

**Lansdowne Borough Council
General Meeting**

February 15, 2017

APPROVED MINUTES

The Lansdowne Borough Council General Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Hall.

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

The televised meeting will be aired at 7:00 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 after which the Mayor called for a moment of silence in memory of two recently deceased residents. (1) Carolyn Ann Kane and (2) Delores Ward both who were active residents for many years in the Borough. The Mayor also called on all to keep Secretary Henry's mother in mind who is sick.

Approval of agenda: Mr. Schleigh moved to approve the agenda. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Byrne moved to approve the minutes of the January 18th, 2017 Business Meeting of Council. Ms. Williams seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Announcements and Presentations:

Mayor Campuzano introduced police officer Jonathan McGowan and the newest officer Chapit a/k/a Officer K1, advocated for and trained by Officer McGowan. The Mayor listed the numerous local businesses that contributed to the funds needed to initiate and maintain the new K9 officer K1. Officer McGowan reviewed the history and experience of bringing the new officer on board.

After an introduction by Fran Wayne of Greenwood Avenue on behalf of the Animal Friends of Lansdowne to Love Your Pet Month, the Mayor read the Love Your Pet Month Proclamation into the record.

The Mayor presented the winners of the 2016 Jingle Judge awards.

Treasurer's Report -

Mr. Totaro presented the Treasurer's report for the year ending December 31, 2016. General Fund: beginning balance \$534,010; ending balance \$687,927

Sewer Fund: beginning balance \$769,491; ending balance \$1,036,805

Liquid Fuels: beginning balance \$513,645; ending balance \$646,299

Non-uniformed Pension: beginning balance \$2,879,067; ending balance \$2,959,093

Police Pension: beginning balance \$8,094,494; ending balance \$8,378,827

Solicitor's Report - No report.

Mayor's Report -

The Mayor reported that the Borough has been asked by the state to recognize April 2017 as 811 Safe Digging Month. The Mayor recited a Proclamation to establish April as the 811 Safe Digging month.

The Mayor discussed Black History Month. The Mayor reviewed the history of Black History Month and recognized two residents in the spirit of Black history month including: (1) Joe Stevenson and (2) Sharon Coleman both of whom have served as leaders and in the civic life of the Borough.

The Mayor noted that the DCVA clean-up day will happen on Saturday morning at Hoffman Park and other watershed areas along the Darby Creek and recognized David Bennet resident of Lansdowne who has always participated in this event and currently serves as Chair of the DCVA.

Upper Darby and Lansdowne Rotary will also have a clean-up day on Saturday April 18th.

The annual Lansdowne clean-up day will happen in concert with Comcast Day on April 1st.

The Town Forum is rescheduled for Thursday May 11th 2017 for open discussion on Borough Finances and Infrastructure and the HLTC.

The Lansdowne Folk Club will host performances on Thursday the 23rd at the Twentieth Century Club

April 8th is the annual Egg Hunt at Hoffman Park which is sponsored by the Lansdowne Park and Recreation Board.

President's Report -

Mr. Schleigh cautioned residents of an internet scam known as "Secret Shoppers". Mr. Schleigh noted that he reported his experience of the scam to the local police and encouraged others to do the same.

Committee Reports:

Public Health and Safety -

Ms. English reported that the committee met on February 8th and heard from Springfield Cares about the opioid crisis and what the region is doing about it. The K9 Policy was reviewed and delivered to Solicitor Scott for review. Also, traffic issues on Plumstead Avenue are being examined and remedies investigated to mitigate frequent wrong-way traffic behavior.

Ms. English also reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on February 6th which included representatives from PNC Institutional Advisors to review the status and state of the Police Pension Fund and the non-uniform Pension Fund. Also, the rating agency Kroll issued a final rating of the Borough which remained unchanged at A-positive. Workers Compensation expenses a significantly lower for 2017 and the street light financing closed earlier in the month.

Economic Development and Codes -

Ms. James provided an update on the Tyler Art School student project and noted that the upcoming meeting will be rescheduled due to it falling on a holiday.

Environment Committee - No Report.

Community Relations Committee -

Ms. Byrne provided an update on the concurrent Comcast Cares Day, the Plaza Pilot Project and Lansdowne Clean-up day. Ms. Byrne encouraged volunteer's and local non-profits to sign up and participate in these activities and how to do so. Additional update was provided on the ongoing planning for the Borough's 125 anniversary. Further, the LBGC are in need of volunteers and coaches. The next meeting of the CR committee will be February 28th. The Library events were reviewed including the Homework Assistance program.

Infrastructure Committee -

Ms. Williams reported that the committee met on the 30th of January. Several inlets were repaired by staff. The 2017 paving program is on the agenda for approval for the current meeting. The Plaza Committee met on 2/7/17 and several sub-committee's are organized and research is ongoing including a measures/outcomes/impact committee. A brief discussion followed on details of the plan including access, liability, and safety. Ms. Williams will have a draft fundraising letter for approval at the next meeting. Further discussion touched on smoking/non-smoking in public spaces, and surveillance cameras. Activities of the LEDC included an upcoming winter market and the organization is hopeful for the main street designation from DCED. The LEDC business development committee is working on a business recruitment program. The next IC meeting is February 27th. Follow up questions ensued regarding the Gateway Slope grant and the CDBG application and an open house for the 20CC renovations.

Communications -

A letter from Regina Babcock chair of the HRC was received calling for new members to the committee. Also a thank you letter was received from the Senior Center for the Borough's contribution last month.

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

Visitors:

1. **Mr. Jackson - Resident.** Mr. Jackson questioned the status of the 2017 budget being posted to the website and the consolidation of the January and February Treasurer's Report. Mr. Jackson also questioned the payment by the borough of \$50 to Borough Council members. It was clarified that no payments are made to Borough Council.
2. **Wendy Chemielewski of Pennock Terrace - Resident.** Ms. Chemielewski announced the existence of a group that is emerging to respond the call in the nation for civic participation and they will be meeting to clean up Sycamore Park.
3. **Cathy Cavanaugh – resident of Union Avenue.** Ms. Cavanaugh stated that north bound cars do not stop at Union Avenue and a discussion ensued on how to remedy this situation including offering her driveway as a stakeout space.
4. **Ed Costa - Plumstead Avenue.** Mr. Costa concurs that something should be done about cars going the wrong way on Plumstead Avenue. Mr. Costa also pointed out that a lot of sidewalks in the Borough are in disrepair.

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

Old Business: No Old Business.

New Business -

1) **Flea Market:** the LEDC is requesting the use of the Parking Lot at 30 North Lansdowne Avenue for the use for the Philadelphia Flea Market. A discussion followed on details of the request.

MOTION: Ms. English moved to allow the LEDC to use the 30 North Lansdowne Avenue Lot subject to the terms of the existing license agreement between the LEDC and the Borough on May 20th from 6am to 7pm. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous.

2) **WPSD:** the WPSD made a request of the Borough to waive the fees for a reception for the new superintendent of the district on Saturday March 18th from 12pm to 3PM. A discussion ensued.

MOTION: Ms. Byrne moved to waive the fee for a reception for the new superintendent of the district on Saturday March 18th from 12pm to 3PM. Ms. Williams seconded. Vote: unanimous.

3) **GMCA:** there was a brief discussion on the details of the egg hunt.

MOTION: Ms. Byrne moved to waive the fee for the GMCA to use Marlyn Park for an Egg Hunt. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.

XII. Action Items:

1. Ms. English moved to authorize payment of bills for period. Ms. Williams seconded. Vote: Unanimous.
2. Ms. English motioned to adopt Resolution 2017-02 updating the fee schedule. Ms. Williams seconded. Vote Unanimous.
3. Ms. Williams motioned to advertise for bids for the 2017 Road Paving Program. Seconded by Ms. Byrne. Vote: Unanimous.

Executive Session - Ms. Byrne moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss litigation and personnel issues. Ms. Williams seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Executive Session adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

Public Session – Upon reconvening to public session, the following motions were made:

- 1) Ms. James moved to hire Michael Taylor as Facilities Manager, Kevin Lavery as Director of Public Works, and George Nixon as Janitor/Facilities Technician. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) Ms. James motioned to authorize a bonus of \$1,000 to Larry Robinson and Keith Johnson. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Adjourn – Ms. Byrne moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. James seconded. Vote: unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Totaro
Assistant Borough Secretary