

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

October 1, 2002

7:30 P.M.

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

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 News, Ron & Georgia Blauch, Tom Bender, Bud Brown, Ken Davis, Bob Dietrich, Ira Eberly, Sue Erdman, Nancy Hanlon, Floyd Kautz Jr., Luke Lumby, Jack Neibert, Jeff Saunders, Larry Seagrist, Charlie Sheriff, Jay Stoner, Bob Straus and Jeff Whitman

GUESTS:

◆ Sue Erdman, Mechanicsburg Library Director, made a presentation to Borough Council on the Libraries *One Book, Two Counties* reading campaign which features lectures and discussion on the book *The Killer Angels*, by Michael Shaara. The novel is a fictional novel based on events surrounding the battle of Gettysburg. Ms. Erdman brought a poster of the Mayor in his civil war attire that she is using to promote the campaign. She also reviewed topics of interest from the annual Municipal Officials Breakfast and thanked Manager Stough, Councilmen, Ritter, Winchell, and Mayor Ritter for attending. She then shared a model of the proposed Library expansion project and the spoke regarding the proposed fund raising for this project. Ms. Erdman distributed folders to Council and Staff, which contained many informational items about the Library's role in the Community. President Rider thanked Ms. Erdman for her presentation.

◆ Luke Lumby, owner of Bag Processors, spoke on behalf of Allen Street business owners regarding the regulation prohibiting 53-foot trailers on Allen Street. Mr. Lumby introduced his associates Ira Eberly, Eberly Lumber; Jeff Whitman, Wilcox Forging; and Ken Davis, Davis Country Living. They distributed to Council their request to remove the restriction on 53-foot trailers on Allen Street. Mr. Lumby explained that these businesses can no longer find trucking firms to deliver goods in 48-foot trailers. The shipping delays created by the restriction on truck size is creating financial hardships to these businesses in an already difficult economic climate. Mr. Lumby expressed his sincere interest in remaining within the Borough and conducting business here and asked for Council consideration of some relief from this regulation to aid these long established Borough businesses. A proposed truck route was attached to the request. The route was reviewed and discussed. The possibility of trucks turning onto Frederick to access York Street from Portland Street. The width of Frederick Street was a concern as was the turn radius available at the intersection of Allen and York. The Solicitor was directed to look into the matter and report back to Council on their options for action. Chief Spotts stated that he would also have his truck safety trained Officer take a look at the Route and make some recommendations to Council. President Rider thanked Mr. Lumby and the other business owners for taking time to come out and address Council on their concerns.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Jeff Saunders, 501 North Market Street, spoke to Borough Council on the issue of signs at Finkebinder Field. He reminded Borough Council that he has presented a petition to Borough Council with over fifty signatures from neighborhood residents who object to signage being put on the fence at this ballfield. Mr. Saunders expressed his support of Borough Council limiting on street trailer parking. Mr. Saunders asked Chief Spotts about an incident, which occurred, and the Chief noted that the matter has been resolved. Councilman McDermott stated that he has contacted several Real Estate agents and inquired if the installation of signs on the fence would decrease the residential property values and was informed that it would not have an impact on property value. A discussion followed on the issue of ballfield signage and its regulation.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough stated that he has received the following correspondence:

1. Manager Stough noted that a letter was received from Mechanicsburg Brethren in Christ Church inviting all officials to attend their Community day on Sunday, October 13th.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- ◆ The Manager reported that he filed a CDBG grant application with Cumberland County to apply for assistance with the paving project for the 2003 year.
- ◆ Manager Stough reported on outstanding sewer and refuse accounts and the on going collection process.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Ritter reported the following:

- ◆ September 18th attended the Mechanicsburg Area Public Library 5th Annual Breakfast for Municipal and School Officials.
- ◆ September 19th helped to launch Cumberland and Dauphin Counties "One Book Two Counties" reading program. T
- ◆ September 20th attended the "Candlelight Vigil" held at the square by the Vietnam Veterans of Mechanicsburg.
- ◆ September 21st attended the Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg 's 38th annual OX Roast at Memorial Park. All funds raises at this event stay within the Mechanicsburg Community.
- ◆ September 22nd attended the Vietnam Veterans annual picnic at Memorial Park.
- ◆ September 22nd attended the Mechanicsburg Area Public Library open house to announce the new construction and renovation campaign titled "Enriching Minds, Expanding Opportunities."
- ◆ September 24th attended opening of the Mechanicsburg Museum's new exhibit "Wheels of Mechanicsburg."
- ◆ Attended Delta Development Public meetings on September 18th and 25th. Manager Stough was an excellent speaker.
- ◆ Officiated two weddings.
- ◆ Mechanicsburg Area Intermediate School is proclaiming October the month of the Young Adolescent.

Trivia Questions: What part did our Library Building play in the Confederate invasion of Mechanicsburg?

Answer: It was used as a hospital. Nancy Hanlon knew the correct answer.

Bonus Question: Can you name several businesses that have used the Library Building?

Answer: Grain & Feed business, Coal Yard, Craft Store and Rakestraws. Many residents knew various uses.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

Chief Spots had no report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor had no report.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Seagrist had no report.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recycling Committee: Winchell: NONE

Finance-Appropriations-Insurance: Rider. President Rider reported that the Finance Committee met at 6:00 p.m. this evening and will meet again on October 22nd at 5 p.m.

Health-Recreation: Rider: Councilman McDermott reported that the Recreation Commission will meet next Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. The Commission is asking residents for letters of support for their grant application for the pool renovations.

Public-Safety-Highway: Eichelberger: NONE

Public Communications: Eichelberger: Newsletters were mailed last week.

Ordinance-Administration-Legislative Action: Seagrist: Councilman Seagrist distributed a copy of Jeff Shatzer's July letter requesting ball field signage to Borough Council and the Borough Solicitor. Solicitor Schorpp explained the needed changes and the review process to enact them to Borough Council. He noted the prohibition of off premise signs in the Zoning Ordinance except in manufacturing districts. It is a policy decision for Borough Council if they want to make a change to allow off premise signage in residential districts. Solicitor Schorpp suggested that the Borough Council could exclude municipal property and buildings from application of the Zoning Ordinance. That would open the door for this type of signage, while keeping the control of the signage with the Borough Council. The Solicitor noted that the rental fees for the signs would then be Borough revenues that would need to be then allocated to the Mechanicsburg Little League with expenditures through this revenue. Much discussion followed on this matter, after which the Solicitor was directed to draft this change for Borough Council's review. It was noted that approval of the exclusion of Borough property from application of the Zoning Ordinance, does not approve the erection of signs at the ballfield. That would then have to be established by a second independent motion of Borough Council. Manager Stough noted that there are some small Zoning Ordinance changes that could be included with this Ordinance, as long as the solicitor is drafting this change, the Manager would like to include several small changes, which will be forward to Council by October 14th for consideration. A brief discussion followed on the placement of yard sale signs and enforcement issues related to these signs. Manager

Stough noted that off premise signs for yard sales are against the Borough Ordinance and when they are found they are removed by Borough Staff.

Property-Building: Ritter: NONE

School Board: McDermott: NONE

Community Development: McDermott: Councilman McDermott noted that the Union Church will meet next Monday at 7:00 p.m., Shade Tree Commission will meet next Thursday, Crime Watch will meet the 14th at the Senior Center, Delta Development meeting was well attended and community committee were formed to address various issues of interest to Borough residents.

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

Fire Committee: Winchell: Fire Committee met on September 23rd at Washington Fire Company. Fire Chief job description was discussed and a meeting to discuss the matter further was set for October 23rd at 7 p.m. at the Washington Fire Company. Fire Engine specifications were discussed and funding was also discussed. The Fire Fighter's discount card has eleven businesses on board, and one more is expected. Councilman Winchell requested that he be placed on the agenda for the 1st meeting in November to distribute them to the Fire Companies. 800 MHz radios were discussed and Washington Fire Company will be participating in a trial for these radios with several other agencies from Cumberland County. Washington Fire Company will consider loaning a radio to Chief Seagrist so he can participate with Washington in the test program. Next Fire Committee meeting will be November 18th at the Borough Office.

AGENDA ADDITIONS:

Manager Stough noted that the Mechanicsburg Commons Subdivision and Land Development plan will be coming before Borough Council at the October 14th meeting. Also, the Manager noted that the Fireman's Relief check was received today and was forward to the Fireman's Relief Association for deposit. The check was in the amount of \$49,243.59. Councilman Seagrist asked what the balance of the Fireman's Relief fund is. Manager Stough stated that the Borough does not have access to that information.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR October 14, 2002

- ◆ **Consider Ordinance to revise the Borough Code of Ordinances relative to on street trailer parking.**
Manager Stough noted that he and the Chief have not gotten together to put revision down on paper and get them to the Solicitor for review.
- ◆ **Consider Resolution for Adam Mark Weber honoring his accomplishment in obtaining the Eagle Scout award.**
Resolution is being prepared for Mr. Weber by Borough Staff.
- ◆ **Consider Resolution to appoint West Shore Tax Bureau as the collection agency for earned income and occupational privilege tax.**
Manager Stough noted that this is done annually and the service we receive from this agency is outstanding.
- ◆ **Consider motion to approve the West Shore Tax Bureau Budget for 2003 in the amount of \$951,206.**
Any questions on the proposed budget should be forward to the Manager.
- ◆ **Consider Trust Assignment for Counsel Trust Company T/A Aris Trust for both the Uniform and Non-Uniform pension plans.**
Manager Stough reported that he is trying to have ARIS representatives at the October 14th meeting to discuss this item and answer any questions that Borough Council has on the pension funds.
- ◆ **Accept resignation of Tom Gabel from the Shade Tree Commission as of December 31, 2002.**
Manager Stough noted that the Borough Council should do something special for Mr. Gabel for his continuous and outstanding service on this Commission since its formation.
- ◆ **Discussion and approval of the minimum municipal contribution in compliance with ACT 205.**
Manager Stough noted that today the Borough received a check in the amount of \$101,061.01 that must be deposited in the police pension fund and we have a MMO payment due by year-end in the amount of \$17,853.
- ◆ **Discussion on elimination of the Member Contribution to Police Pension Plan.**
Manager Stough asked Solicitor Schorpp how the Member Contribution is calculated or waived. Solicitor Schorpp will look into the matter for the Manager.
- ◆ **Consider revisions to the Borough Code of Ordinance to allow signage at Finkenbinder Little League Field**
This item was already discussed.
- ◆ **Review draft of Ordinance establishing relationship between Mechanicsburg Borough and West Shore COG.**
Nothing has been received from Dan Cohen at this time.
- ◆ **Review draft of intergovernmental agreement ordinance for refuse/recycling contract.**
A draft has been distributed to Borough Council for review.
- ◆ **Review draft of Street light policy and consider request of Toni Tarell for a street light installation in the vicinity of 306 West Locust Street.**
As noted earlier, the Manager and the Chief have not yet composed a draft.
- ◆ **Update on Church Road and Mulberry bridge projects**

The proposal for the bridge replacement from ARRO Engineering was discussed and packets of information were distributed. Bud Brown was at the meeting to represent ARRO Engineering. Mr. Brown reported that they have looked at the sites and precast bridges could be installed at both locations saving on the engineering and design costs and allow the repairs to be made in a more timely manner. A full proposal will be available to Council by the 14th.

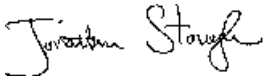
GUESTS:

- ◆ Bob Straus, 300 George Street, requested that Borough Council look at the paving on George Street and the Borough right-of-way that is adjoins his property and the school property. Mr. Straus indicated that he has been maintaining this property for thirty-one years and would like the Borough to give him this property and in exchange he would pave the 30-foot section at the end of George Street that the school district did not pave. The Solicitor indicated that Borough Council could abandon the right of way, however, half of the right-of-way would then go to Mr. Straus and the other half would go to the School District. Manager Stough will contact the school district to discuss the right-of-way and get back to Council on the matter.
- ◆ Ron Blauch, 215 South Broad Street, asked Borough Council if the plan on record at the Borough Office is the plan Council will take action on at the October 14th meeting. Manager Stough indicated that the plan in the Office is the one to go before Council.
- ◆ Georgia Blauch, 215 South Broad Street, asked if the plan could be approved with all the flaws it contains, particular the lot references which are inconsistent. Manager Stough indicated that he would be happy to go over Ms. Blauch's concerns during regular office hours.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilman Seagrist asked the Borough Manager to obtain the balance of the Fireman's Relief Fund balance before the relief check is forward to the Association.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before Council, President Rider moved to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. An Executive Session on a real estate issue and personnel issue to follow with no action to be taken.



Jonathan S. Stough
Borough Manager