

State College Borough Council
Work Session
February 20, 2004

The State College Borough Council met in a work session on Friday, February 20, 2004, in the State College Municipal Building's Council Chambers, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA. Mr. Daubert called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Present: Thomas E. Daubert, President
 Catherine G. Dauler
 Elizabeth A. Goreham
 Craig R. Humphrey
 Jeffrey R. Kern
 Janet K. Knauer
 James H. Meyer

Also present: Thomas J. Fountaine, Borough Manager; Ronald A. Davis, Assistant Manager; Michele Nicolas, Human Resource Director; Thomas R. King, Chief of Police; Amy J. Story, Borough Engineer; Mark Henry, Director of Health; Edward C. Holmes, Parking/Facilities Coordinator; Herman Slaybaugh, Zoning Officer; Amy R. Miller, Recording Secretary; members of the media; and other interested observers.

Public Hour. There were no comments from the public.

Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Correcting a Definition in the Motor Vehicle Oriented Business Ordinance (MVOB)

Mr. Slaybaugh distributed a memo explaining the details of the proposed amendment. The main point of the amendment is to allow leeway for some businesses to have curbside pickup but still regulate drive-up service windows in others.

Ms. Knauer asked what would happen if zoning no longer regulated MVOB. Mr. Slaybaugh explained that traffic might increase greatly and it is best to limit drive-up service. Mr. Daubert agreed. Mr. Meyer suggested re-wording the ordinance by taking out the words "full service", "75 or more seats", and "30 or more parking spaces." Council agreed and asked that the amendment be re-written and on the agenda for approval March 1.

Need for Additional Street Lighting, as Brought Forth by the Office Campus Student Union (OCSU).

Mr. Daubert indicated that a group of students will give a short presentation at the next work session on the results of discussions between different groups who see a need for additional street lighting. Christopher M. Babic, Executive Vice President, OCSU, stated he would also like to introduce Council to a new program called "Light the Night." Mr. Daubert explained that the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) included additional street lighting but was put on hold; he suggested Council identify six or eight sites and get Allegheny Power started on the project. Council members said they would be interested in more details from OCSU at the next work session.

Extend the Cable Franchise Agreement Between the Borough and Adelphia.

Council was amenable to extending the franchise agreement for an additional year and asked that it be put on the March 1 agenda for action.

Discussion of Parking Structure Issues.

Mr. Fountaine stated one project is to repair both Fraser Street and Pugh Street parking structures. Mr. Holmes explained that repair costs were unknown at the time the CIP was done. He said that repairs at the Fraser garage are more extensive but the repairs at Pugh garage are necessary for full usage. Walker Parking Consultants also recommended façade repairs at Fraser garage, but staff feels we can delay those until 2005. Mr. Holmes

stated the structural repairs are more important. Mr. Daubert suggested that proposals for this project be considered at the March 1 meeting.

A list of people to be invited to review the Beaver parking facility was next discussed. Mr. Holmes stated that this would be an opportunity for any one involved to come and ask questions.

Penn State's Participation in the Centre Region Council of Government's (COG) Code Enforcement Program.

Mr. Fountaine stated that he and Mr. Kern will have a meeting with State Representative Lynn Herman to discuss the code enforcement issue and will report back to Council.

Report on Welch Pool.

Ms. Dauler stated there is now a subcommittee working to relocate the pool to a regional location. Mr. Daubert replied that, in order to relocate the pool, there would have to be a unanimous vote from COG. The School Board would prefer to keep the pool at its current site, and there is strong citizen support to keep the pool at its current location.

Items of Information

Ms. Dauler stated that the Downtown Improvement District (DID) is in negotiations with Ronald J. Woodhead, Director of Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR), to hold its summer concern series in Central Parklet. Mr. Daubert indicated that, despite the 1974 ordinance giving control of the parks to CRPR, Council may overrule CRPR's decision.

Ms. Goreham said that a group dedicated to strengthening the downtown would like the opportunity to address Council to discuss a festival planned for April 24 in Central Parklet. Mr. Daubert suggested giving them five minutes to speak during the March 1 meeting.

Mr. Daubert explained that he received a call from Town and Gown magazine about a feature on Mr. Fountaine in a future publication at the cost of \$275. Council agreed that this is a good idea.

Mr. Fountaine stated that the Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities (PLCM) is advertising scholarship opportunities to high school seniors; he offered to forward the information to the State College High School.

Mr. Fountaine also indicated that the Borough received an invitation to become a member of the Pennsylvania Economy League for a \$50 donation. Mr. Fountaine said he would send a letter thanking them for the invitation but declining membership.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara J. Natalie
Assistant Borough Secretary