

SHIPPENSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL

August 21, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Present at the Council Meeting: Andrea Lage
Bruce Hockersmith
John Alosi
Sandra Mailey
Keith Swartz
Mitchell Burrows
Kathy Coy, Mayor
Samuel Wiser, Solicitor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE COUNCIL

THE MAYOR'S MOMENT OF SILENCE

REPORTS

Mayor Coy reported that she was on vacation but she did work with the Shippensburg Little League All Stars who went to States and asked sent a photo to John to consider putting on the website and going forward other achievements that are done by sports, local organizations, etc. they could put them up and at the end of the year they would have a years' worth of achievements.

President Lage reported that Finance/Budget does have regularly scheduled meetings now and if anyone has any issues or thoughts to share with the Budget Committee to consider during those meetings feel free to share.

President Lage stated that there have been various things happening some of which will be discussed in executive session.

Councilperson Burrows stated he will have a presentation during the business part of the meeting. Mitchell stated that he would be willing to move it down the agenda for anyone who is present for other items this evening since it will be a long presentation.

Fire Chief Randy O'Donnell reported that he did submit a report and would like to report that they have everything planned out and ready for the Corn Festival. Chief O'Donnell reported that there will be U-Haul trucks at each end of the festival to give protection to the site. The Chief went on to report that Treasurer Ed Goodhart got the fire department a \$2,500 grant from the Minnequa Club for their fire safety education program which was much appreciated.

Heather Franzoni, representing the Shippensburg Area EMS, reported that in July they ran 62 calls in the Borough, 367 as a station, year to date 482 in the borough and almost 2,500 as a station. Ms. Franzoni went on to state that they would like to thank the Mayor for the support that they were able to receive the AFG grant and they will publish what came out of that with all of their ALS equipment to include and monitor and probably another Lucas for their apparatus. Ms. Franzoni went on to report that the second weekend in September they are going to hold their first TECC class with just 10 members of the department which is the tactical emergency casualty care but the civilian level course. Ms. Franzoni explained that four of their supervisors went and became instructors and after that weekend they will have 10 of their own run through it for the rescues taskforce concept and get their certification as TECC. She further stated that the State will also be there to give them their accreditation to become a training academy so they can continue to train in house. Ms. Franzoni went on to explain that both of their medic units have the nitrous which is to help fight the opioid crisis, and they use for pain management for anyone who can maintain their own airways since it is non-addictive. She also reported that in July they went through the leadership promotions and they are integrating that within their leadership and within the promotional process in the department.

Manager John Epley reported that he wanted to make Council aware that he is working on the CDBG grants because they are due by the end of August. He stated that he did meet with Kate Molinaro from the Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authority and she believes the sidewalk would be a good project to submit for and was very supportive of it. He went on to state that they were concerned about a few of the CDBG grants that we have not completed yet such as the senior center roof and they have volunteered to throw themselves into the bidding process on our behalf so we are getting even more assistance from them preparing the bid. Manager Epley stated that they are hoping to have the project done before winter and to replace entire roof with metal. The Manager also reported that he and the Solicitor are working on the employee manual and are hoping to have something ready by the first meeting in September. Mr. Epley also reported that they are working on the chemical bids that will be going out again this year and also reported that Kevin has the line painting done. The Manager also reported that Council will need to look at renewing their contract with Apple Valley for our recycling. He stated that we will still be able to continue recycling glass which was a concern but they have informed us that it is not a concern. Solicitor Wisner stated that they will still have to do an RFP.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amanda Brozana-Rios, 224 East Orange Street, explained that as a new resident she has been trying to catch up on things that she should know about living in the borough and one of the things that she noticed and mentioned at a previous council meeting was the lack of communication for residents through social media, a more modern and easy to use website, frequent newsletters, and possibly using a streaming service for Council meetings so that residents can watch from wherever they are. Ms. Brozana-Rios stated that she feels there are lot of options available that are not outside of the cost frame that the Borough would have in order to make sure that in this age we are making sure that we are doing a good job in reaching out to residents. She went on to state that she would really like to see

that as they are talking about the new employee handbook, and what roles the employees will take on, or if they are talking about having to outsource some of the projects and tasks that communication be one of their focuses.

CITIZEN APPEALS

None submitted.

BUSINESS

President Lage stated that since there are people here for different issues she would propose that they move item #6 to #1 and item #5 to #2 and hold the executive session and follow throughout.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE HARB RECOMMENDATION

104 EAST ORANGE STREET-DEMOISH RESIDENTIAL STRUGTURE AND LANDSCAPE LOT AS ADDITIONAL SIDE/REAR YARD- (APPLICANT STEVEN & JANET SMITH)

President Lage reported that the application is to demolish the residential structure and to landscape the lot as an additional side or rear yard with the recommendation by HARB and the assessment by Wolfe Consulting stating that this property is significantly deteriorated with structural as well as cosmetic issues. Councilperson Bruce Hockersmith asked if this property is current on the real estate taxes? Jan Smith, 102 East Orange Street, stated that as far as she knows they are not but it is in the contract that they will take care of that at closing. Mrs. Smith stated that she and her husband are trying to buy the house but will only purchase it if they are allowed to demolish the house. Councilperson Sandra Mailey moved to approve the demolition of the residence at 104 East Orange Street. Motion seconded by Councilperson Mitchell Burrows. Councilperson Swartz asked if once Council makes the vote is it final? Solicitor Wiser stated yes, but she will have to get her demo permit but this is a pre-requisite to getting the demolition permit. Councilperson Hockersmith stated that he assumes there will be a reassessment of the property? Solicitor Wiser stated that the County will reassess the property and it will still be on the tax rolls as a separate lot, unless the applicant choses to consolidate the lots. Mrs. Smith stated that it is their choice to not consolidate the lots. Councilperson Hockersmith asked what point they plan demolition of approved by Council? Mrs. Smith stated that they have a contractor who is ready to start in the middle of September and as of right now they would close on September the 10th if all things move forward and he would begin either the 15th or 20th. Motion carried 6-0.

DISCUSS LERTA PROPOSAL (LONG RANGE PLANNING)

Councilperson Mitchell Burrows explained that the Revitalization Committee has been hosting town hall meetings and local gatherings over the last few years and trying to bring some consensus of what the community wants and what potential advantages we have that we can take advantage of, what some of the real needs are and there are a couple ideas or thoughts that continue to come up over

and over in different groups and different settings. Mitchell went on to state that the biggest ones that he could collect were the idea that Shippensburg municipalities or Shippensburg ideology in general has a negative perception or a negative desire for business growth and development and in the year plus that he has been working on this he has found that that is not entirely true. Mr. Burrows explained that there is a definite need to fill vacant properties, especially in the downtown business district and the need to encourage business growth both within and for developers that are outside of the community looking to get in and also the beautification of Shippensburg. He further reported that in meeting with some of the smaller groups that they have had through revitalization and being a part of the Long Range Planning Committee with the Borough and now serving as a councilperson one of the biggest tasks that he had was to continuously come up with ideas without trying to reinvent the wheel. Councilperson Burrows stated that they reviewed the comprehensive plan and some other information provided to them by professionals who are in the job and some of the needs that have been brought forth were evident 10 years, 15 years, etc., with the same concerns the entire time. He stated that one of the things they wanted to do was some sort of economic growth program and they decided that a LERTA is one of the easiest programs for them to do. Councilperson Burrow explained that the purpose of the initial LERTA in 1977 was to help deteriorated business districts and downtowns and the other program that they have also submitted a draft for is for a residential LERTA. He reported that the goals to be accomplished with the LERTA would be to first give a financial incentive to potential businesses, to promote Shippensburg as a community that people want to go to, to start and develop businesses, second to give a financial incentive to businesses that already exist and that is in regards to improving their businesses, growing their businesses and the third one would be to squash the idea that the borough is not business friendly, fourth is to help with the streetscape and business and residential beautification is something that can always be improved on. Mitchell stated that the last and probably most important is to raise the tax base. He explained that one of the misconceptions with this is that it is a tax abatement but it is actually a tax incentive in more than one way. Councilperson Burrows stated that CADDC looked at some of the other municipalities where LERTAs have taken place two of the biggest factors that they came across that determine how successful a LERTA is how aggressive the incentive program really is and how desirable they will make it for someone to want to do it and whether or not people know about it. He went on to explain that in both the commercial and residential LERTA that part of the application process will be tied to getting a building permit so there is no excuse for anyone getting a building permit to not be aware of it and to be a part of it and the other half of that would be to create some sort of cooperative community group or task force that would serve to get it out in any avenue that we can to advertise that Shippensburg is open for business and this is only one of the ways that we are but it is a big way. He stated that this LERTA does not include green space which is something that they actively avoided and on the residential side it could be used to make improvements that could be both in raising the tax base of the property value and help with the beautification of Shippensburg. Councilperson Hockersmith stated that the other point that should be made is that when these businesses do come in, even though they are not paying a property tax they are contributing to the income tax and the overall business community through employment, through purchasing needs for their businesses, through supporting the utilities, etc. Mitchell stated that it is important to remember that the only incentive that is being given here is on the property tax value. Councilperson Mailey stated that they will be paying property taxes that exists but will not be paying on the

improvements so we don't lose out. President Lage stated that she has some questions about the aggressiveness of this one. Councilperson Burrows stated that the biggest defense that he will have against any change in how aggressive this is, is how badly do they want to show the citizens of Shippensburg that this is a business friendly community and the municipality is in favor of businesses growing and developing in Shippensburg. President Lage stated that we still have to balance it with fiscal responsibility but we would limiting the amount that we can gain and when you are looking at this they are looking at a minimum of a 10 year period where any new improvements will not be reflected. Councilperson Burrows stated that it would only be in property tax values and as Councilperson Hockersmith stated that in every other way that you garnish taxes those improvements would be shown. The President stated that for 10 years they would be holding their income on real estate pretty constant over that time when all other borough costs are not being held constant and it is not only during those first 10 years but this program has the potential to impact a 20 year time frame. Mitchell stated that it is a rolling 10 years so only in the first 5 years could it be renewed so it would be a maximum of 15 years. He explained that you are only applicable for this program if you apply for it within the first 5 years and the tax base isn't going to change in those first 5 years and it is only if there are improvements that are being made with the whole point of it being to encourage improvements. Councilperson Burrows stated that if someone makes an improvement to a property in town there is going to be an assessment and there is going to be a different tax base for it which they would like to encourage that to happen more and in a more drastic way. Mitchell explained that if they have someone apply on the very first day it would be enacted and someone applies on the very last day that is possible there would properties that have this exemption but only the properties that have made improvements that require building permits and new assessments. He stated that the borough would be getting a new tax base for those properties that applied 10 years later and the ones that waited 5 years we would get 15 years later. Therefore they would see a modest increase based on the rate that people applied to it. President Lage stated that they would still be holding their income flat for 10 years and is suggesting that perhaps there is a middle ground that is still an aggressive approach but doesn't give future councils the problem that they will see no increase in their real estate tax for 10 years. Councilperson Burrows stated that this is to increase the chance that our tax base would be greater in the future. President Lage stated that she thinks that she is not against it and feels that it is a good idea but she's not comfortable binding the resources for that extreme for that long of a period. Councilperson Swartz asked Councilperson Burrows if he has any success stories of other municipalities that are similar to ours that implemented this program? Mitchell stated that they have seen some horror stories meaning they went through the entire process of making it happen and it wasn't used with the biggest reasoning being it wasn't aggressive enough so it is not an incentive in a way that would make someone actually do it and second no one knows about it. Councilperson Burrows stated that there have been a number of successes with Phoenixville being a great success story which is in Chester County which has developed into a powerhouse of a little town and it was because of the LERTA. Solicitor Wisner stated that there have not been a lot of LERTA's approved around here but he feels it can be a useful tool when implemented appropriately. Eric Walker, member of the Long Range Planning Committee, stated that he helped to evaluate some of this and he wanted to state that RTA stands for revitalization tax assistance. Mr. Walker stated that Mary Kuna found for them several municipalities that it was successful in such as Erie, Lancaster, some areas in the Pocono region. Mr. Walker stated

that every community is so much different and it would be difficult to give a comparative data study. He went on to report that if they are really interested in doing something to help the business community that this isn't as much about the tax revenue that we will generate for the borough as much as the message it will send to people. Mr. Walker stated that everyone on the Long Range Committee has been at meetings and listened to the comments about the borough and its willingness to work with the business community which are unfounded but they are out there and people believe that. Steve Brenize, 211 Ridge Avenue, stated that it is difficult when you trying to budget year after year and if they let this money got they cannot property budget but he would argue that just like Councilperson Burrows stated they do not know if any of that development will happen but the point of this is to develop it at a more rapid rate and not to have to worry if the tax revenue is there because if we can build a functional downtown and build a community that is what it was 30 or 40 years ago and if they want to go big they need to plan big. Mr. Brenize stated that he supports it and there is a revitalization group that has brought some ideas to Council and there is an opportunity in front of them right now to be able to implement something big and be able to advertise it in a way that gives them the opportunity to move the community forward and send that message to the developers from outside of town and in this town that want to do something. Mr. Brenize stated that he feels there is nothing to be lost here because there is the opportunity for us to be able to reap on multiple aspects. Councilperson Alosi stated that he would like to see regarding Phoenixville what their tax income was 10 years prior to putting this into effect and 10 years after and what the change in the income was and if there was a sizable increase. Councilperson Burrows stated that comparisons would be like apples to oranges since Phoenixville is right outside of Philadelphia, they have recently being denoted as having more breweries per capita than Boulder Colorado and is a town that has turn into a fantastic town but one of the hinges that the hat is hung on is that there were deliberate steps taking by the municipality to allow the people and businesses in the community to grow by themselves which is why it is used as an example. Councilperson Alosi asked if there are any municipalities in the Poconos that are more rural that they can see tax data from and check the percentage of increase? Mitchell stated that he is hesitant to look at actual numbers verses numbers for other communities because Cumberland County is the fastest growing County in Pennsylvania with Franklin County being second and in the comprehensive plan the poorest municipalities are Shippensburg and Shippensburg Township in the County. Mitchell stated that both the Cumberland and Franklin County comprehensive plans look at Shippensburg as a growth center with untapped potential and he is saying that this is one of many actions being taken right now to tap that potential. Amanda Brozana-Rios, 224 East Orange Street, stated that Shippensburg is in a prime location for commute ability which is why they moved here and the people who are going to be moving in from areas like this because the DC Metro sphere is growing. She further stated that currently there are approximately 4% of the properties in Shippensburg that are delinquent in taxes and a lot of those are because they are vacant and for sale. Mr. Brozana-Rios stated that 4% is a lot of unclaimed tax revenue and if you build it they will come because a lot of people like to work and live in their own back yard so she would assume they would get a tax bump from having some of those houses come off of the delinquent tax roll, be sold, and be improved, etc. so no matter how aggressive or not aggressive if they put business here they will have people here who have income to tax and properties that they will be able to get back on the tax rolls. Eric Walker stated that to compare municipalities they also need to realize that it would take a lot of work and they would need to hire someone who is research oriented

to look at things because there are three levels of tax authorities that will have to consider this. Mr. Walker further explained that if the borough goes aggressive that doesn't mean the school district has to and they may do it very conservative and we might not get anything from the district. He stated that he is hoping that if the borough does this it will send a message to the school district that there is a momentum that we want to do something big. Mayor Coy stated that Shippensburg has been in a standstill for about 40 years and seems to be getting worse as we go along and she does feel that the worst that can happen is the program is out there and doesn't get used but if it gets so aggressive that many people apply for it that is good because that means that it is working and we will show results and if we had done it 10 or 20 years ago they wouldn't be sitting here now trying to figure out how to get businesses downtown. Mayor Coy further stated that if we don't soon do something to be aggressive somewhere we are becoming the slums of the area and we need to stop it. The Mayor acknowledged that it is a gamble but one that they need to do to make a change somehow. Councilperson Burrows stated that as far as a 10 year plan and how aggressive is the length of the schedule and the percentage of the schedule and this is only one of three of the taxing authorities that would get to set its independent schedule so this plea will be made at three different times should it move forward from here. Mitchell stated that one of the more popular examples that he found was the 4 or 5 year 100% with descending. President Lage stated that what is more along the lines of what she would think so they get the greatest relief when they have the initial capital outlay but then they also start to have to budget in because they will eventually have to pay the full amount. Councilperson Swartz stated that he feels that every there thinks the LERTA is a good idea and he personally doesn't think the 100% is a good idea. Councilperson Swartz also stated that for those who commented on the social media updates if they could step back and look at the big picture of what we have to deal with in regards to budget having a webpage and having a Facebook page is expensive. He stated that there is a cost to it and we have gone back and forth with these things and we just don't have the money to expand on some of these things and he feels that the private sector is better equipped to have a Shippensburg Community website with news and such. Councilperson Swartz went on to state that having said that he feels that there is support with this program and we do have to remember that we are small piece of the pie because of the other entities involved but would like to know what they are looking for from Council. Councilperson Burrows stated that should we pass something and what we pass would be more important as a message to the other taxing authorities or to the community that it will actually be valuable as a program that gets utilized. He further stated that the County often times will mirror what the municipality has done and the school district can sometimes do something different. Solicitor Wisner stated that last night he sat in on a meeting at Gettysburg School District regarding a LERTA request by Gettysburg Borough and each community is different in the way that the entities interact with one another but that was a round table of elected officials from the county, elected officials from the school district and the borough and they were working together to figure out the exemption schedule and they felt it was important to work together because there were prior efforts where entities may have felt slighted because one entity came out and adopted a schedule and the other entity didn't have any input. Solicitor Wisner stated because of that he feels it would be important to decide how this is communicated to the other taxing bodies and whether Council wants their input so if there is action by this Council is it simply action to forward this to the other taxing bodies for further discussion or is it advertise this thing and we are going to adopt it. Councilperson Burrows stated that he feels the most

successful thing that any community can do when it comes to deliberate actions toward the future is to involve as many constituents and as many parts of the community as possible. Solicitor Wiser stated that the second part of this is the residential and he would like to be clear that the residential is not ALL residential and only deteriorated residential as defined in the LERTA which is a property that is under some type of an order by either our codes office or the building code. The Solicitor also stated that it could also apply to business residential and Council should decide if it applies to apartment buildings and rentals downtown and to all rentals or they could make it apply to only deteriorated residential. President Lage asked how you discourage someone from letting their property get to the point that they could apply for this program. Solicitor Wiser stated they would use aggressive code enforcement and you fine the daylight out of them for their code violations until they make the improvements. President Lage asked what happens in the case of a property there may have been something once but it gets demolished, is it assessed as a lot and the taxes are for that, as proposed here, the 10 year period the lot value? Solicitor Wiser stated that if there is a reassessment and the baseline value has been dropped down to just vacant property value it is up to the taxing body to determine whether or not it allows new residential construction on a parcel that has been subject of a demolition resulting from a code violation. Councilperson Burrows stated that it would encourage someone to come into town and lot at code infringed properties and purchase it and then destroy it and build a new property. Councilperson Hockersmith asked what the next step would be. Councilperson Burrow stated expanding the task force to include at least representatives of the other taxing bodies that will have to make this decision and then hopefully come up with a consensus and bring that back forward as something that would be voted on in those taxing authorities. Solicitor Wiser stated that he thinks there needs to be some consensus on the exemption schedule. Councilperson Swartz stated that they passed a motion of encouragement without any action and wondered if that is what they are looking for at this point? Solicitor Wiser stated that he asked if they want to talk to the other taxing authorities without a direct ask on what this body wants or do they want the taxing authorities to collectively figure it out as part of the process. Councilperson Mailey asked the Solicitor in his experience what his recommendation would be? Councilperson Burrows stated he feels it would be getting everyone in the same room and discussing it. President Lage stated that they could vote on a motion that we are willing to entertain the LERTA and we really want to go after some kind of abatement to encourage this and looking at all properties that would qualify within the borough. Eric Walker asked if they specify certain parcels for LERTA and other parcels would not qualify would it be setting the borough up for issues in the future? Steve Brenize stated that they are required by law to have a public hearing before they establish the deteriorated area. Solicitor Wiser stated that a lot of communities do target particular sites and particular tax parcels that they want to encourage redevelopment. Eric asked if they could identify a distressed property even if they do the entire borough and have one property more aggressive than all the rest? Solicitor Wiser stated yes, and they could have a separate exemption schedule for those properties which would make the administrative end a little more tense. President Lage asked what the administrative costs would be associated with this program that we would see for the Borough staff and she would like to better understand what would happen should anyone of their sets of commissioners decide to do a property reassessment? President Lage stated that as she understands it if properties are reassessed they would see an increase based on the new value for that which is not the improvement. Solicitor Wiser stated that there would be a prorated adjustment of the

exemption. Mitchell stated that the new assessment of the building can't be used until it comes back off of the LERTA in regards to the assessment of the buildings surrounding it. The President stated that they will then not see an improvement of the neighborhood reflected in the cost of all the other neighborhoods until the schedule is over. Solicitor Wiser explained that the LERTA act requires that the exemption be based on the finished value of the improvement so the finished value is stuck during the abatement schedule. The President asked what the administrative burden will be on our staff? Solicitor Wiser stated that it we would have to develop a form, receive the completed form and forward it to the County and the assessor's office does all of the work and make sure everything is taken care of. Council members discussed how to move forward with the terms and doing some further research with the State. The President thanked the committee members for all of the work that they have put into what is a well thought out program and one that seems to be something they can all consider. Councilperson Hockersmith moved to support the LERTA ordinances and legislation and they are open and considering borough wide application in both residential, commercial and industrial but not ready to stipulate the exact exemption schedule but a model of it is something that they are comfortable going forward with in discussions and refining and are looking to get feedback from the partner taxing bodies. Motion seconded by Councilperson Mailey. Motion carried 6-0.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 7, 2018, MEETING

Councilperson Hockersmith moved to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2018, meeting as written. Motion seconded by Councilperson Mitchell Burrows. Motion carried 6-0.

DISCUSS BANNER PLACEMENT IN CERTAIN AREAS OF THE BOROUGH

President Lage explained that Council acted on an ordinance and it has now come back that the signs were already made and are 7 ft. and it was requested that it be brought back to Council to see if they wish to hold to the position they created with their resolution or if they are willing to consider the banners at 7 ft. long. Councilperson Burrows stated for clarification Council approved of banners that were the same size as the other community banners that were placed throughout town with the idea that there would be some uniformity and that message was directed to the people who were in charge of making the banners they accepted that and everyone was on the same page and happy moving forward with the question of when the banners were made and if they were already made before the approval. Manager Epley stated that it has been confirmed that they are made and ready to be hung at 7 ft. long and Council approved 6 ft. banners. President Lage stated that it is clear in the record that they have not waived and have always held to that dimension. Manager Epley stated that the initial presentation to Council and after verifying in the minutes was specifically 6 ft. and always was and how it went from 6 ft. to 7 ft. we are not sure. Mayor Coy stated that it was supposed to be uniform and Council did that so that everything was uniform. Councilperson Swartz stated that if they allow them to put them up they can always have them taken down since they allowed for that in the agreement. Councilperson Burrows stated that allowing them to put them up is condoning the idea that Council gave them a stipulation and it gets ignored and then Council accepts it and there was good reason for the stipulation that was given and was communicated very clearly. Mayor Coy stated that

acknowledgment needs to be made to whatever agency purchased the banners whether that is the Chamber or the University that direction was given with dimensions and it was clearly stated and that it was not done in the way it was supposed to be done and proposed. Councilperson Burrows stated that he wholeheartedly support Mayor Coy's idea that if they accept the banners they do so begrudgingly and make it well known and if we do not accept the banners as they are we apologetically inform the people that are behind this why and that although we were the ones that made the decision it was not our fault. President Lage stated that do need to give some sort of direction because they do have a signed resolution. Councilperson Hockersmith stated that he feels they cannot come to a conclusion until they get the signed agreement which should be based on the stipulation that the banners be 6 ft. in length to match the resolution. The President stated that the consensus is that we do not have the parts that we need such as the fact that they are not the right size, they do not have a signed agreement, and we do not have a map of placement of the banners.

DISCUSS REQUEST BY CHIEF OF POLICE TO SUPPORT INITIATIVE BY CUMBERLAND COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY REGARDING CRIMEWATCH

Mayor Coy stated that she feels the letter is self-explanatory that was part of the packet and that this is something that she feels is a good web portable and something they should agree with. Councilperson Burrows moved to submit a letter of support from Borough Council to Chief Scott concerning Crime Watch. Motion seconded by Councilperson Swartz. Motion carried 6-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Lage reported that Council does have an executive session this evening to discuss various contractual and personnel issues with potential acting coming out. Council went into executive session at 7:43 p.m. and returned at 8:15 p.m.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE INTERIM OPERATIONS

President Lage reported that this is in recognition that our Manager is moving on to another place and Council needs to figure out what to do in the short term before they can figure out what will happen in the long term. She went on to state that she has had a lot of discussions with various people such as personnel committee and staff to figure out how best to do this and the proposal is acknowledge that the Borough needs an assistant borough manager with the overall recommendation being that it will become a long term position. The President went on to state that in the short term they need to assign an interim assistant borough manager with that person having the authority to carry the authority to handle the day to day activities of a borough manager. President Lage stated another part of the proposal is to create an interim business manager position which isn't really changing the existing position and responsibilities as much as acknowledging what is already done and giving a title of authority. The President went on to explain that realizing that gaps show up they may be looking at trying to figure out how to fill those in with existing staff but at least to get in place the understanding of the responsibilities of each of the people that will be acting with more authority. She went on stated

that a proposal of what an assistant borough manager position would look like and she would like to get Council's general consensus and approval for that structure and then they can at the next meeting clarify all the details of how it is put into place. Solicitor Wisner stated that they do require that the Borough Manager be bonded and wondered if they want to require that the assistant manager be bonded as well. Council members stated that they would like the assistant manager to be bonded. President Lage stated that another that is not listed but would need to be recognized and that is that the Zoning Officer will also have to be a position that is acknowledged in the interim which would naturally go to the interim assistant borough manager.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilperson Swartz stated that he would like to know how hard it would be for Shippensburg to allow electric golf carts in town? Manager Epley stated that they have to be registered just like any ATV. Councilperson Swartz stated that he just wants it to be something for Council to think about.

Mayor Coy stated that she would like to do a follow-up with the Solicitor about the letter waiver for Abraxas. Solicitor Wisner stated that he wanted to make sure that they had confirmation that the SBA was ok with the concept before they went down that road. Manager Epley stated that he tried to review the minutes but they are not completed but from what he recalls he is pretty sure that Peggy brought it up to them and they were ok with it in the fact that they are self-insured and that the Solicitor had stated that as long as they sign a waiver that they can work anywhere within the borough. Mayor Coy stated that they were willing to do weeding downtown and that they could put someone in our streets every other week to do weeding or whatever is needed. Solicitor Wisner suggested making the waiver broad enough to include SCRPA so if there is weeding in park facilities and recreation places that they can work there as well. The Mayor also reported that the Shade Tree Committee is working in a developing a maintenance and replacement program long term and they were talking about the grates that go in along the trees and they are aware there is an ADA requirement on sidewalks but wondered if a grate is put into that sidewalk is it considered part of the ADA area? Kevin Plasterer stated yes and that there is one on Earl Street right now. President Lage stated that the idea of the grates is that they are at grade and are solid enough to walk on them with whatever devices. Mayor Coy stated that she was approached about the walkway on they are talking about on North Earl Street and this person was concerned about a pole that is in the middle of the walkway and wondered if anyone is aware of a pole that would interfere with the walkway. Kevin stated that he is aware of it and it has been discussed. Mayor Coy also reported that the Farm to Table dinner is going to go to partnership with the Park and Rec and they are going to show a film behind the police station.

Councilperson Mailey asked if they know anything about the condition at the house at the corner of King and Lurgan Avenue. Sandy stated that Council discussed it several months ago and it isn't in any better shape. Manager Epley stated that Donna Sommerville has been coordinating with the owner and it is scheduled for repairs he believes in September.

Councilperson Hockersmith asked Kevin if he noticed the stacking of traffic on South Fayette Street back past the railroad underpass in the afternoons? Bruce went on to state that they really need to figure out some things to keep things moving. Kevin stated that he will reach out to PennDot to see if there is any grant money to do a complete borough wide traffic study on state routes.

Manager Epley reported that he has received verbal notification from PennDot for the letting of the bid for King Street and it's been moved up again to 2020. Kevin stated that now the plan is for the fall of 2019 for the bids to go out with the completion of the spring of 2020. Mr. Epley stated that it will be a problem for us not only for our sanitary sewer but for our water because we still have not gotten our I & I recommendations for remediation on King Street and the SBA was hoping to have a 5 year plan to start setting back enough funds to do all of King Street.

President Lage stated that there is one thing that is outstanding which is Councilperson Hockersmith's request for the PSAB meeting and it was postponed because it went into a broader discussion and they just wanted to have the discussion again when everyone is present. Councilperson Hockersmith stated that he is unable to attend but would suggest that they do develop a policy and also put a Mayor's budget in our budget.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilperson Hockersmith moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Secretary