

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

May 23, 2006

7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

At 7:30 PM, President Whitcomb called the Council meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Whitcomb led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Roll call was taken with the following present: President Whitcomb, Vice President Winchell, Councilmen Humes, McDermott Ryder, Seagrist, and Stoner, Jr. Councilperson Nauss, Mayor Ritter, Solicitor Schorpp, Lt. Myers, Chief Seagrist, Manager Stough and Assistant Secretary Boyer.

Also in attendance: Cress – Sentinel, Daryl Ackerman, Ron Adams, Harry Baker, Kirk Corliss, Bob Dietrich, Michael Fastiggi, Nancy Hanlon, Ed LeClear, Anna May Nauss, Jack Neibert, A.J. Schwartz, Donald Sheare, Ron and Lori Trace, Jeff VonBoskirk.

GUESTS:

A.J. Schwartz, Environmental Planning and Design, addressed Borough Council extending an invitation to Borough Council to join the Planning Commission for an update of the progress of the Comprehensive Plan. He invited Borough Council to attend the next three months Planning Commission work session at 6:30 PM on June 27th, July 25th and August 22nd, to help with the finalization of the data. The first draft of the proposed plan is anticipated by the end of August.

Michael C. Fastiggi, 405 Cocklin Street, read into the minutes a letter that he sent to Borough Council last week regarding parking issues at the intersection of Alison Avenue and Darla Road. He provided pictures and suggestions on how to improve visibility and increase safety at this location. Councilman Ryder spoke of his experience at this location, stating he is aware that there is a problem at this location.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

There were none.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Manager Stough added consideration of appointment of Chris Knarr as the Borough representative to the Mechanicsburg Area School District meetings regarding the Demographic Study.

Manager Stough also added authorization to advertise to the sewer rate item at the end of the agenda.

Lieutenant Myers added a request for temporary “no parking” areas to be designated for June 9th, due to the “Hootie and the Blowfish” Concert.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough reported the following correspondence was received:

- ◆ A package of information was received from PSAB regarding cable franchise information.
- ◆ West Shore Tax Bureau has provided the Borough with a package of information on EMS tax.
- ◆ A letter was received from the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce in support for two hour parking
- ◆ A letter was received from Main Street Mechanicsburg asking for a donation of the funds set aside for Economic Development; this will be placed on the next agenda.
- ◆ Main Street Mechanicsburg sent a letter in support of waiting until the Comprehensive Plan is finalized before any changes to the current parking regulations are made.
- ◆ The Cumberland County Commissioners were hosting a meeting this evening to discuss Keystone Bio fuels.
- ◆ A thank you letter was received from the Cumberland County Treasurer, thanking the Borough for their support of the Dog License Program.
- ◆ A letter was received from Cese Viti, 50 West Allen Street, on political signs for the next election; this will be on a future agenda.

- ◆ A memo was received from the Planning Commission about appointing Mr. Knarr as the representative to the Mechanicsburg Area School District public meeting on the Demographic Study, this has been added to this evening's agenda
- ◆ Manager Stough reported that the liability insurance for the Fire Department will be experience higher premiums due to accidents in 2005.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Stoner made a motion to approve the May 2, 2006 Regular Council meeting minutes. Councilman Ryder seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Councilman McDermott made a motion, seconded by Councilman Ryder, to approve the monthly reports as submitted. The motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager Stough reported:

- All Borough resources are being used to get the pool ready for opening this weekend. He noted that the Highway and Wastewater Departments have both been working hard to complete the work, so everything is ready for the opening this weekend. The concession area will not be completed, but the bathrooms are done and everything is looking nice and handicapped accessible. Manager Stough commended the Codes, Highway and Wastewater Departments for their effort on behalf of this project.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

May 6th – Officiated two weddings

May 8th – Was a guest at the Mechanicsburg Senior Adult Center's opening of their two table pool areas, dedicated to Frank Fiscella.

May 8th – Ed LeClear was the presenter at the Crime Watch Meeting.

May 10th – Attended the ground breaking for the Rotary Club's Welcome to Mechanicsburg Sign on North York Street.

May 12th – The Knepper family moved into their "Home Make Over" at 337 West Main Street. Thanks to Channel 27, Musser Home builders and volunteers for this one week makeover.

May 13th – Presented Sheldon Rogers with a Citation and Key to the City at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Sheldon built the wrench for the New year's Eve celebration.

May 15th – Mabel Eckels celebrated her 99th birthday at Eckels Drug Store.

May 15th – Swore Patrolman William Meneses to the rank of Sergeant; followed by a reception in the William Sunday Council Chamber.

May 17th – Attended the Mechanicsburg Museum Association's Lunch and Learn. International Museum Day Speaker was Deborah Filipi, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums.

May 20th – Senator Harold Mowery was honored at the dedication ceremony for the new playground equipment and plaque at Koser Park.

May 21st – Guest Speaker at the Joseph T. Simpson library's volunteer appreciation dinner.

Trivia Question – Where was Irving Street?

Answer – From Simpson to Green, just west of Filbert. The only remaining part is from Main to Columbian Hall at Irving Apts.

Vice President Winchell reported that the Mayor recently celebrated his 70th Birthday and friends and family were in attendance for a roast.

President Whitcomb also congratulated the Mayor on his recent marriage to Elaine Kunkle, May 5th.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

Lieutenant Myers reported that the Borough has received the required street closing permits from PennDOT for Jubilee Day. The Lieutenant also reported that Office Curtis received a citizen letter of commendation for his community relations work with the School District.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Schorpp had no report.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Engineer Barber had no report.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

Fire Chief had no report.

JR. COUNCILPERSON REPORT:

Jr. Councilperson Nauss provided her report:

- ◆ There are less than three weeks left to the school years and finals are coming up in two weeks.
- ◆ The seniors last school day is tomorrow, non exempt seniors will be coming in for exams next week.
- ◆ Tomorrow night the Middle School's Main Event Program will be held to introduce 5th graders to the Middle School.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Development– Humes – Councilman Humes – No Report

Finance/Appropriations/Insurance – Winchell – Vice President Winchell noted that PSAB is interested in looking at the Investment Policy Statement for the Uniform and Non-Uniform pension plans. He asked Lieutenant Myers to ask Officer Curtis to coordinate a joint Police Pension and Finance Committee meeting, and try to get a date set before the next Council Meeting. Manager Stough will provide a copy of the all the information from PSAB for Borough Council.

Health/Recreation –Seagrist – Councilman Seagrist reported that May 25th at 7:30 PM the Joint Recreation Commission will meet at Elmwood Elementary. May 29th the “pull through” season ticket drive will be held at the Pool parking lot in Memorial Park. June 13th at 7:30 and will be the next Recreation Commission meeting and the July meeting will be held July 11th. Councilman Seagrist announced that Mary Landis, Tri County Borough Association, has appointed him to the PSAB Resolution Committee and he will be attending the conference on June 9th on their behalf. Manager Stough stated that he provided an e-mail regarding Jubilee Weekend to Borough Council. Manager Stough reviewed the e-mail with Borough Council, noting at this time only 40 vendors are signed up. Discussion followed on possible locations for the vendors that may not be necessary to close the entire park. Discussion followed on the possible conflict between the Civil War activities planned by the Museum and the Jubilee Day in the Park event. After much discussion, Manager Stough was directed to coordinate the two activities, and contact Mr. Hoffler to get some more details on the information provided this evening. Manager will contact Mr. Hoffler about Jubilee Day weekend.

Loan Review Committee- Humes – no report.

Property/Buildings – Stoner – Councilman Stoner reported that there is an item on the agenda.

School Board – Ryder – Councilman Ryder reported that the School Board voted to hire three new administrators. A principal was hired for Northside Elementary and Upper Allen and a new position of Elementary Curriculum Coordinator. The results of the demographic study will be made public shortly.

Environmental/Recycling Committee – Ryder – No report

Fire Committee –Ryder – Councilman Ryder reported the Fire Committee will meet on June 21st at 7 PM. Chief Seagrist noted that he thought the meeting was June 22nd. Manager Stough will check to see when it was advertised.

Highway/Public Safety – Stoner – Councilman Stoner noted there are two items on the agenda.

Ordinance/Administration/Legislative Action – Humes – No report

Public Communication – McDermott – No report

W.S.C.O.G. – McDermott – Councilman McDermott reported that COG met last week and the information received was very informative. The Municipal Advisory Board is meeting this evening.

AGENDA ITEMS – May 23, 2006

- ◆ **Consider request of the American Legion to approve their preliminary land development plan for the property at the end of East Allen Street.**
Manager Stough reviewed the request of the American Legion with Borough Council. Councilman Seagrist made a motion to approve the preliminary land development plan for the American Legion subjected to the conditions outlined in the plan approval of November 15, 2005. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor. This will give the American Legion five years to obtain final plan approval.
- ◆ **Consider Resolution 7-2006 designating a Chief Administrative Officer for the Borough's Pension Plans.**
Manager Stough indicated that this Resolution would appoint the Borough Manager position, as Chief Administrative Officer for both the Uniform and Non Uniform Pension Plans. Councilman Winchell made a motion, second by Councilman Humes, to adopt Resolution 07-2006 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- ◆ **Consider Resolution 8-2006 outlining the requirements and use of grinder pumps as part of the wastewater collection system.**
Manager Stough indicated that currently grinder pumps are not in use in any residential properties. He noted that with the sewer extension project, 20 of the 23 homes will require a grinder pump. Councilman McDermott made a

motion, second by Councilman Stoner, to adopt Resolution 8-2006, as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Consider authorization to advertise the East Elmwood Avenue Sanitary Sewer Extension Project for construction bids.**

Ron Adams, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent, reviewed the time line for bidding and construction with Borough Council, noting that construction would take place in the late summer or early fall. Vice President Winchell made a motion, second by Councilman Humes, to authorize advertisement of the East Elmwood Avenue Sanitary Sewer Extension Project for bid. The motion passed with all in favor. Vice President Winchell asked if the Manager has received any opposition from residents. Manager Stough indicated that they have met with residents and at this time, no one has objected to hooking onto the sewer. Manager Stough noted that some residents have systems that are in need of repair, and the residents are aware of this.

◆ **Consider authorization of a public notice for the Planning Module Exemption for the East Elmwood Avenue Sanitary Sewer Extension for a thirty day comment period.**

Councilman Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott, to authorize a public notice for the Planning Module Exemption for the East Elmwood Avenue Sanitary Sewer Extension Project for a thirty day inspection period. The motion passed unanimously.

◆ **Consider request of the Mechanicsburg Museum Association to close East Main Street from Market to Race Street on Sunday, June 18th from noon to 3 PM to reenact the capture of Mechanicsburg by the Confederate Army.**

Manager Stough indicated that the application for the PennDot Street closure has already been made by the Police Department, so the deadline could be met. Vice President Winchell made a motion to approve the street closure for the re-enactment of the Capture of Mechanicsburg and approve the encampment, subject to coordination with the other planned activities at Memorial Park. Councilman Ryder seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

◆ **Consider approval of the use of Mechanicsburg Special Fire Police by Hampden Township for the Hootie and the Blowfish concert on June 9th.**

Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder, to authorize the use of Mechanicsburg Special Fire Police by Hampden Township for the Hootie and the Blowfish concert on June 9th. The motion passed with all in favor. Lieutenant Myers updated Council on the plans for the event.

◆ **Consider request of the Wildcat Foundation for a banner to be hung over East Main Street from September 1st through October 2nd.**

Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman Stoner to approve the placement of a banner over East Main Street by the Wildcat Foundation from September 1st through October 2nd, advertising their Fall Gala. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Consider request of Advanced Coating Technology for the closure of a portion of North Washington Street.**

Manager Stough reviewed this request with Borough Council. Vice President Winchell made a motion, second by Councilman Humes, to approve the requested road closing of North Washington Street, adjacent to the construction area, during the month of July. This requested does not include weekends or holidays. Vice President Winchell made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder to approve the requested street closing, subject to the receipt of a certificate of insurance. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Consider authorizing execution of the Agreement of Sale with Greenray Industries.**

Vice President Winchell made a motion, second by Councilman Humes, to authorize the execution of an Agreement of Sale with Greenray Industries for the land to construct the access drive for the Compost facility. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Consider authorization to advertise the intergovernmental cooperation agreement ordinance.**

Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder, to authorize the advertisement of the intergovernmental cooperation agreement ordinance for construction and operation of the compost facility with Silver Spring Township. The motion passed with all in favor. Manager Stough noted that the Borough was the only Cumberland County Municipality that will be receiving 2005 902 funding. Manager Stough stated that both grants, the one for legal and engineering fees for the compost facility and the one for public recycling containers in the downtown were funded. Manager Stough thanked Office Manager Boyer for preparing the grant applications.

◆ **Consideration and possible action on giving permanent status to Anson “Troy” Myers as a Patrol Officer for the Mechanicsburg Police Department.**

Councilman Stoner made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder to approve permanent status to Anson “Troy” Myers as a Patrol Officer for the Mechanicsburg Police Department. The motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Consideration and possible action on hiring Mark Sturm and Trent Johnson as Park Security Officers for 2006.**

Councilman McDermott made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder, to hire Mark Sturm and Trent Johnson as Park Security Officer. Vice President Winchell asked how many Park Security Officers they would have this year.

Lt. Myers indicated there would be four. After discussion, the motion passed with all in favor. Manager Stough noted that automated locks would be installed on the Memorial Park restroom tomorrow.

- ◆ **Consider acceptance of Ray Martin's resignation from the Police Civil Service Commission.**
Councilman McDermott made a motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Ray Martin from the Police Civil Service Commission. Councilman Ryder seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor. Manager Stough indicated that a volunteer is needed to fill this vacancy, if anyone is interested.
- ◆ **Consider appointment to fill the vacancy on the Environmental Advisory Council.**
Councilman Ryder made a motion to appoint Cese Viti to the Environmental Advisory Council. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider approval of revisions to the handicapped parking permit application.**
Councilman Stoner reviewed the changes with Borough Council. Solicitor Schorpp indicated he had a concern with item 2D, limiting the number of spaces per block. After discussion, Councilman Stoner made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder, to approve the revisions, deleting item 2D. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider request of James Lesse for a handicapped parking space.**
Councilman McDermott made a motion to take this matter off the table. Vice President Winchell seconded that motion, which passed with all in favor. Councilman Seagrist made a motion to approve the handicapped parking space request of James Lesse. The motion failed for lack of a second. Councilman Stoner made a motion to deny the request of James Lesse for a handicapped parking space. Vice President Winchell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of five in favor (Humes, McDermott, Stoner, Whitcomb and Winchell) and two against (Ryder, Seagrist).
- ◆ **Designation of an Official voting delegate for the PSAB General Assembly of Boroughs.**
Councilman Ryder made a motion to appoint Councilman Seagrist as voting delegate for the PSAB General Assembly. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor. Manager Stough indicated that there is money in the budget to provide for training and PSAB related expenses. In the past, Borough Council has authorized the expense for Council members; however, staff has always been allowed to attend, without prior authorization as long as there is money left in the budget line item. Councilman Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman Humes, to approve sending at Borough Expense the Borough voting delegate to the PSAB General Assembly. Councilman Seagrist indicated that it is his intention to attend the conference at his own expense, so the motion is not required. After discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed, by a vote of five in favor (Humes, Ryder, Stoner, Whitcomb, Winchell) and two opposed (McDermott, Seagrist).
- ◆ **Discussion on proposed sewer rate schedule.**
Manager Stough noted that a revised proposal is in memo form before Council this evening. The proposed rate will be \$65 per unit for 6,000 gallons in usage and \$3.20 per 1,000 gallons for every gallon over 6,000 gallons. Manager Stough reviewed the process used to come to this proposed rate structure. Manager Stough indicated that this ordinance is a shift of costs, not an increase, as the budgeted amount of revenue is not increasing. Manager Stough reviewed the past changes to the Ordinance with Borough Council. This ordinance will provide for payment based on use, which will cause some residents bills to rise and other to be less. Manager Stough also asked Borough Council to consider a possible increase to the New Hope Senior Assistance Program to help off set the cost for the Borough's low income seniors. Currently qualified seniors receive a \$21 per quarter credit and staff is proposing increasing that credit to \$30 per quarter. Manager Stough reviewed the time spent to date by staff in the implementation of the new billing method. After some discussion on the current rate structure and the proposed new rates, Councilman Humes made a motion, second by Councilman Ryder, to authorize the Solicitor to draft and advertise the proposed metered sewer rate ordinance at the proposed base rate of \$65, with a rate of \$3.20 per 1,000 gallons of use over 6,000, for action of Borough Council at the June 20th meeting. Councilman Seagrist asked for a negative vote on the proposed ordinance, pending more information on the state requirements for mandated upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plant facility. Councilman Humes spoke in support of the ordinance, stating this billing method would be fair as residents impacting the system with high flows would be paying more, and it would also encourage water conservation. Councilman Stoner spoke in support of the change, stating that the usage charge may generate some additional revenue for needed maintenance and repairs at the facility. After some additional discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed by a vote of five in favor (Humes, Ryder, Stoner, Whitcomb, Winchell) and two in opposition (McDermott Seagrist). Councilman Humes then made a motion to increase the New Hope Sewer Assistance rebate to \$30 per quarter for qualified senior residents. Councilman Ryder seconded the motion which passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider the appointment of Chris Knarr as the Borough representative at the School District Demographic Study meeting.**
Councilman Humes made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott, to appoint Chris Knarr as the Borough Representative to the School District meetings on the demographic study. The motion passed with all in favor. Members of Borough Council asked to be informed of when the meetings are scheduled.
- ◆ **Consider temporary "No Parking" location for June 9th during the Hootie and the Blowfish concert.**

Lieutenant Myers review the proposed areas for temporary no parking on June 9th. After discussion on the manpower required posting the signs, Councilman Humes made a motion, second by Vice President Winchell to approve the temporary no parking areas for June 9th as outlined by Lieutenant Myers. The motion passed with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES PAID:

Councilman Ryder made a motion, Vice President Winchell seconded, to approve the expenditures from April 1, 2006 through April 30, 2006 in the following amounts:

General Fund: \$303,574.31 Highway Aid Fund: \$11,893.47 Capital Improvement Fund: \$110,540.55
The motion passed with all in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were no citizen comments.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL:

Lieutenant Myers asked that the Public Highway and Safety Committee coordinate the parking issue at Alison and Darla with the Police Department.

Councilman Seagrist thanked all that volunteered to help with the Compost workshop, stating that Carl Hursh did a great job with the presentation and he thanked Ms. Boyer for opening the building for the presentation.

Councilman Ryder noted that Chief Seagrist is coordinating with a trainer for the NIMS training required for Borough Council members. Dates were discussed and Chief Seagrist will check on Wednesday dates in July and also check to see what the charge per person will be and if there is a maximum number that can be trained at one time.

Councilman Stoner noted that in view of the letters this evening, his committee will not be looking at a change to the two hour parking at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:30 PM President Whitcomb recessed the meeting into Executive Session

At 9:58 PM, President Whitcomb reconvened the public meeting,

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, President Whitcomb adjourned the meeting 10 PM.



Jonathan S. Stough
Borough Secretary