

Lansdowne Borough Council

BUSINESS MEETING

October 5, 2016

APPROVED MINUTES

The Lansdowne Borough Council Business Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at borough hall. Members present: President Schleigh, Mr. Aubrey, Ms. Byrne, Ms. English, Ms. James, Mr. Radich and Ms. Williams. Absent: Mayor Campuzano and Fire Company representative. Also in attendance: Borough Manager Totaro, Borough Secretary Henry, Borough Solicitor Scott and Police Chief Donegan.

Mr. Totaro opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Approval of Minutes: Ms. English moved to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2016 meeting of Borough Council. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Public Comment: Ms. Williams moved to Suspend Roberts Rules of Order to hear public comment. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous.

1. Mary Ann Surla - Resident. Ms. Surla commented that the crosswalk in front of the Lansdowne Theater is dangerous because motorists often fail to stop for pedestrians trying to cross the street. Ms. Surla suggested putting lights on the pedestrian crossing sign for more visibility. Ms. Surla also commented that "Watch for Pedestrians" signs would be very helpful in the Borough shopping centers. Pursuant to the upcoming 125th Borough anniversary event for 2018, Ms. Surla asked if the street lights along Lansdowne Avenue from Simpson Gardens to the train station could be repainted to enhance the Borough's image. Ms. Byrne commented that a discussion was forthcoming later in the meeting along these lines.

Ms. Williams moved to Resume Roberts Rules of Order. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous.

REPORTS

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

Treasurer's/Manager's Report: Mr. Totaro reported on the following matters:

1. Work continues on the budget and street light program.
2. The street light at Nyack and Lansdowne Avenue has been replaced and now has a surge protector. Further discussion of the Borough street lights will be discussed under Old Business.

President Schleigh questioned the status of the 20th Century Club repairs. Mr. Totaro indicated everything was on schedule with no conflicts and should be completed in two weeks. Most of the outside areas will be paved or mulched.

Chief of Police Report – Chief Donegan reported that the 2017 overnight parking permits are now available for sale. The Chief mentioned that in 2016 emergency responders handled several drug overdose cases in the Borough. Four lives were saved by having Narcam available in the ambulance. The Chief is still working on solutions with Animal Control.

Fire Company Representative Report – No report was given.

Mayor's Report – No report was given in Mayor Campuzano's absence.

President's Report – President Schleigh mentioned he recently attended and gave a speech at the Fire Company's housing ceremony for the new fire trucks. Fire Company representatives may be attending the next Council meeting to present information about the new trucks.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Regional Street Light Procurement Plan ("RSLPP") - LED street lights. Mr. Mike Bayesa of Johnson Controls, Inc. ("JCI") and Mike Fuller, technical advisor for the street light program were present to give an overview of the Plan that was designed to facilitate implementation of energy conservation measures for the Borough. The Borough is currently in the Investment Grade Audit Phase of the Plan that includes lighting designs, pilot installations, a final project proposal and a lease agreement. The proposed project scope includes replacing 569 cobra head fixtures with 569 new LED cobra head fixtures, retrofitting 25 decorative fixtures of various styles with 25 LED kits and replacing 8 shoebox pole fixtures with 8 similar shoebox LED fixtures at the Fire Company parking lot. Mr. Fuller noted that 38 municipalities have stayed in the program, the primary reason being a 50% energy savings and reduced maintenance costs. Mr. Fuller also explained that the approach is budget neutral and JCI conducts a measurement and verification audit that guarantees energy consumption, but not rates. Mr. Aubrey asked how the Borough saves money if not billed by kilowatt hours. Solicitor Scott indicated it is an "assumed" wattage approach wherein JCI will submit an inventory to PECO, who will then update the bill.

Mr. Fuller commented that since the last Infrastructure Committee meeting, the Program costs have decreased \$40,000 from the preliminary audit and the lease will be paid off in 10 years. The total financed amount is \$229,330.

2. 2017 Budget - Mr. Radich indicated that the meetings will soon be held with stakeholders and the Borough will be starting off the New Year in a more favorable position than in the past. President Schleigh asked if there would be any changes in the tipping fees. Mr. Totaro indicated no information would be available until the November business meeting.

3. Interboro Park - Mr. Aubrey opened the discussion and reiterated his concerns about the weed overgrowth and standing water behind Fairview Avenue that residents have been complaining about for years. Mr. Aubrey mentioned there was also some overgrowth on

Wycombe Avenue but no complaints had been received by residents in that area. Mr. Aubrey asked if the initial clearing could be performed in house. Mr. Totaro indicated it could but it might be more prudent to first hire a professional landscaper because of the extent of the overgrowth. Ms. Williams asked if there were any issues with standing water. Mr. Aubrey commented there was only a pooling problem after a heavy rain but the water receded fairly quickly. However, there is a pond at the end of the nature trail that poses a safety risk due to some broken boards on the bridge over the pond. President Schleigh commented that he visited the park today and noted several issues: no recycling cans, the overgrowth is about 20-30 feet and a street light near Fairview Avenue is falling down. President Schleigh asked if there had been a prior park plan for Interboro and Mr. Aubrey commented he was not aware of any.

Mr. Aubrey felt the overgrowth should be cut down as soon as possible with no Committee involvement. President Schleigh disagreed, mentioning that some residents might not want to see into the backyards of others, a formal plan is necessary to address the problem before taking further action and Committees are venues to help make decisions. Ms. Williams and Ms. James asked if there was a maintenance policy from a Parks and Recreation Board perspective and if the other Borough parks have a regular maintenance plan. Ms. English felt that a long term plan is needed that stipulates what is to be done and how to do it. After further discussion there arrived a consensus to hire a landscaper for the initial cleanout.

MOTION: Mr. Aubrey moved to expend up to \$1,780 for park improvements by Priority Property Maintenance, Inc. for Interboro Park. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Sycamore Park electricity - Ms. Williams asked if it would be worth pursuing having electricity in the park to make it more useable for a variety of venues. President Schleigh commented he would like to have some safety lighting installed and felt there should be further discussion as to whether or the not the park should be active or passive, whether the historic tree might be harmed by more visitors there and what the impact would be on neighbors from events being held there. Ms. Williams will present these concerns at the next Parks and Recreation Board meeting.

2. LEDC Elm Street facade program- Mr. Totaro commented that Debbie Brodeur, Executive Director of the LEDC, notified him of their intention to apply for a facade grant.

3. UAA request - The UAA has decided to move its current meeting location from St. Paul's church to the Centennial Room in Borough Hall and is requesting its use in 2017 for the following dates: February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4 and October 5. Meetings are held 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Aubrey moved to approve use of the Centennial Room by the UAA for their organizational meetings on the requested dates. Ms. Williams seconded. Vote: unanimous.

4. Keane Products LLP - Keane Productions, LLP of Villanova, PA will be filming scenes for their short film "WACK" at The Icery from October 18-28. There will be some scenes that require actors to cross N. Lansdowne Avenue multiple times and some traffic control will be needed during these scenes. They are requesting a road closing between E. Lacrosse and E. Baltimore Avenues and a traffic control officer from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 23rd. Chief Donegan commented that since this is a State owned road they would need permission from Penn Dot and overtime pay would have to be given to the traffic officer.

MOTION: Mr. Aubrey moved to provide Keane Productions a traffic control officer on N. Lansdowne Avenue on October 23, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. subject to the condition that they pay police over time and obtain Penn Dot approval to close the street. Ms. Williams seconded. Vote: unanimous.

5. Today's Child request - The Center Director for the Today's Child Learning Center in Lansdowne wants to hold a Trunk or Treat event in the lot next to Owen Avenue. The Girl Scouts are having a similar event the same day and would like to combine their event with the Center.

MOTION: Ms. Byrne moved to close the Owen Avenue secondary lot for the entire day on October 27th or 31st for the Trunk or Treat events. Mr. Aubrey seconded. Vote: unanimous.

6. LEDC liquor sales - The LEDC has been approached by a brewer who is interested in selling liquor/beer at the Farmers Market. It would be packaged in a similar manner as the wine already sold there. Solicitor Scott indicated that the new PA liquor law does not require Borough permission and any liability issue would be LEDC's responsibility. Mr. Totaro will respond to them.

7. Bridge mural - Ms. Williams indicated that the Philadelphia Mural Arts Advocates ("PMAA"), a non-profit corporation, wants to create a mural on the bridge overpass at the train station. Penn Dot has no problem with this idea. Mr. Totaro suggested having a vinyl wrap instead of a painted mural so that it could be changed out as needed. Ms. Williams will confer with the Arts Board. President Schleigh noted that Borough Council has final approval.

8. HLTC request - The HLTC is requesting a letter of support from Borough Council regarding a design and possible construction management grant of approximately \$7,000. The question arose as to whether or not there would be other competitive grant projects. President Schleigh will contact Margot Davidson's office tomorrow in this regard. Mr. Totaro will follow up with an appropriate letter to the HLTC.

Action Items:

1. Mr. Radich moved to authorize payment of bills for period. Mr. Aubrey seconded. Vote: unanimous.
2. Ms. Williams moved to adopt Resolution 2016-15, a resolution to implement the RSLPP project. Mr. Aubrey seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Executive Session - Ms. Byrne moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Ms. James seconded. Vote: unanimous. The meeting adjourned to executive session at 9:105 p.m.

Public Session – No motions were made upon reconvening to public session.

President Schleigh announced that the Fire Company will be holding an Open House on October 7, 2016, 6 - 8 p.m. at 26 N. Highland Avenue.

Adjourn – Ms. Byrne moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Williams seconded. Vote: unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Ann Henry
Borough Secretary