no resubmissions or requests for extensions from the developer. If no requests or resubmissions are received, Council will need to take action at the July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Solicitor Schorpp questioned if the Planning Commission tabled this plan. Manager Stough indicated that it was.

◆ **Update on the formation of steering committee for the strategic plan.**

First meeting of this newly formed committee will be June 10<sup>th</sup>.

◆ **Discussion on Street Sweeping in regard to the drought situation.**

The drought emergency has not been lifted as of this date.

◆ **Consider appointment of two members to the Shade Tree Commission.**

Correspondence has been received from several interested residents and has been forward to Borough Council.

◆ **Update on sidewalk and curb reconstruction project.**

No additional information is available on the museum sidewalk replacement at this time.

◆ **Update on T-shirt sales to raise funds for holiday decorations.**

Competition on Jubilee Day got sales off to a slow start, however, about eight hundred dollars has been raised to date towards the holiday decoration fund.

Manager Stough asked that the Mulberry Drive Bridge and Highway Department Salt Shed be added as agenda items for the July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

GUESTS:

Georgia Blauch, 215 South Broad Street, questions a construction project underway in the Alley behind 123 East Locust Street. She stated that it appears a garage is being converted into an apartment. She expressed her feeling that with parking being an issue in the downtown area, she feels additional residential construction should be limited to help alleviate the parking congestion. Manager Stough stated that he was sure that a permit would not have been issued for this type of construction, however, he will check with the Codes Officer on the matter.

Nancy Hanlon, 38 West Allen Street, stated that she feels that many garages have been converted into apartments without the Borough's knowledge, which represents a loss of sewer and refuse revenues to the Borough. She stated that she feels many residents are not obtaining building permits. Manager Stough stated that an address list has been purchased and sewer and refuse accounts will be checked against this list to determine properties that are not currently being billed for all the existing units.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before Council, President Rider moved to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. An Executive Session on a personnel issue to follow with no action to be taken.



Jonathan S. Stough  
Borough Manager