

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

July 19, 2005

7:30 PM

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

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

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

Also in attendance: Cress – Sentinel, Kirk Corliss, Bob Dietrich, Nancy Hanlon, Bob Herman, Mark Martin, Kyle Miller, Mike Mills, Carol & Chuck Payne, Bob Shambaugh, Ron & Lori Trace, Alan Vandrew, Tim Williams,

GUESTS:

Alan Vandrew and Bob Shambaugh, representing Mechanicsburg Area School District, were present to address Borough Council on the School District's request for a bus drop off along Marble Street and construction of a walkway on the Filbert Street property from the school to Norway Street. The intention is to have the buses drop off on Norway Street. Manager Stough asked if the buses would be staging there for drop off and pick up. Mr. Vandrew indicated that they would. Manager Stough asked if students would be transferring from one bus to another at this location. Mr. Vandrew indicated that they would not be transferring. Manager Stough indicated that a bus parking area would need to be established by ordinance. Councilman Ryder asked how many buses would be using this location. Mr. Vandrew indicated that about 10 buses would be at this location throughout the day. Councilman Ryder asked if they would all arrive at the same time. Mr. Vandrew indicated they would not. Councilman Ryder asked if the School District would be providing the proper signage. Mr. Vandrew indicated that they would. Manager Stough asked that a drawing of the proposed staging area and walkway be provided to Borough Council for their review, along with a bus schedule indicating the number of buses and times of arrival. Councilman Humes asked if this would just be for one year. Mr. Vandrew indicated that at this time, they estimate that it will only be for one year, but they may need an additional year and may be requesting an extension of time in the future. Councilman Seagrist asked Mr. Vandrew about several doors and windows, which were not secured after hours at the Elmwood School. Mr. Vandrew indicated that he would look into the matter. Vice President Whitcomb asked about the direction the buses would be coming from as they approach the school. Mr. Vandrew indicated that the bus routes are not final at this time. Vice President Whitcomb voiced concerns about the traffic congestion coming off of South Market Street as parents drive their children in from Upper Allen Township. Manager Stough thanked Mr. Vandrew for coming this evening and asked that he provide the additional information before the August 2nd Council meeting.

Mike Mills, representing the Special Fire Police, addressed Council regarding the purchase of portable radios for the Fire Police. Mr. Mills provided background information for Borough Council on the duties of the Special Fire Police and the importance that they be equipped with the new 800 MHz portable radios. Chief Seagrist indicated that one radio was ordered for Fire Police in the Borough budget. Mr. Mills indicated that each of the four Fire Police should have a radio and he asked that Council consider purchasing the required units. Much discussion followed on the matter, after which Vice President Whitcomb indicated that the 800 MHz radio purchase is an agenda item this evening and Council would have additional discussion under that agenda item.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

There were none.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Vice President Whitcomb added discussion on a letter of support for the County Commissioners position on Corridor One. Councilman Ryder asked that the Cedar Run Watershed meeting request be added to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough reported:

- WHYL AM 960 will be doing their morning show from a location in Mechanicsburg during the month of August.
- A letter was received from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection informing the Borough that the NPDES Permit for the Sewer Plant may be affected by the Clean Water Act as it relates to nitrogen and phosphorus levels.
- A copy of the 2004 year-end audit for District Judge Gayle E. Elder was received and distributed.
- An e-mail was received and distributed from Modern Transit Partnership regarding the CORRIDORone project.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Ryder made a motion to approve the July 5, 2005 minutes as submitted. Councilman Kautz seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

Councilman McDermott made a motion, Councilman Kautz seconded, to approve the monthly reports as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager Stough reported:

- ◆ The Borough Engineer reviewed the Upper Allen Kensington Place Development Plan and provided comments to Upper Allen Township for their review. .
- ◆ A letter was sent to PennDOT regarding the request of the Hart Development on East Simpson Street for a Highway Occupancy Permit.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

July 9th – Citizen's Fire and Rescue #2 celebrated 102 years of service to the Borough with their Annual Banquet.

July 11th – Crime Watch speaker was Sgt. Pellman of the Mechanicsburg Police. Scott connects very well with the Crime Watch, the questions seemed never ending. The August meeting will be held at the Joseph T. Simpson Public Library August 8th in conjunction with the Library's Community Safety Program. Guest speaker will be Patrolman Brian Curtis. Brian's topic will be internet safety directed to parents and grandparents.

July 15th –Officiated a wedding.

Trivia Question: The National Hotel has had many names over the years. Going back to 1810 Joseph Jones had a tavern at that location. What was the name of that tavern?

Answer: Sign of the Mermaid

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

Chief Spotts report was distributed to Borough Council and contained the following items.

- ◆ Officer Demmy received a citizen letter of commendation for his community relations work.
- ◆ We received the Street Closing Permit from PennDOT for Old Tyme Days on August 6, 2005.
- ◆ The Traffic Counter was deployed on N. Arch St. from July 02-09, 2005. You have my report on the results and speeding does not appear to be a problem.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Schorpp had no report.

ENGINEERS REPORT

In the absence of the Engineer, Manager Stough reported that Mr. Barber had nothing to report on sewer rate options at this time. Manager Stough also reported that the second earmark was approved for the Traffic Signalization Project. Manager Stough also reported that due to UGI's installation of a gas main on Keller Street, paving will not begin until August 15th.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

Chief Seagrist report for the month was distributed

JR. COUNCILPERSON REPORT:

Jr. Councilperson was absent.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Development/Downtown – Humes- Councilman Humes reported that Mechanicsburg Borough was named a contender in the 100 best places to live, in Money Magazine. She also reported that A Civil War Trail is being developed for promotion of Heritage Tourism in Cumberland County. The goal of this initiative is to have visitors come and stay at least one night in Cumberland County.

Ordinance/Administration/Legislative Action – Whitcomb – Vice President Whitcomb indicated that an Ordinance update is on the agenda.

Finance/Appropriations/Insurance – Winchell- No Report

Property/Buildings – Kautz – No report.

Fire Committee – Ryder – Councilman Ryder reported that the next Fire Committee meeting is Sept 21st at the Borough office to begin at 7 PM.

Public Communications – McDermott – Councilman McDermott reported that August 26th is the deadline for the fall newsletter.

Health/Recreation – Seagrist – Councilman Seagrist reported that July 30th is the second annual Community Day at the Mechanicsburg Pool. Manager Stough suggested that Council attend the August Recreation Commission meeting on August 9th to discuss resident rates for the 2006 pool season. Councilman Seagrist noted that this action is premature, given that the formation of a Pool Authority has not been ruled out at this point in time. He stated that other municipalities should be given until the fall to decide if they are interested in participation in an Authority before next year's season is discussed.

Recycling Committee – Ryder – Councilman Ryder noted that an article was in the Sentinel recently regarding Silver Spring Townships refuse contract, which will include a pay as you throw option.

Highway/Public Safety – Kautz – Councilman Kautz stated that the 800MHz radios are on the agenda.

School Board – Ryder – Councilman Ryder reported that he has no School Board report, as the School Board does not meet in July. He also reported that the Administration Office for the District are now completely moved into the second floor of the Elmwood School and the temporary classrooms at the High School have been removed. Councilman Ryder also reported that the bleacher project at the park is completed.

Loan Review Committee- Humes – No Report.

W.S.C.O.G. - McDermott – Councilman McDermott reported that the COG met last night but will not meet in August. Councilman McDermott also reported that the COG auction will be held tomorrow, July 20th and eighteen municipalities are going to be included in the Verizon negotiation agreement. Councilman McDermott stated that he checked with COG regarding Councilman Seagrist's request to see if Counties could join as members of the COG and found that the by-laws would have to be amended to permit that.

AGENDA ITEMS July 19, 2005:

- ◆ **Consider approval of the subdivision plan for the Passenger Station property at 2 West Strawberry Alley.**
Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott to approve the subdivision plan for the Passenger Station and Station Master's House from the parking lot. The motion passed unanimously. Manager Stough reported that the tank tightness test will be done on Friday.
- ◆ **Consider possible action on authorizing an update to the Codified Ordinance relative to Health Licenses.**
Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman Humes to authorize the Solicitor to draft the changes required to update the Health License fee and remove the reference to the Board of Health from the Borough Ordinance. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible authorization for the Planning Commission and staff to work with Environmental Planning and Design for development of the Comprehensive Plan.**
Kirk Corliss, Planning Commission Chairman, addressed Council regarding the desire to define the scope of work, with Environmental Planning and Design. After discussion Councilman Humes made a motion, second by Councilman Kautz to authorize Planning Commission members selected and staff to work with Environmental Planning and Design on an agreement for services for the preparation of the Borough's Comprehensive Plan.
- ◆ **Consider request of United Way of the Capital Region for banners during their Capital Campaign.**
Councilman McDermott made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder to approve the request of United Way of The Capital Region to display banners in the downtown area during their Capital Campaign. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider request of Anna Henninger to remove the handicapped parking sign at 11 East Keller Street.**
Councilman Kautz made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder, to authorize the removal of the handicapped parking sign at 11 East Keller Street. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion on request of the Mechanicsburg School District for bus parking at Filbert School.**
Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder, to table discussion until the August 2nd Council meeting so additional information requested could be provided by the School Board. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion and possible action on 800MHz radio orders.**

Chief Seagrist distributed a memo outlining the cost for the Borough radios required for the Borough Equipment. He indicated that the required units would exceed the budgeted amount by \$14,827.11(memo attached). He asked that Council budget the overage in 2006 and indicated that the company would allow the balance to be paid in early 2006. Discussion followed on the issue of providing radios for Fire Police. Councilman Ryder asked what would be done with the old radios and if they could be modified. Manager Stough indicated that they could be modified, but it is unlikely that they would be able to be used long term, and it could be a potential waste of funds, if the County took over the frequencies after the radios were refitted. After some additional discussion, Councilman Ryder made a motion to approve the order presented by Chief Seagrist for the 800MHz radios for the Borough owned Fire apparatus, with the one portable radio for the Fire Police being included. Councilman Kautz seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion on Emergency Service Coordinator position.**

Councilman Kautz suggested that each interested applicant be interviewed. Councilman Ryder agreed, stating their willingness to serve as a volunteer, scope of their abilities as an administrator and their ability to work with others should all be considered. Manager Stough suggested a Public Safety Meeting be scheduled to conduct the interviews. After some additional discussion, Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman Humes to table this matter until the Public Safety Chairperson could schedule a meeting. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion on Cumberland County Commissioners request of a letter of support for their position on the Corridor One project.**

Councilman McDermott made a motion to approve a letter of support for the Cumberland County Commissioners position on the Corridor One Project. Vice President Whitcomb called for a second and no one seconded the motion. Since the motion died for lack of a second, Vice President Whitcomb turned the gavel over to Chairman Pro-Tem, Councilman Ryder. Councilman Ryder asked again for a motion and Councilman McDermott again made a motion for a letter of support which was seconded by Vice President Whitcomb. Councilman Ryder opened the floor for discussion. Councilman Seagrist voiced his intent to cast a negative vote for the motion. Councilman Humes stated that she would like some more information from Modern Transit before making a decision. Councilman Seagrist suggested that a representative from Modern Transit be invited to the meeting to respond to concerns of Council members. Councilman Kautz sighted concern about Liquid Fuels monies being used to fund this project. After some additional discussion, Councilman Ryder called for a vote on the motion. The vote was tied with McDermott, Ryder and Whitcomb voting in favor and Humes, Kautz and Seagrist voting against. Councilman Ryder called on Mayor Ritter to break the tie, and Mayor Ritter voted for the motion, and the motion passed.

◆ **Discussion on the Cedar Run Watershed incentive.**

Councilman Ryder asked for authorization from Council to attend the meetings and represent Council regarding The Cedar Run Watershed. Councilman McDermott made a motion, second by Councilman Kautz, to authorize Councilman Ryder to represent the Borough in this matter. The motion passed with all in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:57 PM Vice President Whitcomb adjourned the meeting into executive session on a matter of potential litigation and a personnel issue. At 9:17 PM Vice President Whitcomb reconvened the public meeting.

◆ **Authorization for the Solicitor to attend the Zoning Hearing Board meeting July 25th.**

Councilman Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman Humes, to authorize the Solicitor to represent the interest of the Borough at the Zoning Hearing Board on July 25th when they consider the request of Triple Crown Builders to overturn the determination of the Codes Officer. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Authorization for the Borough Manager to settle the Taylor Grievance with the Uniform Bargaining Unit.**

Councilman Kautz made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder, to authorize the Manager to settle the Taylor Grievance by paying the requested pro-rated longevity as recommended by the Borough's Labor Attorney. The vote was taken and the motion passed by a vote of 5 in favor (Humes, Kautz, McDermott, Ryder, Whitcomb) And one in opposition (Seagrist)

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

Councilman Ryder made a motion; second by Councilman Kautz approve the expenditures for May 2005 in the following amounts:

General Fund \$169,721.85

Highway Aid Fund: \$11,062.66

Capital Improvement Fund \$3,920.00

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were none.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:29 PM, Vice President Whitcomb adjourned the public meeting.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan Stough". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jonathan S. Stough
Borough Secretary