

BOROUGH OF MECHANICSBURG
BOROUGH COUNCIL PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING 2004 FISCAL YEAR
36 West Allen Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

November 3, 2003

7:00 PM

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS – 2004 PROPOSED BUDGET HEARING - REQUESTS

CALL TO ORDER

President Rider called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

In Attendance: President Rider, Councilmen: McDermott, Ritter, Seagrist, Whitcomb, Winchell; Jr. Councilperson Miller; Mayor Ritter, Chief Spotts, Chief Seagrist, Secretary Stough, Assistant Secretary Boyer. Vice President Eichelberger & Solicitor Schorpp were absent.

Also in attendance Cress- Sentinel; Brian Curtis, Tom Gould, Jennifer Hinkle

VERBAL REQUESTS:

New Hope Ministries – Jennifer Hinkle, Director of Development, distributed packets of information to Borough Council. Ms. Hinkle reviewed the services that New Hope Ministries provides to Mechanicsburg Borough residents. She reviewed the increased demands for services in the community and asked that Borough Council consider increasing the funding for 2004 to this organization to the amount of \$2,000.

Neighborhood Dispute Settlement – Tom Gould, President of Neighborhood Dispute Settlement, addressed Borough Council regarding the services provided to residents by his organization. Mediation services are provided to individuals involved in disputes to help them resolve issues without litigation. Mr. Gould requested that Borough Council consider donating \$500 to help fund services in Cumberland County. Councilman Whitcomb asked Mr. Gould some questions about how the service works and how they get residents to agree to come to the table and discuss their differences. Mr. Gould explained that they talk to the parties involved and try to explain the advantages of working together to resolve their differences. Mr. Gould also expressed his support of the work of New Hope Ministries.

WRITTEN REQUESTS:

The Borough Manager reviewed the following requests with Council:

Citizens Fire & Rescue	\$16,500	Mechanicsburg Area Veteran Council	\$ 500
Joseph T. Simpson Public Library	\$ 3,500	Mechanicsburg Cemetery Association	\$ 500
Mechanicsburg Museum Association	\$ 1,500	Union Church	\$1,000
Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels	\$ 2,500	Washington Fire Department	\$18,000

Councilman Whitcomb asked why Washington Fire Company had requested additional funding. Chief Seagrist indicated that it is because they are now operating two pieces of Borough equipment with the addition of Truck 8.

Borough Committees

Planning Commission requested \$70,000, which, Manager Stough explained, is being requested to fund the development of a comprehensive plan over the next few budget years. Shade Tree Commission requested \$1,000, as was allocated in last year's budget. Recreation Commission has indicated a request for \$135,000, however; Manager Stough indicated that the amount in the budget is \$4,500 less, due to the monies provided this year for grant shortfall.

Borough Departments

Manager Stough reviewed the department totals with Council. He indicated that the \$675,804 listed under Administration includes employee health benefits for all departments. He noted that the \$46,000 for Civic Organizations is with funding levels the same as last year. The \$274,118 for Debt Service includes all loans, interest and principal. The \$130,610 for Fire and Emergency Services is the balance of the Fire budget, less the individual company donations with the addition of \$100 for Emergency Services. Manager Stough indicated that the \$74,500 includes property and building cleaning and maintenance for all Borough owned buildings and property. The \$260,250 listed for Recreation includes park and pool salaries, for which we are reimbursed. The \$564,000 for Solid Waste is the Refuse and Recycling service contract with Penn Waste. Other departments listed include Highway, \$412,000; Planning \$37,925; Police \$1,106,305; Wastewater \$906,945.

Borough Council Budget Presentation

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Manager Stough suggested that President Rider schedule a Finance Committee meeting prior to the next Council meeting to discuss budget-related matters. A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 12th at 6 PM. Councilman Seagrist asked for a copy of the park and pool expenditures for this past season, a copy of the park and pool 2004 budget and a list of all park and pool employees.

ADJOURNMENT

President Rider adjourned the budget presentation at 7:28 p.m.

Jonathan S. Stough
Borough Secretary