

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

June 17, 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, Seagrist, Stoner, Jr. Councilperson Keenan-Koch, Mayor Ritter, Solicitor Schorpp, Chief Spotts, Chief Seagrist, Manager Stough and Assistant Secretary Boyer.

Also in attendance: Chris Gulotta, Nancy Hanlon, Jack Neibert, Jeff Shatzer, Ron Trace and Rebecca Yearick

GUESTS

Jeff Shatzer, Main Street Mechanicsburg President & Chris Gulotta, Cumberland County Redevelopment Authority were present to review the progress of Main Street Mechanicsburg with Borough Council.

Jeff Shatzer, 129 East Main Street, President of the Main Street Mechanicsburg program, thanked Borough Council for their support. He reviewed the achievements to date which include incorporation and receiving tax exempt designation. He stated that Main Street has been working with the Borough on Comprehensive Plan initiatives and has a pending grant application to start the gateways and wayfinding signage project identified in the Comprehensive Plan. Main Street Mechanicsburg recently donated the plantings to fill the planter boxes obtained by the Borough through a 902 DEP Recycling Grant Application. Mr. Shatzer explained that Main Street Mechanicsburg is ready to move forward with a DCED grant application for admittance to the downtown program, and are hoping to work with Borough Council on that grant application. The Main Street designation can open door for other funding streams for Mechanicsburg and will provide funding for a staff person to work on the objectives of economic development, marketing and historic preservation for our downtown. In May two staff persons from the Department of Community and Economic Development visited with Main Street and Borough Representatives. The tour of our downtown started with lunch at Eckels, a walking tour highlighting our business district and new traffic signals and crosswalks and ended with a question and answer forum at the Orris House Inn. Mr. Shatzer thanked Mayor Ritter, Councilman Humes, Manager Stough and Ms. Boyer for their participation in that process. Mr. Shatzer stated that Main Street Mechanicsburg is working on building relationships with Messiah College and the Mechanicsburg Museum Association and working to identify some real estate opportunities for development within the Borough.

Chris Gulotta, Cumberland County Redevelopment Authority, introduced Rebecca Yearick to Borough Council. Ms. Yearick came on staff at the County in December and is working with West Shore downtowns, including Mechanicsburg, on marketing and business recruitment initiatives. Mr. Gulotta stated that the preparation for Main Streets Downtown Program Grant application is moving forward and November is the anticipated application date. The best applicant for this grant would be the Mechanicsburg Borough, as Main Street Mechanicsburg has not been a DCED applicant in the past. Mr. Gulotta stated that he would be coming back to Council in the fall to ask for a public hearing to begin the application process. He further stated that Cumberland County Redevelopment Authority has submitted a gateway signage application on behalf of Main Street Mechanicsburg and are looking for possible funding of that application in the fall. Mr. Gulotta stated that he wanted to recognize the hard work of Jonathan Stough, he stated that it has been a pleasure to work with Jon over the last seven years and he wishes him all the best.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Ron Trace, Washington Fire Company, addressed Borough Council on behalf of the Fire Companies. Mr. Trace reminded everyone that Citizen's Fire Company will be serving breakfast and the Washington Fire Company will be serving food over lunch and dinner. Mr. Trace stated that the Annual Fund Raising Drive letter will be sent out to Borough businesses and residents in the next few weeks. Mr. Trace stated that about 25% of the business and residents solicited participate. Last year \$43,000 was received through this fund drive, which netted each fire company \$21,500 dollars after mailing expenses.

Vice President Ryder asked if the marketing company that does the brochures is paid a flat rate or if they get a percentage of the monies collected. Mr. Trace indicated that get a flat rate, which is about eighty one cents per mailing.

Councilman Seagrist asked if the Fire Companies receive restricted donations as part of this campaign. Mr. Trace indicated that they have not received those types of requests in the past. Mr. Seagrist asked where the checks for this solicitation are mailed. Mr. Trace indicated that they go to a Mechanicsburg PO box.

#### ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Vice President Ryder requested a Resolution in memory of Gladys Ritter be added to the agenda.

Chief Spotts asked the consideration and possible action on extension of the light duty agreement for Officer William Demmy.

Chief Spotts asked that consideration and possible action to accept a donation of a Segway Scooter from David Alvey for use by the Police Department be added to the agenda.

Councilman Humes asked that a Resolution in recognition of Jonathan Stough be added to the next agenda.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Councilman McDermott made a motion for approval of the agenda with the additions noted; Vice President Ryder seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager Stough reported the following correspondence was received:

- ◆ The Borough received an invitation from the Monroe Township Board of Supervisors to attend the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Day Celebration on Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup> at 4 PM.
- ◆ The Vietnam Veterans of Mechanicsburg were approved to use the Square at PNC Bank for their annual Flag Retirement Ceremony. The application was not received in time for the June 3<sup>rd</sup> agenda.
- ◆ A letter was received from the PA Fair Share for Clean Water Coalition asking the Borough to support the PA Fair Share for Clean Water Plan. PMMA is supporting this plan and copies of the letter were placed in Council packets.
- ◆ The Mechanicsburg Area School District sent a letter requesting to expand the fence at the J. H. Fredrick Field 10 feet to the south. Much discussion followed on this matter with the Manager stating he would have the Solicitor review the lease to see if it would need to be amended. This will be added to the next agenda for consideration and the School District will be invited to answer any questions.
- ◆ Carl Hursh sent an e-mail to Borough Council commenting on how nice the downtown recycling receptacles look as you drive through downtown. He stated that we are the only community he has seen in Pennsylvania with this type of container in their downtown.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Ciecierski made motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2008 regular Council meeting. Councilman Stoner seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT:

No Report

#### MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Ritter reported:

May 26<sup>th</sup> – Attended the Mechanicsburg Area School District's Pre-K Counts Graduation held at the First United Methodist Church. Pre-K Counts is a State funded program that is free for at risk children.

June 7<sup>th</sup> – The Citizen's Fire and Rescue Company #2 held their 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Company Banquet at the Mechanicsburg Club. Representative Jerry Nailor was recognized for his support of volunteer fire companies.

June 7<sup>th</sup> – 145<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Confederate Occupation of Mechanicsburg Burgess Hummel was captured, when unharmed, surrendered the town flag asking the towns folks to gather rations to feed the rebels.

June 7<sup>th</sup> – Officiated wedding at the Navy Officers Club.

June 9<sup>th</sup> – Crime watch speaker was Mechanicsburg Borough Manager Jonathan Stough. The hot topic was the traffic signals

June 10<sup>th</sup> – With the help of Jonathan Stough the Senior Center rent was collected. Jon, after being fed, gave back the \$1.00.

June 14<sup>th</sup> – The Vietnam Veterans of Mechanicsburg held an American Flag Retirement ceremony at the square. These flags will be cremated by Myers Funeral Home and buried at the Lincoln Cemetery on Memorial day 2009.

June 14<sup>th</sup> – Officiated a wedding at the Orris House B & B on West Main Street.

July 14<sup>th</sup> Crime Watch Speaker will be Eric Radnovich from the District Attorneys Crime Lab. Real CSI information.

Trivia Question: A multiple choice question – The John Frederick Field at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park is being covered with artificial turf. How are the rolls of turf held together?

Velcro                  Gorilla Glue                  Plastic pins                  Sewing                  Epoxy                  Crazy Glue                  Duct Tape

Answer: Sewing – Ron Trace had the correct answer.

#### CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

Chief Spotts reported:

- I received a letter of commendation for Office Curtis for his recent work.
- I must publicly acknowledge Lt. Myers and Officers Demmy, Curtis, Myers and Bayer for two recent incidents.
  - On May 28, 2008, Officers Curtis and Myers entered an apartment filled with heavy smoke to search for victims. They found a person still inside the home and were instrumental in evacuating him. Both Officers suffered minor smoke inhalation.
  - On June 14, 2008, Highspire Police asked for assistance in arresting a suspect from an attempted homicide who was believed to be in the Borough. Lt. Myers and Officers Demmy and Bayer initiated surveillance on the suspect's possible location and alerted the SRT. While awaiting the deployment of the SRT, the suspect exited his residence and attempted to drive away. He was successfully taken into custody by our Officers. While awaiting Highspire Police, Lt. Myers obtained several incriminating, post-Miranda statements from the suspect.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

No Report.

#### ENGINEERS REPORT:

No Report

#### FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

On June 7<sup>th</sup> Chief Seagrist reported that he attended the Citizen's Fire Company Banquet. On June 12<sup>th</sup> a Fire Officers meeting was held.

#### JR. COUNCILPERSON REPORT:

Jr. Councilperson Keenan-Koch reported:

June 3, 4 and 5 finals were held.

June 9 graduation was held.

June 16, 17 and 18 report cards are available to students

The 1<sup>st</sup> Marching Band practice was held this evening.

#### COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Capital Area COG** – McDermott – The COG auction will be held July 16 and a list of items for the auction should be sent by June 25<sup>th</sup>. The COG met last night and had a presentation for the subcommittee that is looking into the possible creation of a PEG channel. The Committee has compiled request for proposals and the information should be back in August, with additional information in September. A video about the project is available at the Borough Office.

**Community Development**– Humes – No report.

**Environmental/Recycling Committee** – Ryder – Vice President Ryder reported EAC met tonight and had a presentation by Corridor I and Modern Transit Partnership about the carbon footprint from commuting traffic.

**Finance/Appropriations/Insurance** – Whitcomb – No report

**Fire Committee** –Ciecierski – Councilman Ciecierski reported that the Fire Committee met on June 4<sup>th</sup> and discussed Act I. The Fire Departments were asked to provide a list of locations where the preemption devices were not working. The list will be sent to Engineer Barber. Discussion was held on the blood borne pathogen contract and the RFP for the Engine body work. Councilman Ciecierski asked that the Police Department schedule a social with the Fire Departments so the Fire Departments can meet the new officers and discuss opening up communication. Councilman Ciecierski asked Chief Seagrist about the new hydrants being installed using National Standard Threading, instead of the Mechanicsburg Standard. Chief Seagrist stated that there are six hydrants that will have National Standard Threads. The next Fire Committee meeting will be August 13<sup>th</sup> at Citizens Fire House at 7 PM.

President Whitcomb asked if the preemptive devices are affected by tree limbs. Chief Seagrist indicated that they are. Discussion followed with Manager Stough asking Chief Seagrist to provide a list of locations where trees are a problem so the property owners can be notified to trim the trees if they are under 14 ft. The Borough could trim any trees that needed to be trimmed above 14ft. The portable 800 Mhz radios were discussed.

**Health/Recreation** – Seagrist – Councilman Seagrist reported next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM and the next Joint Recreation Commission meeting will be held on August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the second floor conference room at Elmwood Elementary.

**Highway/Public Safety** – Stoner – Agenda item

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

**Ordinance/Administration/Legislative Action** – Ciecierski – Councilman Ciecierski reported that the committee will meet to discuss the feral cat revisions to the animal ordinance.

**Property/Buildings** – Stoner – Agenda Item

**Public Communication** – McDermott – Councilman McDermott reported the Summer Newsletter will in the mail on Monday.

**School Board** – Ryder – No report.

#### **Agenda Items June 17, 2008**

◆ **Resolution 14-2008 commemorating Ritter's Hardware's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

Vice President Ryder made a motion to adopt Resolution 14-2008 commemorating Ritter's Hardware's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Councilman Humes seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion and possible action on approval of Certificates of Appropriateness for the following applications:**

1. **Application of BKM Construction and Renovations – 300 W Main Street. – Roof Repair, Replacement of Wood Trim on structure and replacement of asphalt shingles on garage.**

Councilman Humes made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for BKM Construction and Renovations for roof repair, replacement of wood trim and replacement of asphalt shingles on garage at 300 West Main Street as outlined in his application. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

2. **Application of Joseph M. Fisher, Jr. – 200 W Locust Street – Door replacement.**

Vice President Ryder made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for Joseph M. Fisher, Jr. for door replacement 200 West Locust Street as outlined in his application. Councilman Seagrist seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

3. **Application of Gary L. Kitzmiller – 300 E Main Street – Fence repair and roof, gutter and downspout replacement.**

Vice President Ryder made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for Gary L. Kitzmiller for fence repair and roof, gutter and downspout replacement at 300 East Main Street as outlined in his application. Councilman Ciecierski seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

4. **Application of Mike Malpezzi -15 S Washington Street – Siding replacement.**

Vice President Ryder made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for Mike Malpezzi for siding replacement at 15 S. Washington Street as outlined in his application. Councilman Humes seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

5. **Application of Robert Laughner – 201 S Market/6 E Simpson Street – Window & door replacement, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor fire escape, wrought iron fence, awning and a raised roof/shed style with vinyl siding on rear of 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of 201 S Market.**

Councilman Humes made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for Robert Laughner for Window and Door replacement, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor fire escape installation, wrought iron fencing, an awning and raised roof/shed style with vinyl siding at the rear of 201 S. Market Street as outlined in his application. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion and possible action to advertise East Simpson Street parking restrictions.**

Manager reviewed the Engineer's e-mail of June 11, 2008 regarding discontinuing the right turn on red at these intersections. Vice President Ryder stated that he has concerns and feels that Council should table the elimination of right hand turns on red this until the arrows are installed and then see how traffic is flowing. Councilman Ciecierski seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor. Council then discussed changing the parking regulations on the section of East Simpson Street from Race to Filbert Street. After discussion, Vice President Ryder made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to draft the ordinance to create no parking along East Simpson as recommended by the Borough Engineer. Councilman Ciecierski seconded the motion and President Whitcomb opened the floor for discussion. Councilman Seagrist asked that staff notify the property owners prior to advertisement of the Ordinance. Borough staff will send a letter to the residents at 208, 212 and 215 East Simpson Street advising them of the parking regulation change. After discussion, the motion passed with all in favor.

◆ **Discussion and possible action on request of the Mechanicsburg Football Boosters for flags and ribbons to be placed downtown from September 12<sup>th</sup> through November 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman Seagrist, to approve the request of the Mechanicsburg Football Boosters for flags and ribbons to be placed downtown from September 12<sup>th</sup> through November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The motion passed with all in favor.

- ◆ **Consideration and possible action to accept the resignation of School Crossing Guard Douglas Linebaugh, effective June 9, 2008.**  
Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott, to accept the resignation of Douglas Linebaugh as a school crossing guard effective June 9, 2008. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion on naming of Press Box at the York Street field.**  
Manager Stough reviewed the request with Borough Council. Vice President Ryder suggested that the Borough review the School District Naming Policy and then create a policy before any other structures or fields are named. After much discussion, Councilman Seagrism made a motion, second by Vice President Ryder, to table this matter until the Borough adopts a naming policy. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action on proposal from Municipal Energy Managers.**  
Manager Stough stated that the possible purchase of street lights from PP & L was discussed at the June 6<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee meeting. The Manager reported that he has asked for a breakdown of the figures discussed for the purchase, and he has not yet received that. Manager Stough stated that the proposal makes sense to him as a taxpayer to protect against future cost increases. The Manager asked that Council authorize the Solicitor to review the documents and make a recommendation on the proposal. Councilman Humes made a motion, second by Councilman Ciecierski, to authorize the Solicitor to review the proposal. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action to appoint an Interim Borough Manager.**  
Manager Stough recommended to Borough Council that they appoint Assistant Borough Secretary, Glenda Boyer, as Interim Borough Manager until a Borough Manager is hired. Manager Stough asked Solicitor Schorpp if as Assistant Secretary she could sign legal documents until a new Manager/Secretary is hired. Solicitor Schorpp indicated that she could. Councilman Seagrism made a motion, second by Councilman McDermott, to appoint Glenda Boyer as Interim Borough Manager effective July 5, 2008. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action on banking and investment accounts.**  
Manager Stough spoke with Marty Coover about the Treasurer position. Manager Stough stated that Mr. Coover agreed that breaking out the funds into separate account and reconciling the accounts on the computer would make sense and he had no problem with that. Councilman Seagrism spoke in favor of checking with multiple financial institutions to see where the Borough could get the best rate. Vice President Ryder asked if the accounts could be separated at PNC. Vice President Ryder suggested that the accounts be split out and then after the transition period is over, look at other financial institutions to obtain the best rate and service. After some additional discussion, Councilman Humes made a motion to stay at PNC, but split out the funds into separate account. Councilman Ciecierski seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action on Resolution 15-2008 in Memory of Gladys Ritter.**  
Vice President Ryder made a motion, second by Councilman Ciecierski, to adopt Resolution 15-2008 in memory of Gladys Ritter. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action on extension of the light duty agreement for Officer William Demmy through September 30, 2008.**  
Councilman Seagrism made a motion, second by Councilman Humes to approve the extension of the light duty Agreement for Officer William Demmy through September 30, 2008. The motion passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Consideration and possible action to accept a donation of a Segway Scooter from David Alvey for use by the Police Department.**  
Chief Spotts reviewed a memo regarding the donation of a Segway Scooter to the Police Department. Vice President Ryder made a motion to accept the donation of a Segway Scooter to the Mechanicsburg Police Department. Councilman Ciecierski seconded the motion, and President Whitcomb opened the floor for discussion. He asked Chief Spotts if he would be using it on Jubilee Day. Chief Spotts answered that they would like to. Councilman Stoner questioned the insurance and training. Vice President Ryder stated that he has used one and training was not required. Councilman Seagrism asked what the value of the scooter was. Chief Spotts indicated new it would be \$4,500, but this one is used so probably in the \$2,000 range. The motion passed with all in favor.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Ron Trace, Emergency Management Coordinator, asked if the Police Department was aware of a meeting at the County tomorrow regarding the bicycle race that would be coming through the Borough on June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Chief Spotts stated a representative from the Department would be attending.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL

Mayor Ritter brought in an article about Mechanicsburg's CFL recycling program that appeared in a Dallas newspaper. Sunday June 29<sup>th</sup> an event for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders will be held at City Island and information is on the table in the rear of the room.

Councilman Seagrist asked about yard sale signs in the Borough being displayed on utility poles and asked if an article could be placed in the Borough newsletter. After discussion, Chief Spotts was directed to have CSO's remove the signs and bring the signs into the Borough Office so letters can be sent to residents not abiding by the regulations. Chief Seagrist added that there was a fire in a second floor apartment at 12 South Filbert Street and several fire fighters had smoke inhalation that required treatment. Chief Seagrist also reported that hose testing will occur June 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup> at Mission Central and ladder testing will be conducted July 7<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>. He also reported an increase in fire calls due to fireworks.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:15 PM, President Whitcomb adjourned the meeting to Executive Session on a personnel matter with possible action.  
At 9:33 PM, President Whitcomb reconvened the Public Meeting.

- ◆ **Discussion and possible action to determine compensation for the Interim Borough Manager position.**  
Vice President Ryder made a motion to authorize an additional \$800 per month for Boyer as compensation for the Interim Borough Manager position. Councilman Humes seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.
- ◆ **Discussion and possible action to determine compensation for Consulting Services.**  
Councilman Ciecierski made a motion, second by Councilman Humes to set a rate of compensation of \$50 per hour for Jonathan Stough during the transition period through August 31st and to pay insurance premiums during this period. A vote was taken and the motion passed with five in favor and Councilmen McDermott & Seagrist voting against.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:49 PM President Whitcomb adjourned the meeting.



Jonathan S. Stough,  
Borough Secretary