

**Lansdowne Borough Council
General Meeting**

February 17, 2016

APPROVED MINUTES

The Lansdowne Borough Council General Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 17, 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 Kelly McKenna. Ms. McKenna was a teacher at St. Philomena School for 33 years, teaching 7th and 8th grades. The Mayor commented that Ms. McKenna helped mold and direct children for their future during those years, including his own four children, and she would be greatly missed.

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

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Byrne moved to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2016 General Meeting of Council. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Announcements and Presentations: Mayor Campuzano introduced Zakia McKelvin, owner of Kia's Cakes, currently operating at The Icery at 23 N. Lansdowne Avenue and also at the Farmers Market. Kia's Cakes baked goods are made with all natural ingredients and custom cakes can be ordered in a variety of sizes for all occasions. Hours of operation are Friday and Saturday 12-8 p.m. and Sunday 12-5 p.m. For more information call 484-860-6636.

The Mayor presented a Proclamation to Dr. Joseph Bruni declaring February 17, 2016 as "Joseph Bruni Day" in Lansdowne. Dr. Bruni is retiring after a long career in public education. Dr. Bruni has been a long time advocate for the William Penn School District ("WPSD"), having been appointed Superintendent of the 11 schools in the WPSD in March, 2008. Dr. Bruni also served as principal at various elementary schools throughout the WPSD as well as the Colonial School District in Delaware. Dr. Bruni has over 52 years of experience in education, administration, curriculum and instruction. Dr. Bruni has been a staunch advocate in the pursuit of urging the PA legislature to adopt a fair school funding formula in PA and to adequately fund public schools as set forth in the State Constitution.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Totaro read the December 31, 2015 Report as follows:

General Fund beginning balance: \$465,267, ending balance \$532,010.

Sewer Fund beginning balance: \$925,072, ending balance \$769,491.

Liquid Fuels Fund beginning balance: \$556,295, ending balance \$ 513,645.

Non-Uniformed Pension Fund beginning balance: \$2,855,109, ending balance \$2,662,539.

Police Pension Fund beginning balance: \$8,167,087, ending balance \$7,891,017.

Total all Funds: beginning balance \$12,968,830; year to date receipts \$9,506,841; year to date disbursement \$10,104,968; Surplus (Deficit) of Revenue over Expenditures (\$598,127); Ending Balance \$12,370,703.

Mr. Aubrey questioned the differing amounts shown on the report he was given. Mr. Totaro explained that some of the reports had not been revised at the last minute to reflect the fourth quarter Verizon payment in the General Fund. Mr. Radich commented that the Police Pension Fund was 1.9% down for the year.

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

Mayor's Report: The Mayor gave an update on the Marshall Road situation regarding multiple accidents at the corner of Marshall Road and Owen Avenue. Penn Dot is recommending that a stop sign be put at this intersection in April of this year. This sign will eliminate the need for the proposed \$2,000 blinking light at that site.

The Mayor reported that the Union Athletic Association ("UAA") will be holding a "Designer Bag Bingo" fundraiser on April 15th, 7-10 p.m. at St. Philomena's Marian Hall on Wycombe Avenue. Tickets are \$30.

The Hoffman Park ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Pavilion will be held on March 19th at 1:00 p.m. at the Pavilion. Rain date: March 26th. The annual free Borough Easter Egg Hunt will be held on the same day from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. for children ages 3 to 12. Also, the Greater Lansdowne Civic Association ("GLCA") will be holding their annual Easter Egg Hunt on the same day in Marlyn Park from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Mayor mentioned that the new Walgreen's in the old bank building is expected to open in early March of this year.

The Mayor thanked the Civil Service Commission members for their help in administering testing for the new police officers and congratulated Officer Jonathan McGowan on his promotion to Class A patrol officer.

The Mayor thanked Fire Chief Russell and other fire company volunteers for making the trip to Wisconsin to inspect the new fire truck on order.

Council President's Report: President Schleigh reiterated the Mayor's comments regarding the new Walgreen's in that it is a positive sign of redevelopment in the Borough. President Schleigh commented that he hopes to attend the upcoming PA State Association of Boroughs seminars starting on June 5th. This organization presents a wide variety of seminars and educational programs and serves as an advocacy group for PA boroughs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Health and Safety: Ms. English reported on a variety of topics discussed at the last Public Health and Safety Committee meeting:

- Changes to the Civil Service for testing and codes procedures. More information to follow.
- National Night Out will be held on August 2nd.
- The proposed Mayor's forum/town meeting is gaining momentum.
- Replacing the current key fob entry system with a coded keypad system. The cost is approximately \$4,865 for the miscellaneous doors in borough hall that would be wired. Chief Donegan commented that it would take about \$10,000 to try and fix the existing key fob system problems.
- Chief Donegan is looking into funding for a new police car.
- The Fire Company wants a fee waiver for their upcoming "fire housing" event at the 20th Century Club ("20CC") in October.
- The Infrastructure Committee will be looking at the proposed "Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ") for the web site regarding snow emergency plan information.

MOTION: Ms. English moved to waive the 20CC rental fee for the fire company's upcoming fire housing dedication ceremony and dinner event on October 1, 2016. Ms. Williams seconded. **Vote: unanimous.** Mayor Campuzano commented that Fire Chief Russell has to send a formal letter to borough council in this regard because the original letter was not clear about the waiver request.

Finance and Administration: Mr. Radich reported that the next Finance Committee meeting will be held on February 29th at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Radich commented there is a \$67,000 surplus in the budget. Mr. Radich also commented that the General Fund was over \$530,000, the largest amount he had seen since beginning on Borough Council and praised Mr. Totaro, Chief Donegan, Mr. Aubrey and Ms. English for their help in making this happen.

Economic Development and Code Enforcement: Ms. James reported that the 2020 House will be holding a contemporary visual Arts event on March 12th from 4-8 p.m. Ms. James commented that the Lansdowne Theater wants to extend its RCAP grant from June 30, 2016 to June 30, 2017. Ms. James reported that Simpson Gardens is requesting a renewal for the demolition for the Lansdowne Park.

Mayor Campuzano commented that he will be incorporating Ms. James' Committee regarding plans for the upcoming Mayor's forum/town meeting.

LEDC Liaison Update: Ms. Williams reported that on line registration is now open for the Memorial Day 5K run. The LEDC is partnering with Mercy Fitz Hospital to hold a "Couch to 5K" 10 week long program for those who want to run a 5K but need help in preparing physically for such an event. The annual Lansdowne Arts Festival will now be a one day only, outside street fair event to be held on September 11th.

Environment: Mr. Aubrey reported there was no Environment Committee meeting held last month. Mr. Aubrey will discuss the goals and objectives of his Committee at the next business

meeting, noting there would be minimal changes. Mr. Aubrey commented that the GMCA is requesting a fee waiver for using Marlyn Park for its annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Community Relations: Ms. Byrne reported that the William Penn School District was one of only two districts in Pennsylvania to be named to the College Boards AP District Honor Roll and the Gaston Caperton Opportunity honor roll for 2015. These lists recognize academic achievement on advance placement exams and SAT's.

Comcast Cares Day will be held on April 30th and coincides with Keep Lansdowne Beautiful Day. There will be about 75 volunteers to help clean up the business district and borough parks. More information to follow.

Library Liaison Report - Author Robert Bingham will discuss his book, "Growing Up Lansdowne" on March 19th at 1:00 p.m. The Finance Fair has been postponed until after the primary election.

Infrastructure and Public Works: Ms. Williams gave updates as follows:

- Bids have been received for the 20CC outside work. The RFP was very good and bids will be awarded at the next business meeting.
- Patch Management Service has been retained to help with pothole repairs. Since January, 192 pot holes were patched. Plans are underway to have them repair the potholes in the two Borough municipal parking lots.
- Bids for the design work for the Walk shed program will be forthcoming.
- Discussion about what to call the emergency routes and developing a FAQ section on the web site will be discussed at the next Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Communications: No items for communications.

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

Visitors:

1. James Jackson - resident of Lansdowne. Mr. Smalley asked if copies of the Treasurer's Report could be provided to the public before the borough council meetings as had been done by Mr. Bartley in the past.

Mr. Jackson asked for the definition of "RCAP" and "GMCA" that Ms. James and Mr. Aubrey had mentioned in their reports. Mr. Aubrey noted that the GMCA represents the Gladstone Manor Civic Association. Mr. Totaro explained that RCAP is a Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program wherein the state puts together an economic development bond and redistributes the money to grantees of municipalities for projects that have economic impact in the area.

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

Old Business:

1. **Borough 125th Anniversary.** President Schleigh opened the discussion asking for input for ideas. Ms. Williams commented that the structure being used for the InsideOut Program is

working very well in that its goal is to "engage and involve" and allows all to have a voice in the project. Ms. Byrne agreed. President Schleigh asked if an Ad Hoc committee should be formed or have Borough Council oversee it. The Mayor felt that consideration should be given to having a mural celebrating Lansdowne's history painted on the wall facing borough green. The Mayor also favored planting a Christmas tree in the borough green. President Schleigh felt that having a contest for a Poet Laureate could be a low cost way of sponsoring the arts and celebrating the borough's diversity and history. President Schleigh asked if one event or a variety of events would be a good idea. The Mayor commented that fundraising should be seriously considered first so that money could be available for holding the proposed events, painting a mural, etc. There was general agreement that an Ad Hoc Committee was the best way to handle the process. The five members will be President Schleigh, Mayor Campuzano, Ms. Williams, Ms. Byrne and Ms. English.

New Business: There were no New Business items.

Action Items:

1. Mr. Radich moved to approve bills for the period. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.
2. Mr. Radich moved to adopt Ordinance 1300 regarding Act 44 Retirement Program. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.
3. Ms. James moved to renew letter of support for the Simpson Gardens II housing project. Ms. English seconded. Vote: unanimous.
4. Ms. James moved to execute Amendment No. 1 to the RCAP agreement regarding term to 6/30/2017. Mr. Radich seconded. Vote: unanimous.
5. Mr. Aubrey moved to approve Park Fee waiver to the GMCA for use of Marlyn Park for its annual neighborhood Easter egg hunt on March 19, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 pm. Mr. Radich seconded. Vote: unanimous.

Executive Session: There were no items for Executive Session.

Adjourn – Mr. Aubrey moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Byrne seconded. Vote: unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Ann Henry
Borough Secretary