

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

May 1, 2007

7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

President Whitcomb called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

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 Ryder, Councilmen Ciecierski, Humes, McDermott, Seagrist, Stoner, Mayor Ritter, Solicitor Schorpp, Chief Spotts, Chief Seagrist, Manager Stough and Assistant Secretary Boyer. Jr. Councilperson Ford was absent.

Also in attendance: Elizabeth Gibson – Patriot News, Bob Dietrich, Nancy Hanlon, Jack Niebert and Ron Trace.

GUESTS:

None.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

None

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Chief Spotts asked to add consideration and possible action on permanent status at the rank of Sergeant to William Meneses and Manager Stough added the removal of the handicapped parking space for Sandra Greene to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough reported:

- ◆ A letter was received yesterday from Sandra Greene informing the Borough of her intention to move as of May 6, 2007 and her desire to relinquish her handicapped space.
- ◆ A letter was received from the Cumberland County Commissioners regarding tax collection in Cumberland County and a meeting to be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to develop a task force on the matter. Manager Stough will send a letter advising the Council that the meeting date is the same time as the Borough Council meeting but will express Council's interest in receiving additional information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Councilman Seagrist made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 17, 2007 Borough Council meeting as presented. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed with no dissenting votes.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager Stough advised Council that a Resolution form developed by Borough Staff will be in their packets this Friday for review and will be added to the next meeting for discussion. Manager Stough then played a recycling video that he developed for the Borough Web Site to encourage recycling compliance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

April 18<sup>th</sup> – Mechanicsburg Museum' Lunch and Learn presenter was Dr. Ruth Wrightstone talking about her medical missionary work in Africa.

April 20<sup>th</sup> – Wound up national library week by reading to the children of the Bible Baptist School assisted by Chico the mind reading monkey.

April 21<sup>st</sup> - presented a key to the city to Harry and Jean Gsell on celebrating their 50h wedding anniversary at an Allenberry dinner.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Court of Honor held for Eagle Scout Tristan Noggle of Troop 190 at the First United Methodist Church. Eagle Scout Noggle was honored with a citation and a key to the city from the Mayor's office.

April 26<sup>th</sup> – Friends of Joseph T. Simpson Library held their annual banquet at the First Church of God's Community Center.

April 28<sup>th</sup> – The Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg auction was held at the First Church of God' Community Center.

April 29<sup>th</sup> – Officiated a wedding.

Upcoming – May 14<sup>th</sup> Crime Watch – Guest will be Bob Shively, Deputy Coordinator of Cumberland County Public Safety. This should be a great meeting.

Trivia Question: Name the twelve parts of scout oath.

Answer: A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent. For extra points what is the Scout motto? Answer: Be Prepared.

#### CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

No report.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

No report.

#### ENGINEER REPORT:

No report.

#### FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

Chief Seagrist reported United Water is flushing hydrants and upgrading their systems on West Allen and West Green Streets. Chief Seagrist also reported on a recent porch fire started by a bird's nest over the porch light.

#### JR. COUNCILPERSON REPORT:

Jr. Councilperson Ford was absent.

#### COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Community Development**– Humes – Councilman Humes reported that she was informed that countdown timers will be installed at the pedestrian crosswalks at Main and Market and also at Main & Walnut Streets. She also distributed the 2007 Mechanicsburg Area Foundation Grant to Borough Council and informed them of a program on IRA's that the Foundation is sponsoring at the Joseph T. Simpson Library on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Environmental Committee**- Ryder – Vice President Ryder reported that the Recycling meet at 6 PM and will be changing their meeting time to begin at 5:30 PM, beginning in June. He reported that the group discussed the upcoming refuse contract and possible changes to be included such as bag limits, different cardboard recycling regulations, bulk item pickup tag program and educational options to be included in the next contract. The EAC also met this evening and will be changing their meeting time to 6 PM on the third Tuesday of each month beginning in June. Councilman Ryder explained that the meeting dates and times are being changed to allow Council members to attend both the Recycling and EAC meetings and to allow more time for the Recycling Committee to meet. This Saturday the Recreation Office will hold the 1<sup>st</sup> E-Day event at the Environmental Center on Route 114 in back of the Middle School from 10 AM to 2 PM. Councilman Ryder reported that the Mechanicsburg Chamber conducted a poster contest in conjunction with the Environmental Advisory Council and the School District "Green Team" to put children's art work on the Chamber recycling bottle containers. The posters were judged this evening and will be on display at the E-Day event.

**Finance/Appropriations/Insurance** – Whitcomb -no report.

**Fire Committee** –Stoner – Councilman Stoner reported that next meeting of the Fire Committee will be May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 PM at Borough building.

**Health and Recreation** – Seagrist – Councilman Seagrist reported April 21<sup>st</sup> volunteers for Great PA Cleanup collected 22 bags of trash and recyclables collected. The summer 2007 Park and Recreation Guide has been mailed to residents. Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM is the next Borough Recreation Commission meeting. May 24<sup>th</sup> will be the next Joint Recreation Board meeting at Elmwood Elementary School. On June 16<sup>th</sup> Community Day will be held at the Mechanicsburg Area Pool.

**Highway/Public Safety** – Stoner – Councilman Stoner stated that there is an item on the agenda. He asked Chief Spotts what can be done about children blocking the roadway on Arch and Locust Streets.

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

**Ordinance/Administration/Legislative Action** – Humes – Councilman Humes was provided with some information on noise levels, which will be placed on file if a Noise Ordinance is reviewed in the future.

**Property/Buildings** –Stoner – no report.

**Public Communications** – McDermott – The Summer edition of the Borough Newsletter deadline will be May 18<sup>th</sup>. Information is already being received.

**School Board-** Ryder – Vice President Ryder reported that the School Board introduced a proposed budget last week which includes a 3.4% tax increase. One of the controversial items in the budget is the use of the Shiremanstown Elementary building for alternative education. President Whitcomb reported that Northside School will be up and running this Friday, with a half day session.

**W.S.C.O.G** – McDermott – No report.

#### **AGENDA ITEMS – May 1, 2007**

- ◆ **Consider request of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for use of Memorial Park their annual Great Strides Walk on May 19, 2007 from 10 AM to 1 PM.**  
Councilman Seagrist made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott, to approve the request of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for the use of Memorial Park for their Great Strides Walk on May 19<sup>th</sup>. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consider hiring of Andrew Herr as a Park Security/Community Service Officer.**  
Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman Ciecierski to hire Andrew Herr as a Park Security Community Service Officer. The motion passed with all in favor. Chief noted that this would be for a PS with CSO back up.
- ◆ **Consider authorizing a Ride-along Program for Park Security and Community Service Officers for 2007.**  
Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman Humes, to authorize a ride along program for Community Service and Park Security Officers for 2007. The motion passed with all in favor Chief same as other years.
- ◆ **Consider request of Chief Spotts to hold a County Preparedness Drill on Jubilee Day.**  
Chief Spotts reviewed the request with Borough Council. Vice President Ryder made a motion to approve the use of Jubilee Day as a County Preparedness Drill. Councilman Stoner seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor. President Whitcomb asked about the time frame for approval from the County and Chief Spotts indicated that he should know by mid May.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible authorization to participate in the West Shore COG – cable Master Joint Franchised Renewal Agreement.**  
Manager Stough reviewed the memo from West Shore COG with Borough Council. Twelve or Thirteen municipalities have already signed on to the proposal, and it is estimated that the cost per municipality would be less than \$100. The current contract that the Borough has with Comcast extends after the COG contract. Councilman Seagrist made a motion to table so he can get more information on this to Borough Council. Vice President Ryder seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion on the intermunicipal pool agreement.**  
Solicitor Schorpp reported that he discussed the indemnification clause with the Upper Allen Solicitor and after discussion; Upper Allen would request that the Borough add Upper Allen as an additional insured on the Borough liability coverage for the pool. Solicitor Schorpp indicated that Upper Allen will be considering that proposal at their next meeting. Councilman Seagrist asked Manager Stough if that would incur additional cost to the Borough and Manager Stough indicated that he did not think so, but he would check with the Borough insurance carrier.
- ◆ **Discussion on the Non-Uniform Pension joinder agreement.**  
Manager Stough suggested that Borough Council consider changes to the non uniform agreement which would allow participation by Borough employees after six months of service, without a minimum age. Currently the Ordinance requires one year of service and a minimum age of 25. He also asked Council to consider including provisions for re-employment and discussed with them several options. He stated that PSAB is recommending these changes and they can be incorporated into the joinder agreement. After discussion, Councilman Humes made a motion, second by Vice President Ryder, to direct the solicitor to draft the two changes discussed and advertise the joinder agreement for action of Borough Council. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Action to grant permanent status at the rank of Sergeant to William Meneses.**

Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman Ciecierski, to grant permanent status at the rank of Sergeant to William Meneses as of May 15<sup>th</sup>. The motion was approved unanimously.

◆ **Approval to remove handicapped parking space at 48 West Allen Street, Apt 2.**

Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott, to approve the removal of the handicapped parking space at 48 West Allen Street as of May 7<sup>th</sup>. The motion passed with all in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were none.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Vice President Ryder asked if Council would consider meeting at 7 PM instead of 7:30 PM, there was not sufficient interest to make that change. Vice President Ryder asked if Chief Spotts could enforce speed limits on Main Street as he feels there may be a speeding problem. Chief Spotts stated that he will put the traffic counter out and check speeds and report back to Borough Council. Vice President Ryder also asked if Council could again consider the enforcement of oversized vehicle parking. The Solicitor stated that Council discussed that at length a few years ago, but did not want to spend the money to post the signs required to enforce the ordinance.

President Whitcomb reminded Council that they need to sign a Resolution, before leaving this evening.

Councilman Stoner asked about truck traffic on Edgewood Drive, and a sign reported missing at Edgewood and Walnut Street. Manager Stough will check to see if a sign at that location is in fact missing.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:25 PM PM, President Whitcomb adjourned the meeting.



Jonathan S. Stough  
Borough Secretary