

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BOROUGH OFFICE BUILDING  
36 West Allen Street  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6257

March 1, 2005

7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: At 7:30 PM President Winchell called the Council meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Winchell led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Roll call taken with the following present: President Winchell, Vice President Whitcomb, Councilmen Kautz, McDermott, Ryder, Seagrist, Jr. Councilperson Ravindraraj, Mayor Ritter, Solicitor Schorpp, Chief Spotts, Chief Seagrist, Manager Stough and Assistant Secretary Boyer. Councilman Humes was absent

Also in attendance: Cress – Sentinel, Kirk Corliss, Bob Dietrich, Jay Stoner and Cese Viti

GUESTS:

No guests were present.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

President Winchell asked for citizen comments, and there were none.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Manager Stough added consider acceptance of the resignation of Leslie Hocker from the Planning Commission.

Manager Stough asked for discussion on possible implementation of Recreation fees.

Councilman McDermott asked that filling of that vacancy on the Recreation Commission also be discussed, as well as a Resolution for Leslie Hocker's years of service.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councilman McDermott made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions noted. Vice President Whitcomb seconded the motion, which passed with no dissenting votes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough report:

1. Manager Stough stated the Trollinger Consulting Group sent a letter to Council regarding providing pension plan management. Manager Stough will invite them to make a presentation at the Finance Committee meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
2. A letter was received from the Cumberland County Redevelopment Authority asking the Borough to send letters to the legislators regarding the proposed cut in CDBG funding and staff has sent letters.
3. The Cumberland County Planning Commission will hold an Outreach meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM.
4. A letter of support was received for the LUPTAP grant application from Congressman Platts.
5. The PSAB Spring Conference will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>.
6. An e-mail was received from Carlino Developers regarding a proposed Charette as part of the public input process for the Hess Farm proposed development concept. They are proposing possibly asking the Borough to apply for grant funding, with the developer contributing the local match. The meeting will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM and they are inviting a Council and/or a Planning Commission representative to attend. No Council members are available at that time to attend.
7. A letter of confirmation was received from DCED of the \$5,000 grant for the pool and the \$50,000 grant for the park.
8. A check was received for the 2003 904 performance grant in the amount of \$30,460. This is up from the 2002 grant which was \$21,000.
9. Manager Stough reported that the Borough has received notice of approval of the joint 902 grant application for the joint compost site in the amount of \$497,301 dollars, and we also received reimbursement for the Chamber of Commerce the cost of providing the soda bottle recycling containers which are now available for recycling at community events.

Councilman Ryder asked if a portion of the money received could be used to purchase some permanent recycling containers for the downtown area. President Winchell suggested beginning to replace the existing containers with new dual purpose containers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Ryder made a motion to approve the February 14, 2005 minutes as submitted. Vice President Whitcomb seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager Stough had nothing additional to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

February 16<sup>th</sup> – met with the Washington Fire Company and Nancy Sadis Inc., regarding moving forward with the Fire Company Capital Campaign.

February 19<sup>th</sup> – Washington Fire Company annual banquet. Their Capital campaign was formally announced with a video and artist renderings.

February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Participated in the Mechanicsburg Defense Activities annual Prayer Breakfast.

February 25<sup>th</sup> – Attended the third annual Wildcat Foundation Winter Gala.

March 14<sup>th</sup> – Monthly Crime Watch meeting at the Senior Adult Center on West Portland Street. Patrolman William Demmy of the Mechanicsburg Police Department will be the guest speaker. His topic will be scams, and how to protect yourself.

Trivia Question: What Mechanicsburg Association is celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year?

Answer: Mechanicsburg Museum Association, 1975-2005.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

Chief Spotts reported that February 1<sup>st</sup> the Department went live with CNET records management system that is supported by the State and also ties into the new JNET National system. There have been some technology issues as well as adjustment issues with the new system, so it is taking a little longer to get reports out.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Schorpp had no report.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

Chief Seagrist provided a copy of a thank you letter from a resident to Borough Council and both Fire Companies. Chief Seagrist reported that on February 18<sup>th</sup> Saint Joseph's new sprinkler system was tested and they are moving forward towards preparing the building for occupancy.

JR. COUNCILPERSON REPORT:

Jr. Councilperson Ravindraraj reported:

- ◆ Mechanicsburg School student have been enjoying sleeping in and getting out early, but have yet to enjoy a full snow day this year.
- ◆ A speech tournament was held at Gettysburg High School and Mechanicsburg High School did well and has several students competing in the State competition.
- ◆ Practice is going in full swing for the upcoming musical production.
- ◆ The National Honor Society will be holding a blood drive on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ The Basketball Team has placed third in the district this season and will be in the State play-offs.
- ◆ Mechanicsburg School Community extends their condolences to the Norris family, on the loss of their son, Jason, a 2004 graduate of Mechanicsburg High School and was attending Messiah College.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Community Development/Downtown** – Humes- No Report

**Ordinance/Administration/Legislative Action** – Whitcomb –No report

**Finance/Appropriations/Insurance** – Winchell- No Report

**Property/Buildings** – Kautz – No Report

**Fire Committee** – Ryder – Councilman Ryder reported that Louise Shelly, a Mechanicsburg resident who recently passed away, donated through her estate \$5,000 to the Mechanicsburg Fire Department. Discussion followed on distribution of the donation, which the Solicitor indicated should be divided between the two companies. A Fire Committee meeting is scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup>, which the Fire Chief is trying to reschedule at the request of Councilman Ryder. After some discussion, the meeting was re-scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Borough Office. Chief Seagrist will inform both companies of the change in the meeting date.

**Public Communications** – McDermott – Councilman McDermott reported that the Manager's Annual Report was mailed to residents. The Borough Newsletter is at the printers and will be mailed the beginning of next week. President Winchell

asked for clarification on a discrepancy in the Annual Report discussed at the Recycling Committee meeting. Boyer will check on that and reply to President Winchell.

**Health/Recreation** – Seagrist – Councilman Seagrist reported that the Health and Recreation Committee met on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the formation of a multi-municipal pool association. The Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM to continue discussions. Manager Stough reported that he received an e-mail from Sally Holbert regarding recreation fees for land development plans. Manager Stough asked Council to consider implementation of a Recreation Plan to allow for the inclusion of recreation fees in our Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. The Solicitor explained that the Recreation Plan needs to be in place before fees can be included in the Subdivision Ordinance. The ordinance needs to go to the Planning Commission and a public hearing must be held before the ordinance can be enacted. The Plan is not a part of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, but the fees for recreation is. The Plan can be completed and adopted, before the ordinance revision. The Manager will contact the Recreation Commission to draft a Plan.

**Recycling Committee** – Ryder – Councilman Ryder reported that this evening the committee meet to discuss the options for the upcoming refuse/recycling contract, which included a question and answer period with Ed Ward, the Municipal Manager for our hauler, Penn Waste. A list of possible bid options will be compiled for Council’s consideration. The change of this recycling committee to an Environmental Council was discussed, and a presentation was made by a representative from the Pennsylvania Environmental Council. The Council would focus on all environmental issues including noise, water quality, stormwater, air quality and recycling. A sample ordinance was provided for Council’s review. The next meeting will be April 5, 2005 at 6 PM.

**Highway/Public Safety** – Kautz – Councilman Kautz reported the sale of the Train Station is on the agenda.

**School Board** – Ryder – The School Board is having a public hearing this evening to discuss the future use of the Shiremanstown Elementary School. The District is planning to use the Filbert Street School to house students from Upper Allen Elementary and Shepardstown Elementary during renovations at those facilities. No final decision has been made at this time on the use of Filbert Street School for 2005-2006 school year. Shiremanstown and Filbert Street Elementary students will be at Elmwood School for fall of 2005.

**Loan Review Committee**- Humes – No Report.

W.S.C.O.G. – Manager Stough reported that Dan Cohen may be making a presentation to West Shore COG members on the impending Verizon cable television services.

**AGENDA ITEMS – March 1, 2005**

- ◆ **Discussion and possible adoption of Ordinance #1068- Military Exemption from sewer service.**  
 Councilman McDermott made a motion, second by Councilman Seagrist to adopt Ordinance 1068 as advertised. A role call vote was taken and the motion passed as follows:

|           |        |          |     |
|-----------|--------|----------|-----|
| Humes     | Absent | Seagrist | Yea |
| Kautz     | Yea    | Whitcomb | Yea |
| McDermott | Yea    | Winchell | Yea |
| Ryder     | Yea    |          |     |

- ◆ **Discussion and possible award of the concrete bid for 2005.**  
 Manager Stough reviewed the bid results with Borough Council. After discussion, Councilman McDermott made a motion to award the 2005 concrete bid to Richard Gilmore. Councilman Kautz seconded the motion. Councilman Seagrist abstained from the vote, as he indicated he had not been able to open the e-mail attachment with the bid results to review them. Manager Stough indicated the bid opening was yesterday at 1 PM and the bid results were distributed to all of Council via e-mail; however, there was only one complete bid and this was the apparent low bidder. After some additional discussion, the motion passed by a vote of 5:0, with Councilman Seagrist not casting a vote.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action to authorize advertisement of revisions to Shade Tree Ordinance 832 & 845 as recommended by the Shade Tree Commission.**  
 Vice President Whitcomb made a motion to table the shade tree ordinance revisions at this time, while the issue of tree plantings near intersections are reviewed. Councilman Ryder seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Authorization to go out to bid for installation of a new roof at the Municipal Center.**  
 Manager Stough indicated that there are several leaks in the roof on the 36 side of the Municipal Center. There is one leak in the Mayor’s Office and several in the patrol room. The Manager reported that we have received some information on costs of new singles versus metal roofing over the existing shingles. The anticipated cost is about \$21,000, with about \$12,000 of the cost being labor. Manager Stough indicated that he would like to advertise for possible opening on April 4<sup>th</sup> and possible award at the Council meeting of April 5<sup>th</sup>. Vice President Whitcomb

asked if the bid will be for metal or shingles. Manager Stough indicated it will be for both options. Some discussion followed on why the roof was not done when the building was renovated. Vice President Whitcomb asked if any of the units on the roof are in need of replacement. Manager Stough indicated that most of the units are on the flat roof in the rear of the building. Vice President Whitcomb made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder to authorize the Manager to go out to bid for replacement of the roof. Councilman Seagrist asked where the funds were in the budget for this process. Manager Stough indicated that 409-720-0 line item in the amount of \$25,000 is for building improvements. Councilman Seagrist also asked that something be included regarding the non-interference with the radio equipment on the roof. After some additional discussion on the costs, the motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion and possible approval of the street closing for the Memorial Day Parade.**

Councilman Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott to authorize the special events application for the Memorial Day Parade. The motion passed unanimously.

◆ **Discussion and possible approval of the request for street closing for Jubilee Day on June 16, 2005.**

Vice President Whitcomb made a motion to table this until a Special Events Application is received. Councilman Ryder seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion and possible action on Teen Challenge Walk-A-Thon Sponsor Campaign.**

Chief Spotts reviewed this with Borough Council. Vice President Whitcomb made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder to approve the Teen Challenge Walk-A-Thon Sponsor Campaign. The motion passed with all voting in the affirmative

◆ **Discussion and possible action on request for an increase in inspection fees for the Health Officer, Larry Sulpizio.**

Manager Stough indicated that he did ask Mr. Sulpizio why a soup kitchen did not require a license and a church does require a license. Mr. Sulpizio indicated that a soup kitchen is not open to the general public, it usually serves only a designated clientele, whereas a Church is open to the public and could potentially experience all the same health concerns as a public eating establishment. Discussion followed on if Council has to raise the rate for the Church health license. Councilman Ryder indicated that he has a concern, since the churches are usually holding fund raisers for various charities, not making a profit, the increase could adversely impact some of the smaller congregations. It was reported that seven churches have Health Licenses. Manager Stough suggested charging the businesses \$80 for their health license and the non-profits \$70. The additional ten dollar administrative charge could be waived for the seven or eight non-profit agencies. Councilman McDermott made a motion to deny the rate increase and Vice President Whitcomb seconded the motion. President Winchell opened the floor for discussion. Vice President Whitcomb stated that he feels the request should have been made prior to the adoption of the budget. Councilman Ryder indicated that he is not in favor of increasing the fees, but does not see how this would have a negative impact on the budget. President Winchell indicated that he has concerns about increasing the fees; however, he is afraid that the Borough may have to pay a higher rate to get another qualified professional if Mr. Sulpizio does not continue with the Borough. President Winchell indicated that he feels the quality of the inspections have improved dramatically since Mr. Sulpizio has been contracted to conduct inspections. Councilman Seagrist indicated that he has accompanied Mr. Sulpizio on several inspections and he has not doubt that the Borough is getting quality service for the money invested and he is in favor of approving the requested increase. After some additional discussion, President Winchell called for a vote and the motion failed with 1 in favor (McDermott) and five opposed (Kautz, Ryder, Seagrist, Whitcomb, Winchell). Councilman Ryder made a motion, second by Vice President Whitcomb, to approve the increase in inspections fees to \$70 and raise the cost of a restaurant license fee to \$80 for the upcoming license year restaurant license 2005-2006. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion and possible action on HARB appointment of a Real Estate Broker and Architect.**

Manager Stough indicated that we have three real estate brokers and two architects who have applied for these appointments. Manager Stough reviewed the options available to Council in filling these positions. Councilman Ryder made a motion to defer to the Planning Commission for a recommendation on the appointments. Councilman Seagrist seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor. Kirk Corliss, Planning Commission Chairman, indicated that the Planning Commission would like to schedule interviews with the applicants for their work session on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Council members are welcome to attend the interviews. Manager Stough was instructed to invite all the applicants to the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

◆ **Update on sale of Train Station Property.**

Manager Stough noted that he received some information from Steve Zimmerman regarding the museum's concerns and he did forward that on to Borough Council. President Winchell indicated that he has spoken with Attorney Snelbaker regarding the impending sale and was asked if Council could give the museum two more weeks to get their plans organized. After some additional discussion, Council moved on to the next agenda item.

◆ **Discussion on change to metered or flat sewer rate fee.**

Manager Stough indicated that staff had prepared a memo for Council on this possible change. President Winchell asked for any additional discussion, and there were no additional comments.

◆ **Consider resignation of Leslie Hocker from the Recreation Commission.**

Councilman Seagrist accepted, with regret, the resignation of Leslie Hocker from the Recreation Commission. Councilman Ryder seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor. Councilman McDermott asked that a Resolution for Mrs. Hocker be added to the next meeting agenda. Manager Stough will invite Mrs. Hocker to the next meeting. Discussion followed on filing the vacancy now or to allow the Recreation Commission to make a recommendation. Councilman McDermott made a motion to appoint Robin Agerton to fill the Recreation Commission vacancy and the motion died for lack of a second. Councilman Seagrist indicated that he is aware of a new resident who has served on the Upper Allen Recreation Commission. Manager Stough will contact the resident to advise them of the opening. Manager Stough will have the Recreation Commission make a recommendation on the vacancy and add it to the next meeting agenda.

CITIZEN COMMENTS


None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councilman Ryder asked if anyone was attending the PSAB Spring Conference? Manager Stough indicated that no one is planning on attending. .

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:44 PM President Winchell adjourned the public meeting into an Executive Session on a personnel matter with no action to be taken.



Jonathan S. Stough  
Borough Secretary