

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

June 3, 2008

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 Ryder, Councilmen Ciecierski, Humes, McDermott, Seagrism, Stoner, Mayor Ritter, Solicitor Schorpp, Chief Spotts, Chief Seagrism, Manager Stough and Assistant Secretary Boyer. Jr. Councilperson Keenan-Koch and Engineer Barber were absent.

Also in attendance: Creason - Sentinel, Gnoza-Whitm27, Sean Forsythe, Kathie Furr, Paul Heeter, Walter Lyon, Jack Neibert, Michael Straus, Ron Trace and

GUESTS

Michael Strauss and Walt Lyon addressed Borough Council regarding Resolution 13-2008. Mr. Lyon clarified some issues from the last Council meeting and asked Borough Council to support its adoption.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

None

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councilman McDermott made a motion for approval of the agenda; Councilman Ciecierski seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough reported the following correspondence was received:

- ◆ The Borough received a thank you note from the Recreation Department for their support of E-Day.
- ◆ The letter was received from PennDOT District Engineer, agreeing to look at the Borough's request to reduce the speed limit on East Main Street.
- ◆ Councilman Humes asked that discussion a resolution in support of House Bill 2441 which would provide for funding for nitrogen removal be added to the next meeting agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Ciecierski made motion to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2008 regular Council meeting. Councilman Stoner seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager Stough reported on the Mechanicsburg Museum Association's 145th Anniversary Celebration of the Occupation of Mechanicsburg which is scheduled to occur this coming weekend. A schedule was provided to Borough Council.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Ritter reported:

May 26th – The Area Veterans Council sponsored a Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony held at the Mechanicsburg Cemetery GAR Monument. Followed by lunch at the American Legion Post 109

May 29th – Police Officers Curtis and Vincent organized the DARE graduation held at the Elmwood Elementary School Auditorium. Over 150th 5th grade students parents and grandparents took part.

June 2nd – Officiated a wedding

June 6-8 – is the 145th Anniversary of the Confederate Occupation of Mechanicsburg.

June 9 – Crime Watch presenter will be Mechanicsburg Borough Manager Jonathan Stough. Where we were, were we are and where we are going.

Mayor Ritter mentioned that Mechanicsburg's Compact Florescent Bulb Recycling program was mentioned in a Texas local newspaper article.

Trivia Question: When the Mechanicsburg telephone exchange was located on the second floor of 41 West Main Street, how did they notify a police officer while on patrol of an incoming phone call?

Answer: The phone company would put a light in the window. Thanks to Jay Stoner former Mechanicsburg Police Sergeant.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

Chief Spotts reported receiving a letter of commendation for Officer Curtis. He also reported that the traffic counter was deployed in the 1300 block of Apple Drive and a report has been provided to Council showing that a speeding problem does not exist at this location.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

No Report.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

No Report

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

On May 21st all four engines had pump tests and all passed. On May 23rd Chief Seagrist reported attending HACC graduation ceremony for the Fire Academy. Chief Seagrist also reported several Jubilee Day planning meetings. Fire Officers will meet on June 12th.

JR. COUNCILPERSON REPORT:

No Report

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Capital Area COG – McDermott – no report

Community Development– Humes – Councilman Humes reported that Mechanicsburg was mentioned as one of the Fab Five downtowns by the Central PA Journal. She also reported that Chris Gulotta, Cumberland County Redevelopment Authority met with Main Street Mechanicsburg Officers to define objectives and rank priorities as the group moves towards a their DCED application for admission into the Downtown Program.

Environmental/Recycling Committee – Ryder – Vice President Ryder reported that the Recycling Committee met tonight and discussed the changes to the Recycling program due to Penn Waste's new single stream collection program. Recycling collection for Jubilee Day was also discussed.

Finance/Appropriations/Insurance – Whitcomb – President Whitcomb reported that the Finance Committee will meet on Friday at 3:30 PM.

Fire Committee –Ciecierski – Councilman Ciecierski reported the next meeting Fire Committee meeting will be held on June 4th at Washies at 7 PM.

Health/Recreation –Seagrist – Councilman Seagrist reported next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on June 10th at 7 PM and the next Joint Recreation Commission meeting will be held on August 28th at 7 PM in the second floor conference room at Elmwood Elementary.

Highway/Public Safety – Stoner – Councilman Stoner reported that he is still receiving citizen complaints on traffic light timing.

Loan Review Committee- Humes – No report.

Ordinance/Administration/Legislative Action – Ciecierski – Councilman Ciecierski stated that he has received an opinion from the Borough Solicitor on the proposed changes to the ordinance related to feral cats and will have the proposed changes out to committee members, with a proposed ordinance change to be before Council for consideration in July.

Property/Buildings – Stoner – Councilman Stoner asked if the Generator was operational. Manager Stough indicated that one part is on order which must be installed before it can be tested.

Public Communication – McDermott – Councilman McDermott reported summer newsletter being finalized

School Board – Ryder – Vice President Ryder reported that a graduation ceremony was held for the 22 preschooler that received assistance through a grant program to attend preschool, which will give these children an advantage that they would not have had going into kindergarten next year.

Agenda Items June 3, 2008

- ◆ **Discussion and possible action on Resolution 13-2008 in support of future public transportation options.**
Councilman Humes made a motion to adopt Resolution 13-2008 as presented. Vice President Ryder seconded the motion, and President Whitcomb opened the floor for discussion. Councilman Seagrist spoke against the adoption of Resolution 13-2008 stating that the Resolution contains inaccuracies. He further stated that he has a problem with the contention in the 1st paragraph that adopting this Resolution will have an impact on global warming. He also stated that a line in the Capital Budget does not indicate an allocation is available to fund this project, as the budget referenced is four years old and it is inaccurate to try to make the case that there is nine million dollars in a fund somewhere to undertake this project. Councilman Seagrist stated that Corridor One is dead and that a north-south track would make better sense than the proposed east west commuter. Councilman McDermott stated that he feels there are better uses for the allocation and that public transportation is available to residents at an affordable cost through the bus line and people are not taking advantage of this option, even with gas being up to \$4.00 per gallon. Vice President Ryder spoke in favor stating that if this work is not done it will prohibit any type of commuter service running through this location to the West Shore. Much discussion followed with President Whitcomb calling for a vote and the motion passing by a vote of five in favor (Ciecierski, Humes, Ryder, Stoner, Whitcomb) and two against (McDermott, Seagrist).
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action to advertise East Simpson Street parking restrictions.**
Manager Stough reviewed the Engineer's memo regarding the need for 147 feet of site distance at this intersection to the west, which would be to the property line at 208 East Simpson Street. Much discussion followed on the need for this change and if the proposed change would create an additional lane, which may result in yet another hazard at this already congested location. Councilman Ciecierski concurred with Engineer Barber. Councilman Stoner stated that he is not in favor of the proposed change. Discussion followed on a possible no turn on red sign at the Walnut and Shepardstown. Chief Spotts stated that PennDOT approval would be required for no turn on red signs to be installed. After considerable discussion, Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman Ciecierski, to table this pending Engineer Barber checking with PennDOT to see if no turn on red signage would be appropriate at this location. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Handicapped Parking Space application of Patrick McNamara, 211 W Simpson Street.**
Councilman Stoner reported that he and Officer Dyer went out to review this request. Mr. McNamara does not drive and therefore he is recommending that this request be denied. Councilman Stoner made a motion, second by Councilman Ciecierski, to deny the request of Patrick McNamara for a handicapped parking space. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Handicapped Parking Space application of Joan Landis, 411 S High Street, Apt #3.**
Councilman Stoner reported that he and Officer Dyer went out to review this request. He stated that the applicant drives every day and has no off-street parking, so they are recommending approval. Councilman Stoner made a motion to approve the handicapped parking permit for Joan Landis. Councilman Seagrist seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Authorization to execute Assignment Agreement for CPEC.**
Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott to authorize the President of Council to execute the assignment agreement for CPEC. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Approval of Expenditures from April 1, 2008 through April 30, 2008.**
Vice President Ryder made a motion to approve the expenditures from April 1, 2008 through April 30, 2008 as follows:
General Fund: \$185,979.49 Capital Fund: \$3,426.01 Highway Fund: \$21,949.42
Councilman Ciecierski seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were none.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL

Vice President Ryder asks that Council add a resolution for Ritter's Hardware's 100 years of service to the next Borough Council agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:11 PM, President Whitcomb adjourned the meeting to Executive Session on a personnel matter with no action to be taken

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:11 PM President Whitcomb adjourned the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Stough". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a distinct "S" at the end.

Jonathan S. Stough,
Borough Secretary