

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

March 4, 2003

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, Councilmen McDermott, Seagrist, Winchell, Jr. Councilman Miller, Mayor Ritter, Chief Spotts, Solicitor Schorpp, Secretary Stough, and Assistant Secretary Boyer. Also present Cress – Sentinel, Bob Dietrich, David Hoover, Jack Neibert, Charlie Ryder, Larry Seagrist, Charlie Sheriff and Jay Stoner. Councilmen Ritter and Whitcomb were absent.

GUESTS

There were no guests this evening.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

President Rider asked if there were any Citizen comments and there were none.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough stated that he has received the following correspondence:

1. Manager Stough noted that a Parade and Special Events Application has been received for a Neighborhood Picnic on Gross Drive, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Audrey Logar is requesting that Gross Drive be closed to traffic from Noon until 8 p.m. This item will be added to the agenda for March 18<sup>th</sup>. Council should consider if they want to direct staff to send letters to all residents of Gross Drive regarding this event prior to approval.
2. Information was received about the upcoming Central Tri-County Boroughs' Association dinner meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The dinner will be held at the Deer Lodge in Mount Holly Springs. The cost is \$26.00 per person with social hour being scheduled from 6:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m. when dinner will be served. Any Councilman interested in attending should RSVP to Manager Stough by March 21, 2003.
3. Correspondence was also received regarding the Tri-County Boroughs' Association scholarships for graduating seniors who reside in Boroughs which are members of the Tri-County Boroughs' Association. The scholarship is in the amount of \$1,000, and the application deadline is May 12<sup>th</sup>.
4. A letter was received from the Harrisburg Regional Chamber and the Capital Region Economic Development Corporation thanking the Borough Council for its letter of support. It also asked that Borough Council consider passing a Resolution of Support for this project, as funding has been approved. This item will be added to the agenda for Council consideration on March 18<sup>th</sup>.
5. The Chamber of Commerce Mixer will be held on Tuesday March 11<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Library. Interested Council members should RSVP to the Chamber directly at 796-0811 as per the information in your packet on Friday.
6. Information was received on the PSAB 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference at the Hershey Lodge June 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>. RSVP to Manager Stough if you are interested in attending.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- ◆ Manager Stough reported that House Resolution 85 by Representative Nailor was read and unanimously approved on the House floor Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, recognizing the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the incorporation of Mechanicsburg Borough.
- ◆ The Community Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup> and 260 tickets have been circulated. The newsletter will be going out Monday letting residents know about this event and posters are in area businesses advertising the event.
- ◆ Manager Stough meet with Junior Councilperson Miller and Maureen Shay from the Mechanicsburg School District regarding the implementation of an internship program to be introduced in conjunction with the Junior Councilperson program. The meeting attendance of the appointee as well as a summer project involving

interaction with local and state government officials was discussed. This would help to develop some additional guidelines for future Junior Council representatives.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Ritter reported the following:

- ◆ March 6<sup>th</sup> – the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting was held at the Borough Hall. Lots of plans are in place and lots of excitement. Proceeds from the upcoming pancake breakfast on March 15<sup>th</sup> at Citizens Fire Company will support the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. See Manager Stough for tickets. Thanks to Charlie Sheriff for all his hard work in organizing this event.
- ◆ March 8<sup>th</sup> – CPARC will hold their annual banquet at the Trindle Springs Church.
- ◆ March 10<sup>th</sup> – the Crime Watch meeting at the Senior Citizens Center on Portland Street will feature David Scott, Certified Pesticide Educator from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture as guest speaker.

Trivia Questions: (Courtesy of Bobbie Dietrich of Washington Fire Company) The Washington Fire Company added its first piece of rural power equipment in 1931, what was it and where did it come from?

Answer: It was a Sayer and Scovill hearse presented by Haper Myers and it was converted to a fire engine through the ingenuity of the Fire Company members.

#### CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

Chief Spotts reported the following:

- ◆ We received citizen letters of appreciation for Officers Anthony, Vincent and Hlavac for their performance of duties at recent incidents.
- ◆ Park Security Officer (PSO) Program will run again this summer. Last year, Council permitted PSO's to ride along to meet college internship requirements. Provided we have the same liability waivers and protocols as last year, I would like to offer the ride along portion again this year. This item will be added to the agenda on March 18<sup>th</sup> for Borough Council's consideration.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor had no report at this time.

#### FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

In the absences of the Fire Chief, due to a fire on Market Street, Manager Stough reported that bid specifications for the new fire truck have been mailed out to 14 vendors and properly advertised.

#### COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recycling Committee: Winchell: NONE

Finance-Appropriations-Insurance: Rider. NONE

Health-Recreation: Rider: NONE

Public-Safety-Highway: Eichelberger: NONE

Public Communications: Eichelberger: Newsletter is at the printers and should be out to residents by Monday.

Ordinance-Administration-Legislative Action: Seagrist: Councilman Seagrist asked if the written determination from Labor Counsel has been received regarding the Cost of Living Increase for non-uniform retirees. Manager Stough noted that matter would be discussed in Executive Session, with the written legal opinion expected by Friday.

Property-Building: Ritter: Manager Stough reported that the elevator is being installed at the new building. Wallpaper is up and flooring is being installed.

School Board: McDermott: The School Board met last week and narrowed down the options for use of the old Intermediate School to six. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Community Development: McDermott: The Halloween Parade will be submitting a request for the meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> for Council to consider approval of the Parade Route for October 14<sup>th</sup> with a start time of 7 p.m. The Steering Committee for the Strategic Plan development will be making a formal presentation on March 18<sup>th</sup> to proceed with the formation of a 501.3.C organization to be the umbrella group for implementation of a Downtown Manager Program through DCED. Manager Stough added that formation of this group would open the door for solicitation of private funding to assist with program implementation and moves the administration of the program to the private sector, with Borough Council commitment being \$90,000 over five years to assist with funding this project and grant funding would come through the Borough. The first year match for the Borough would be \$0 dollars with the second year funding minimum at \$15,000

and then it gradually steps up over the five-year life of the grant, with the goal being the program be self-sufficient at the end of the five year grant process. The Steering Committee would be converted to the 501.C.3 board, to move the project forward. The group will be looking for direction from Borough Council regarding the willingness of the Borough to fund this type of endeavor.

Councilman Winchell added that for this undertaking to be successful Borough Council needs to be behind this project.

W.S.C.O.G.: Ritter: Councilman Eichelberger stated that the joint bids are out.

Fire Committee: Winchell: NONE

#### AGENDA ITEMS FOR March 18, 2003

- ◆ **Consider Subdivision plan for United Methodist Church & the Subdivision and Land Development Plan of John Sopensky.**  
These two plans are on the agenda for the Planning Commission meeting tomorrow evening and may be moved forward to Borough Council at the meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Copies of each plan have been provided to Borough Council for review.
- ◆ **Consider action on Ordinance 1049 establishing an Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement relative to the Joint Recreation Agreement.**  
Manager Stough noted that the original agreement has been located and forwarded to the Solicitor. Solicitor Schorpp reported that he has a call into the Upper Allen Township Solicitor, Bud Miller, to confirm a few details. The Ordinance may not be advertised in time for the March meeting, and it will be placed on the April Agenda if advertisement is not made in time.
- ◆ **Consider action on Ordinance 1050 amending the Code of Ordinance description for Handicapped Parking Spaces.**  
Manager Stough will provide the Solicitor with measurements and the Ordinance will be available for Council action at the April meeting. Councilman Winchell inquired to Manager Stough & Chief Spotts if the handicapped parking spaces permitted are required to be cleaned of snow. Manager Stough noted that if there were no cars in the handicapped spaces the Borough crew cleared them, however, they were unable to do so if a vehicle was parked in the spot. Councilman Winchell stated that if these spaces were not used in the last three weeks, maybe, there is not a need for the space to be permitted. Chief Spotts indicated that his department would check to see if cars parked in the spaces are in fact the permitted vehicles.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible authorization to advertise the Cedar Run Stormwater ordinance.**  
This ordinance was provided to us last fall, and we were waiting for direction from Cumberland County. The County provided the draft ordinance and the Solicitor will prepare a draft for Borough Council to consider advertisement at the meeting of March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible authorization to advertise for bids for the Mulberry Drive and Church Road bridges.**  
The snow has hampered the test borings at the site of the bridge reconstruction. Bid packets will be to Borough Council for review in the next week or so, and Manager Stough indicated that he hopes Borough Council will authorize going to bid at the March meeting, so the bid can be awarded in April and work can get underway as soon as possible.
- ◆ **Approve Disbursement of Memorial Day Parade Contribution to Veterans Council - \$150.00.**  
This is usually done at the March meeting so a check for \$150 can be sent in April to the Veterans Council to help with their parade costs.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action on approval of the 2003 paving program.**  
This item will be put on the April meeting agenda to allow time for the COG bid to come back, so price estimates can be included for Council consideration. The cost of sidewalk and handicapped ramp work needs to be calculated in case the Borough is required to make repairs not performed by homeowners and bill homeowners for this service.
- ◆ **Request from Friends of the Mechanicsburg Library.**  
The Friends of the Library is requesting to use the eastern wing of the new Municipal Center to hold their book sales in October 2003 and February 2004. Staff can prepare guidelines to spell out the terms of the agreement relative to parking and building use. A Certificate of Insurance with the Borough as an additional insured would also be a requirement.

◆ **Discussion on Recreation Grant.**

Manager Stough reviewed his memo regarding the unbudgeted expenses related to the restroom renovation project at Memorial Park. The \$9,000 that would be deducted from the annual allocation for the truck purchase would instead be used to fund the grant shortfall. And no monies would be collected from the Recreation Department for the truck. The Recreation Department would still need to provide an additional \$17,000 in funds to complete the grant costs and pay all outstanding bills.

◆ **Discussion on Delta Development contract.**

President Rider indicated that in conversations with Congressman Platt's and Representative Nailor's Offices, it is his understanding that this project is a transportation priority. As it appears at this point in time, this project is likely to be funded in its entirety, and President Rider questioned if it necessary to continue the Delta contract and spend additional funds when the project appears to be on track for funding. Councilman Seagrist stated that he thought that the 30-day termination clause was added to the contract to allow for services to be discontinued if the funding was cut from the budget or if the project was not moving forward in a positive manner. Councilman Seagrist stated that he would oppose a motion terminating the contract because things are going too well, and he did not feel that was the intent of the clause.

◆ **Discussion on MS4 Permits**

Manager Stough reported on MS4 permits relative to stormwater discharge. A memo was received from Jeff Kelly of Cumberland County Planning regarding the Hogestown Run/Trindle Springs Run Stormwater Management Plan. The County is considering updating the plan, which would include the new federal requirements for MS4. The County has sent a letter of intent to DEP to begin the process and is asking the Borough to send a letter of support for the project. We will still have to apply for an individual permit; however, we can later amend that to participate in the joint program if is funded. Discussion followed on MS4 and the permitting process.

GUESTS:

Jay Stoner, 124 East Locust Street, stated that he thinks the highway department did a fine job on snow removal over the last few weeks.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

President Rider asked Council and those citizens in attendance if there were any other concerns to come before Council this evening. Councilman Winchell asked if the Planning Commission would be pairing down the waiver requests on the Sopensky plan before the plan came to Borough Council. Manager Stough indicated that the plan is still in the review processes, and he hopes that it will be paired down before it comes to Borough Council for approval. Councilman McDermott asked if anything can be done by the Borough or COG about the recent Comcast increase. Vice President Eichelberger stated that the Federal law does not give the local municipalities any control over pricing. The COG has not received the required written notification about the rate increase and the Attorney for COG plans to send a letter of protest; however, it is unlikely that this will have any effect on the increase. Junior Councilman Miller asked the Chief of Police about unused cars parked along Borough Streets. Chief Spotts indicated that if the vehicle is not registered or inspected then it is considered an abandoned vehicle and the department can take steps to have the vehicle removed; but, if it is registered and inspected and in a legally designated parking space then no action can be taken. The Police Department does follow up on complaints received, and residents with concerns should call the department.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to come before Council, President Rider adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m. An Executive Session will follow the meeting for discussion of several personnel issues with no action to be taken.



Jonathan S. Stough  
Borough Manager