

**SPECIAL COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION MINUTES  
JANUARY 14, 2016**

President Robert Krummerich called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following Councilors present: Vice President Scot Pitzer, Ms. Susan Naugle, Mr. Jacob Schindel, Ms. AmyBeth Hodges, Mr. Wesley Heyser, and Mayor William Troxell. Staff present included: Manager Charles Gable, Chief Joseph Dougherty, Finance Director Nicolette James, Planning Director Scott Dellett, Public Works Director Dan Hilliard, and Management Assistant Karen Mesher. Members absent: Councilor Graham Weaver.

Others present included: Darlene Brown, Executive Director, ACHA/PICPI; Charles Strauss, 38 West Middle Street; Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street; Judi McGee, 256 Baltimore Street; Judy Butterfield, 999 Sunset Avenue; Gary Shaffer, 141 East Middle Street; Stan Clark, 915 Fairview Avenue; and Steve Hemler, 535 York Street. Representing the press was Jim Hale of the *Gettysburg Times* Lillian Reed of *The Evening Sun*.

President Krummerich stated that he had no opening remarks, and he announced that the Borough Council will hold this special meeting tonight as advertised to review the previously adopted budget for fiscal year 2016, and to work on the preparation of a proposed amended budget for the fiscal year 2016.

**Public Comment:**

**Judie Butterfield, 999 Sunset Avenue**, asked if the disbanding of all committees meant the disbanding of the Recycling Committee. She requested that letters of appreciation be written to committee members expressing this intent. She noted that this committee acted as a public information arm of the Borough, and as such, collected very accurate data that showed 99 percent Borough participation. She reminded Council that it is the law to recycle, and that this information must be published biannually as it had done through the Borough newsletter. She explained that the Adams Rescue Mission is a central covered device acceptor, and that the Adams County Council of Governments formulated a plan that asked each municipality to contribute \$500 each to address this electronic recycling need. She asked Council to not slight the non-profit organizations who add to our community.

**Charles Strauss, 38 West Middle Street**, expressed his excitement that something new might come out of reopening the budget. He asked that in lieu of not raising taxes, that Council consider not cutting services that benefit all residents, especially those on a fixed income. He noted that young people do want to purchase homes in the Borough, and that they care about reinvestments that would keep them here.

**Steve Hemler, 535 York Street**, expressed the need to cut the budget down. He said that the Baltimore Street residents should support their own revitalization efforts. He stressed that the Borough cannot support 15 million tourists yearly. He hoped that Council would cut \$500,000 dollars from this budget.

## Old Business

There was no old business.

## New Business

Mr. Krummerich said that Council is here tonight to amend or reopen the budget so that staff can act on it. He said that Council was forward a copy of suggestions for consideration to amend or modify the 2016 Budget (refer to attached handout entitled, "Proposed Budget Modifications and Amendments"). Borough Council discussed each proposed Budget Modification beginning with a \$4,814,824 beginning balance:

- *Postage* – increase from \$800 to \$1,450 to cover the cost of mailing postcards to all residents in order to meet the Act 101 legal recycling requirement by the state necessary to receive related state grant money **(adding \$650)**
- *Public Relations* – decrease from \$3,750 to \$1,200 to cover the cost of taping six meetings by Community Media of South Central Pennsylvania to create meeting transparency for residents **(reducing \$2,550)**
- *Adams County Rescue Mission* – eliminate the \$500 contribution entirely because recycling is a state or county issue, and that this non-profit does not pay taxes for the property it owns in the Borough. It was stressed that it is a critical service for Borough residents, and that not contributing could undermine the County's contribution **(reducing \$500)**
- *Donations to Non-profits* – freeze donations to 2015 levels: \$20,000 to Main Street Gettysburg, \$5,000 to Elm Street, and \$3,000 to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals **(reducing \$10,000)**
- *East Broadway Construction Project* – delay this project in order to synchronize it with the scheduled future work by the Gettysburg Municipal Authority **(reducing \$120,000)**

Mr. Krummerich stressed that the millage rate should remain set as is in order to not compromise the Borough's bond rating. Ms. Naugle stressed that Borough staff have worked diligently at fiscal management in order to not use Capital Reserve funds and to keep Borough costs down. Mr. Krummerich said that the County should be made aware that matching grants cost money, and acknowledged that staff is working hard to keep costs down. He recommended that the millage rate remain as is. He noted that the necessary pole barn requested by the Public Works Department for the preservation of equipment would be considered in a future Council Work Session agenda when the time comes to borrow for the project.

## Public Comment

**Charles Strauss, 38 West Middle Street**, said that fixed income residents are concerned about taxes but rely on Borough services like reading the newsletter. He again stressed that reinvestment would attract young homeowners.

Steve Hemler, **535 York Street**, cautioned that the budgets cuts are not enough, spending is not under control, and predicted a larger tax increase in the future.

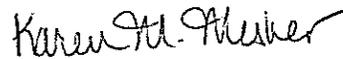
Mr. Krummerich ended the public comment.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Krummerich adjourned the Budget Work Session to an Executive Session at 8:30 PM to discuss personnel matters including salaries as permitted by the Sunshine Act.

The meeting reconvened at 9:09 PM. Mr. Krummerich stated that there would not be a need for any more budget meetings, and he recommended the budget modifications and that the tax increase remain in order to not tap into the Capital Reserve funds. He said that these cuts would have to be ratified by Council at its February 8<sup>th</sup> monthly Business Meeting. With no further business to come before Council, moved Mr. Pitzer, seconded Mr. Heyser to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen M. Mesher  
Borough Management Assistant

# Proposed Budget Modifications and Amendments

Page	Account	Original Amount	Proposed Amount	Net Change	Beginning Balance
	62 409-215	\$ 800	\$ 1,450	\$ 650	\$ 4,814,824
	62 409-218	\$ 3,750	\$ 1,200	\$ (2,550)	\$ 4,815,474
	79 421-341	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ (500)	\$ 4,812,924
	79 421-543	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,000	\$ (2,000)	\$ 4,812,424
	90 439-378	\$ 120,000	\$ -	\$ (120,000)	\$ 4,810,424
	97 465-541	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000	\$ (5,000)	\$ 4,690,424
	97 465-542	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,000	\$ (3,000)	\$ 4,685,424
					\$ 4,682,424

ENDING EXPENSES: \$ 4,682,424

REVENUE AS RESTATED WITHOUT USE OF RESERVES: \$ 4,543,918

**EXPENSES IN EXCESS OF REVENUE: \$ 138,506**

At an assessed value of \$505,622,700 the millage needed to cover: 0.2800

Current millage as passed in December 2015: 3.7703

4.0503

Fire Protection tax: 0.2500

**Total millage: 4.3003**