

**Lansdowne Borough Council
General Meeting**

January 20, 2016

APPROVED MINUTES

The Lansdowne Borough Council General Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Hall.

Council members present: President Schleigh, Mr. Aubrey, Ms. Byrne, Ms. English, Ms. James, Mr. Radich and Ms. Williams. Also present: Mayor Campuzano, Borough Manager Totaro, Borough Secretary Henry, Borough Solicitor Scott and Police Chief Donegan. The Fire Company representative was absent.

The televised meeting will be aired at 6:00 p.m. the following Monday on RCN channel 52, Comcast channel 5 and Verizon channel 44.

Mayor Campuzano led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence in memory of former long time Lansdowne residents Mary Daisley and Anne Marie Delsordo. Both women raised their children in Lansdowne and were active in the community.

Approval of agenda: Ms. Williams moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. English moved to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2015 General Meeting of Council. Mr. Radich seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Announcements and Presentations: Mayor Campuzano swore in Michael Ammon as the new full time police officer.

The Mayor introduced Tom Healey, owner of Lime Sportswear, the spotlighted borough business this month. The business is located on east Plumstead Avenue and opened in 2006. The store specializes in providing decorated clothing to a wide variety of customers i.e., schools (all levels), teens, organizations, small and large businesses and family special events. There is also an embroidery and screen printing process on the premises. Hours are 9-5:30 weekly.

The Mayor presented the Jingle Awards as follows:

Best Use of White Lights: 102 Madison, 18 Violet Lane, 75 E. Stewart, 46 W. Albemarle.

Best Use of Color Lights: 67 E. Lacrosse, 170 N. Union, 281 Wayne, 28 Willowbrook, and 37 Runnemedede.

Best Use of Window/Door: 288 Braddock, 104 N. Highland, 125 Welsh Road.

Best Use of Whole House: 26 Rose Lane, 234 Crawford, 121 Windermere, 11 Willowbrook, 107 Gladstone Road, 83 Drexel, 292 Highland.

Togetheress: 119 Walsh Road.

Most Festive: 120 McKinley, 30 Windermere.

Most Creative: 91 W. Lacrosse, 250 Crawford, 47 E. Stratford.

Awards to Businesses: Over 12 participated.

Most Festive: 35 S. Lansdowne. Mane Attraction.

Best Use of Window/Door: 64 W. Marshall Road. Chamberlain, Inc.

Best Use of Color Lights: Lansdowne Fire House.

Treasurer's Report: President Schleigh commented there was no report as it was the beginning of the year and the tax bills were just sent out to residents.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Scott had no formal report.

Mayor's Report: The Mayor reported that he recently met with Penn Dot representatives at State Rep. Margot Davidson's office regarding the Marshall Road/Owen Avenue high accident rate problem. Ms. English and Chief Donegan also attended that meeting. PennDot has recommended changing some existing signage on Marshall Road and look into having blinking signs (in cooperation with Upper Darby).

The Mayor mentioned he would like to start a new award, the Sycamore Award, to recognize businesses, organizations, civic groups or individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Borough. The award would be presented in the spring. The Mayor will bring his recommendations for this award to Borough Council for review.

The Mayor mentioned that a public Town Meeting will be held sometime in May at the 20th Century Club that will serve as a forum for residents to discuss public safety, code enforcement and vacant properties.

The Mayor reminded residents to keep cars locked as there has been a recent rash of car break-ins.

Council President's Report: President Schleigh indicated that the PA Borough Association has requested resolutions to be presented and potentially adopted at their June meeting. President Schleigh mentioned that he received a communication from the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia wherein they are having a community outlook survey directed to the well being of low to moderate income households in the third Federal Reserve district. They would like the Borough's feedback regarding employment and human capital, housing and neighborhood development, household financial stability, health, wellness and family services and economic development.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Health and Safety: Ms. English reported the Committee met on January 13th and was well attended by the public. Topics included:

- Lansdowne and Marshall Road traffic light problem with motorists running the light.
- Signage for borough parks.
- Jr. Police academy for ages 13-17 will be held this year. Applications will be available early to mid-February at all the participating police stations: Lansdowne, Aldan, Clifton Heights, East Lansdowne and Yeadon.
- The new fire truck will arrive mid-March.
- Some individuals have expressed an interest in joining the Human Relations Commission.
- Information is still being gather for the crosswalk at Nyack and Lansdowne Avenue.
- The mission statement for the Public Safety Committee was discussed.

Finance and Administration: Mr. Radich reported that his committee met last night. Topics discussed included:

- Compliance officer position requirement - Mr. Totaro will assume this position.
- Status of year end fund balances and upcoming capital projects.
- Upcoming loan for the new fire truck.
- The new bond rating for Borough has been upgraded to A+. This is the highest rating that the Borough could achieve.
- The Committee will be taking a more proactive approach toward the Borough's pension funds. The Police Pension Fund will possibly be moved to a larger financial institution.
- Borrowing for Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority ("DVRFA").
- The Tax Anticipation Note is funded in the amount of \$625,000.

Economic Development and Code Enforcement: Ms. James reported her Committee met last night. The Committee decided to put a vacant property ordinance into a section of the borough's maintenance code.

Ms. James noted the Arts Board will be holding a show on March 12th at 2020 House in the late afternoon.

Ms. James announced that Councilwoman Susan Williams has been appointed to the Board of the Lansdowne Economic Development Committee.

Environment: Mr. Aubrey reported there was no Environment Committee meeting held in January. The next meeting will be held the third Thursday of January. Mr. Aubrey announced that all sneakers have been removed from the overhanging utility wires in the Borough.

Community Relations: Ms. Byrne reported there was no Community Relations Committee held in December. The next meeting will be held on January 25th at 7:00 p.m. The first InsideOut planning committee meeting has been held and planning is smoothly progressing.

Library Liaison Report - Ms. Byrne commented that due to the impending snowstorm, the Jedhi Academy event has been rescheduled for January 30th at the same time.

Infrastructure and Public Works: Ms. Williams reported there was no Infrastructure Committee held in December. The next meeting will be held on January 26th.

Ms. Williams gave updates as follows:

- Recycling magnets were delivered but some were damaged. Magnets are available at borough hall.
- Bulk pricing for the LED street light project is ongoing.
- The Borough hopes to receive a DEP grant that would cover half the cost of the new sanitation truck.
- Hoffman Park ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on March 19th. The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on the same day from noon to 3:00 p.m.

Communications: No items for communications.

Public Comment: Mr. Aubrey moved to suspend Roberts Rules of Order to hear visitor comment. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Visitors:

1. Richard Smalley - resident of Lansdowne. Mr. Smalley commended Officers Downes and McGowan for help in assisting families cross the street in front of the Lansdowne Theater. Mr. Smalley commented that there needs to be some safety measures in place for the crosswalk because motorists do not always slow down to let pedestrians cross over. President Schleigh commented that the Public Safety Committee has been discussing this issue.

2. Antoinette Turner - 288 Braddock Avenue. Ms. Turner commented that the street road sign on the southeast corner of Marshall Road and Braddock Avenue is continually being knocked down by reckless drivers and asked if something could be put in place to slow down traffic in that area.

2. Maryanne Surla - resident of Lansdowne. Ms. Surla suggested having some sort of yellow and black caution signs for the Braddock Avenue problem mentioned by Ms. Turner. Ms. Surla suggested having a crosswalk painted on Jackson Avenue near the playing fields. Ms. Surla asked if the borough could do something about a 'cyber stalking' incident she was having from the Diversity Project. Ms. Surla commented that the group is still sending her unwanted e-mails even after she has repeatedly requested that her name be removed from their mailing list. Mayor Campuzano commented that this organization is no longer associated with the borough after changing its name from No Place for Hate. Ms. Byrne commented that she had spoken to the Chair in 2014 about having the same problem and felt it was just an administrative error and not a stalking issue.

Mr. Aubrey moved to resume Roberts Rules of Order. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Old Business:

1. LED Street Lights - Mr. Totaro commented that he sent an e-mail to Borough Council members regarding controls and overall scheduled upgrades and it was important for them to read it. Mr. Totaro mentioned that financing has also been discussed in several committee

meetings. The first meeting for this project will be held on February 2nd to outline the borough's specific project.

New Business:

1. Lansdowne 125th Anniversary - President Schleigh noted that the upcoming anniversary of the borough would be a good opportunity to have discussions about all the borough's accomplishments and its future plans and why it is a desirable place to live. Mayor Campuzano commended President Schleigh, noting that it would take a lot of work to plan for this event.

Action Items:

1. Mr. Radich moved to approve bills for the period. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.
2. Mr. Radich moved to adopt Ordinance 1299 regarding 2016 sewer fees. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.
3. Mr. Radich moved to advertise Ordinance 1300 regarding initiation of an Act 44 Retirement Plan. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.
4. Ms. Williams moved to procure sanitation vehicle from G. L. Sayers and H. S. Dehart. Mr. Aubrey seconded. Vote: unanimous.
5. Mr. Radich moved to execute Memorandum Of Agreement with FOP Lodge 27. Mr. Aubrey seconded. Vote: unanimous.
6. Mr. Aubrey moved to reappoint James Simmons to the Park & Recreation Board for a 3 year term expiring 12/31/18. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous.
7. Ms. Byrne moved to appoint Janet English as alternate of the Civil Service Commission for a 6 year term expiring 1/20/22. Mr. Aubrey seconded. Vote: unanimous.
8. Ms. James moved to execute agreement with LEDC for use of Borough facility. Mr. Radich seconded. Vote: unanimous.
9. Ms. Byrne moved to appoint Kevin Babcock to the Library Board for a 3 year term expiring 1/20/19. Mr. Aubrey seconded. Vote: unanimous.
10. Ms. Byrne moved to appoint Kate Wagner to the Library Board for a 3 year term expiring 1/20/19. Mr. Aubrey seconded. President Schleigh asked for a roll call vote. Vote: unanimous. President Schleigh recused himself from the vote, stating that he was "in a romantic relationship with Ms. Wagner".
11. Mr. Radich moved to appoint Craig Totaro as Compliance Officer for the Compliance Policy. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.
12. Mr. Radich moved to issue a \$50 Bonus to all Borough employees. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Executive Session: Mr. Radich moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel, real estate and litigation issues. Ms. James seconded. Vote: unanimous. The meeting adjourned to executive session at 8:17 p.m.

Public Session: Upon reconvening to public session the following motion was made:

MOTION: Mr. Radich moved to authorize the Borough Solicitor to enter an appearance for the Borough regarding the zoning appeal for the MarWin property. Ms. English seconded. The motion carried with a voice vote. Ms. James voted "nay".

Adjourn – Ms. English moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Radich seconded. Vote: unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Ann Henry
Borough Secretary