

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

December 6, 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 was taken with the following present: President Winchell, Vice President Whitcomb, Councilmen Humes, Kautz, McDermott, Ryder, Seagrist, Jr. Councilperson Ravindraraj, Mayor Ritter, Solicitor Schorpp, Chief Spotts, Chief Seagrist, Manager Stough and Assistant Secretary Boyer. Chief Seagrist was absent.

Also in attendance Cress- Sentinel; Marty Coover Bob Dietrich, Sean Forsythe, Marjorie Hadden, Jack Niebert, Eileen Scholl, Charlie Sheriff, Jay Stoner, Ron and Lori Trace.

GUESTS:

None.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

None.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Manager Stough asked that the following changes and additions be made to the agenda:

1. Manager Stough asked a Resolution in memory of Donald Starr be added to the agenda.
2. Chief Spotts asked that an Executive Session with a matter of potential litigation, with possible action be added.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Vice President Whitcomb 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 indicated the following items were received:

- A letter was received from Prodissee Pantry thanking the Borough for their support of the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.
- A memo and reservation form for the January 24th Tri-County Borough's Association Dinner was received.
- A thank you letter was received from Rev. Thomas Herrold for the Resolution presented to him on the occasion of his retirement.
- A letter was received requesting a loading zone for Little Bits Screen Printing on Frederick Street.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman McDermott asked that his comment regarding the EMS tax be revised to omit the word "repealed" and change the wording to replace that with "changes may be made". Councilman McDermott made a motion to approve the minutes, with the change noted and Councilman Seagrist seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager Stough had no report, but appealed to those assembled to pass the word along that the Borough is still looking for a Junior Council person for 2006.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

November 16th – Lunch and Learn was held at the Passenger Station, Bob Gingrich talked about the 1st Christmas tree at the White House.

November 25th – Attended Christmas Tree Lighting and caroling at the square.

December 2nd – Mechanicsburg Brethren in Christ church sponsored a spaghetti dinner to raise funds for the Community Pool.

December 9th – The Museum Holly Trolley Tour will be held, a fund raiser for the Mechanicsburg Museum Association, four seats are still available.

December 12th – The Mechanicsburg Crime Watch guest will be Mechanicsburg Fire Chief, Larry Seagrist, who will talk about holiday safety tips.

Officiated two weddings.

Trivia Question: Mechanicsburg Brethren in Christ Church is located at 1050 South York Street, where were they located before they moved to this location.

Answer: High and Marble Streets. Mr. Coover won a post card of the Mechanicsburg book.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

No report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Schorpp had no report.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

In the absence of the Fire Chief, there was no report.

JR. COUNCILPERSON REPORT:

- o Jr. Councilperson Ravindraraj stated that students enjoyed the six day long Thanksgiving break
- o Basketball season and other winter sports are underway.
- o The High School Student Council canned food drive collected 4,548 cans; the goal was 5,000 cans.
- o The Diversity Club is surveying student to see what speakers should be brought in on the second Diversity Day, scheduled in April.
- o Ms. Ravindraraj will try her best to find someone to fill the vacant Jr. Councilperson seat.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Development– Humes- Councilman Humes commented on the wonderful picture in the Sentinel of the tree lighting on November 15th. An article was in “What’s the Buzz” about the Cool Beans coffee shop on N. Market Street, they are now serving lunch. Lunch is also being served at Eckels. Councilman Ryder commented on the pies at Cool Beans and Councilman Humes noted that Ice Cream is also being served at Eckels. In the November issue of the PSAB Borough News there is an article on Main Street Mechanicsburg. Councilman Humes noted that Hanover is being included in the Civil War Trail of Tourism and she indicated that the gateway communities for this initiative are Hanover, York, Gettysburg, Chambersburg, Carlisle, Harrisburg and Wrightsville. Mechanicsburg was not included, but at the Army Heritage Museum tomorrow, there will be a meeting about this and Councilman Humes plans to attend.

Finance/Appropriations/Insurance – Winchell – President Winchel reported that the Finance Committee met to discuss the 2006 budget, which is on display at the Borough Office.

Fire Committee – Ryder – Councilman Ryder reported that the Fire budget was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting. The next Fire Committee meeting is December 14th at 7 PM, followed by a SOG meeting to work on the Standard Operating Guidelines.

Health/Recreation – Seagrist – Councilman Seagrist reported that the Joint Recreation Board will meet on December 8th at the Elmwood Elementary School, at 7:30 PM. The Recreation Commission meeting for December has been cancelled. The Upper Allen Township Commissioners will be scheduling a meeting with Council after the holiday season to discuss the pool.

Highway/Public Safety – Kautz – Councilman Kautz noted that the loading zone request for Little Bits Screen Printing is on the agenda.

Loan Review Committee- Humes – No Report.

Ordinance/Administration/Legislative Action – Whitcomb – Vice President Whitcomb noted the parking regulations on Railroad Avenue is on the agenda.

Property/Buildings – Kautz – No Report.

Public Communications – McDermott – Councilman McDermott had no report.

Recycling Committee – Ryder – Councilman Ryder thanked Councilman McDermott and Councilwomen Humes for their help with the recycling packets. There were 3,650 packets assembled and the MASH Environmental Club has been working to distribute them. Volunteers from Councilman Ryder’s church, Council, the Citizen’s Recycling Committee and Borough Staff all worked on the packet assembly. This work was done November 25th through November 29th. Several areas of the Borough still need to receive packets, but sign ups for the bag program have already begun. The Sentinel ran a nice article on the packet distribution. The Recycling Committee met last Tuesday, to help with packet assembly,

and will not meet again until the regular January meeting where formation of an Environmental Council will be discussed. Manager Stough reported that over 200 phone calls were received regarding recycling and the bag option and 37 persons have already signed up. President Winchell asked if residents have to sign up for the option for the entire year. Boyer reported that residents can sign up for a quarter, if it does not work for them, they can go back on regular service. Residents will be allowed to sign up each new billing quarter.

School Board – Ryder – Councilman Ryder reported that the School Board is meeting tonight. Councilman Ryder asked Joe Cress if he went to the School Board meeting. He reported that he did go to the meeting and they reorganized and the new President is Raymond White. Councilman Ryder reported that a mentoring program is being started at the Middle School. The School will be partnering with the Boys and Girls club of Harrisburg and the Navy Supply Corp to reach out to individual students that need guidance and support from an adult role model.

W.S.C.O.G. – McDermott – Manager Stough reported that over the next six months, Verizon will be starting the installation of fiber optics to the premises serviced here, in Mechanicsburg.

AGENDA ITEMS – December 6, 2005

- ◆ **Consider Certificate of Appropriateness application for Christa Boyer, 102 A West Main Street for signage.**
Councilman Humes made a motion, seconded by Councilman Kautz, to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness application of Christa Boyer for a sign at 102 A West Main Street. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider Certificate of Appropriateness application for Carol Howe, 106 West Main Street for signage.**
Vice President Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by Councilman Kautz, to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness application of Carol Howe for a sign at 106 West Main Street. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider Certificate of Appropriateness application for Mark & Loretta Walker, 309 East Main Street for replacement windows.**
Councilman Kautz made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ryder, to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness application of Mark & Loretta Walker for replacement windows at 309 East Main Street, with the condition that an interior applied vertical mullion grid be installed to restore the two over two appearance. The Solicitor asked if the applicant agreed to the condition, and Manager Stough indicated that the applicant was in agreement. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider 90 day time extension offered by Richard Hart for his Subdivision & Land Development Plan at 1106 & 1108 East Simpson Street, through March 7, 2006.**
Vice President Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ryder, to accept the time extension offered by Richard Hart for his Subdivision and Land Development Plan on East Simpson Street with the condition that the applicant submits the offer with the date of March 7, 2006 indicated. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider authorization of agreement of Municipal Planning Advisory Services for 2006, Resolution 30-2005.**
Vice President Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by Councilman Kautz, to adopt Resolution 30-2005 for Planning Services as presented. The motion carried.
- ◆ **Consider request of the Mechanicsburg Chamber and Washington Fire Company for a financial contribution towards the 2005 Wrench Drop.**
Manager Stough noted that the October 13th letter from the Mechanicsburg Chamber and Washington Fire Company included a request for a financial contribution from the Borough for the 2005 Wrench Drop. President Winchell indicated that the Chamber was hoping to get \$1,500 from the Borough for this event. Councilman Ryder asked if any in-kind services would be provided for this event. Manager Stough indicated that any services provided would be billed to the committee, as per the special events policy. Councilman Ryder made a motion, seconded by Vice President Whitcomb to donate \$1,500 to the 2005 Wrench Drop. The motion carried with six voting in favor (Humes, Kautz, McDermott, Ryder, Whitcomb, Winchell) and one voting no (Seagrist).
- ◆ **Consider action on Ordinance changing parking regulations on Railroad Avenue.**
Manager Stough indicated that the changes are not completed, so this item should be tabled until the next meeting. Councilman Humes made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ryder, to table this until the next Council meeting. The motion carried with all in favor.
- ◆ **Request of Little Bits Screen Printing for a loading zone on Frederick Street.**
President Winchell noted that a loading zone had been at this location previously. Christa Boyer, the business owner making the request, indicated that the parking required would be for customers to pick up orders, not for delivery trucks as deliveries would be received in the rear. Some discussion followed on problems with the loading zone in the past. After some discussion, Councilman Kautz made a motion, seconded by Councilman Humes to send this matter to the Highway Safety Committee for review, with a recommendation to be heard by Council at the next meeting. The motion carried with all in favor.

- ◆ **Authorization to advertise for bids to renovate the bathhouse at the Mechanicsburg Area Pool.**
Manager Stough indicated that the proposed timeline for this project would be to have the bids out by the second week in January, with a bid opening date in late January or early February. Councilman Seagrist made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ryder, to authorize the advertisement of a request for bids for renovations to the Mechanicsburg Area Pool Bathhouse. The motion passed with all in favor.

- ◆ **Discussion on 2006 Budget.**
President Winchell indicated that it was the recommendation of the Finance Committee not to hire an additional police officer for 2006. President Winchell asked if there was a motion. Councilman McDermott made a motion, seconded by Vice President Whitcomb, to remove the proposed additional patrol officer from the 2006 budget. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 1 with Humes, Kautz, McDermott, Seagrist, Whitcomb and Winchell voting for removal and Ryder voting against. Councilman Ryder made a motion, seconded by Vice President Whitcomb, to increase the Fire Budget to \$153,150 as proposed by Chief Seagrist. The motion carried with all in favor.

Discussion followed on a possible change in the EMS Tax rate during 2006. There was no recommendation on this item from the Finance Committee. Councilman Ryder made a motion to direct the Solicitor to draft and advertise for adoption of this tax. Councilman Humes seconded the motion. Much discussion followed on the tax and the pending legislation, which may change the way in which the tax is withheld from employees. The Solicitor reviewed the advertising requirements for this change. After discussion Councilman Ryder withdrew his motion and Councilman Humes withdrew her second. Councilman Ryder made a motion, seconded by Councilman Humes to table this discussion to the next Council meeting.

- ◆ **Consider Resolution in memory of Donald Starr.**
Vice President Whitcomb made a motion, seconded by Councilman McDermott, to adopt Resolution 31-2005 in memory of Don Starr. The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Jay Stoner, Councilman elect, questioned the qualifications for Junior Council Person. President Winchell indicated that the applicant must be in their Junior year in high school and be a resident of Mechanicsburg Borough. Councilman Ryder indicated he was going to check with Mr. Garrett from the Environmental Club to see if any of the students that helped with the Recycling Project may be interested.

Jr. Councilperson Ravindraraj stated that she would ask that the opening be announced to the students at the High School during the morning announcements.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

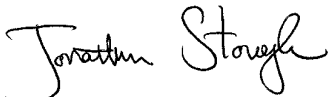
EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:24, Council adjourned to Executive Session. At 10:10 PM, Council reconvened the Public Meeting for action on a matter of litigation.

On motion of Vice President Whitcomb, seconded of Councilman Ryder, Council agreed to enter into the Second Chance Bullet Proof Vest class action law suit, opting for the cash option. The motion carried with all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:15 PM, President Winchell adjourned the meeting.



Jonathan S. Stough
Borough Secretary