

Borough of Lansdowne
Borough Council Business Meeting
July 19, 2023 7:00 pm

The Lansdowne Borough Council meeting was held in person and virtually on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Vice President Naji-Taylor opened the meeting and Mayor Byrne lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: Mayor Byrne, Ms. Martsolf, Ms. Young, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Curry. Absent: Ms. James. President Hover was late – at approximately 8:00 Mr. Hover attended remotely. Also present: Borough Manager Craig Totaro, Borough Treasurer Donna Lang, Borough Engineer Kevin Matson, Borough Solicitor Robert Scott, and Police Chief Ken Rutherford.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: by Ms. Naji-Taylor

SECONDED: by Mr. Griffin

Motion to approve the Agenda.

VOTE: Unanimous

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: by Ms. Naji-Taylor

SECONDED: by Mr. Griffin

Motion to approve minutes of June 7, 2023, and June 21, 2023, Borough Council meeting.

VOTE: Unanimous

Presentations

No Presentations.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report – For the 6-month period ending 6/30/2023:

General Fund – Beginning Balance \$1,698,925; Year to Date receipts- \$7,642,335; Year to Date disbursements- \$4,572,289; Surplus- \$3,070,046; Ending balance- \$4,768,971.

Sewer Fund – Beginning Balance- \$424,019; Year to Date receipts- \$1,505,941; Year to Date disbursements- \$931,933; Surplus – \$574,008; Ending balance- \$998,027.

Liquid Fuel Fund – Beginning Balance – \$877,047; Year to Date Receipts – \$289,966; Year to Date Disbursements – \$44,576; Surplus- \$245,391; Ending Balance- \$1,122,438

Non-Uniform Pension Fund- Beginning balance- \$3,868,562; Year to Date receipts – \$497,307; Year to Date Disbursements – \$15,785; Surplus – \$481,521; Ending Balance- \$4,350,083

Police Pension Fund – Beginning Balance- \$10,120,049; Year to Date receipts- \$1,022,591; Year to Date Disbursements- \$454,832; Surplus- \$567,759; Ending Balance – \$10,687,808

Total of All Funds – Beginning balance- \$16,988,602; Year to Date receipts – \$10,958,139; Year to Date Disbursements- \$6,019,415; Surplus- \$4,938,725; Ending balance- \$21,927,327

NOT INCLUDED IN THESE TOTALS:

American Rescue Fund – Beginning balance- \$895,222; Year to Date Receipts – \$18,261; Year to Date Disbursements –\$496,100; Deficit – \$477,839; Ending balance- \$417,383.

Solicitor's Report – No information to report.

Mayor's Report –

Good evening, Lansdowne! I hope everyone is having a great summer and surviving the high temps and all the rain that we have been getting this year. As a reminder, please stay cool and hydrated, and keep an eye on your pets and neighbors.

I hope everyone also had a great time at this year's 4th of July parade! Thank you again to Mary Kay Boden for always volunteering her time and knowledge after years of putting this parade together as a member and then president of the UAA. Also thank you to Councilmember Griffin and Community Relations for giving the parade a place to live. I still have t-shirts btw - size S and XS left. If you would like one just let me know and I will bring it.

The next Mayor's cleanup will take place on Sunday June 30th at 10am. We will meet at the Borough Green to clean up the Baltimore Ave Corridor from Union Ave to Owen Ave. If you have some time to spare, please come.

Happy 40th Birthday to National Night!! Please join us on Tuesday August 1st from 6pm - 8:30pm in the Highland Ave lot. The Highland Ave lot is right behind Dunkin and across the street from St Philomena's. There will be music by DJ Joe Foley, food, games, rides, local businesses, and resources available. Thank you to Officer Albertoli for leading the organization of NNO.

That is all I have to report for this evening. Are there any questions for me?

Council President's Report –

Dear Lansdowne friends, residents, and neighbors, fellow Councilmembers, and Mayor Byrne,

Happy Summer! Through this summer, the Lansdowne community continues to grow and develop, and new improvements are happening throughout the town. Lansdowne is on the move. Are you 'Downe?

Because I am unable to be in person and read the report, I will be brief.

Fourth of July

First of all, I want to thank all of the many volunteers for the success of the Fourth of July parade and ceremony. All of the community groups made the community feel like the whole community was on parade. Also, thank you to our elected officials—from the county District Attorney Jack Stollsteimer and County Council Chair Dr. Monica Taylor, our state representatives Senator Tim Kearney State Representative Gina Hackett Curry, and our Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon for helping us celebrate in Lansdowne—for celebrating with us in Lansdowne.

Contracts

We have received notice from the FOP—Fraternal Order of Police—of a set of proposals for the next contract. Thus, negotiations have begun on the next contract.

The Ad Hoc Committee for the negotiations, the negotiating team for the FOP contract, will be comprised of Public Safety Chair Vice President Sinoe Naji-Taylor, Finance Chair Tangela James, Council President Benjamin Hover, Mayor Magda Byrne, Borough Manager Craig Totaro, and our Labor Counsel.

We have also received notice from the assigned arbitrator for the SEIU, Service Employees International Union, contract. This is the first step of the negotiation process for the SEIU contract.

The Ad Hoc Committee for the negotiations for the SEIU contract, the negotiating team, will be comprised of Finance Chair Tangela James, Vice President Sinoe Naji-Taylor, President Benjamin Hover, Borough Manager, and our Labor Counsel.

Facilities:

The Ad Hoc Committee for Facilities will meet on August 8th at 7:00 to discuss the next steps in the Facilities Planning. We need questions for the survey to be distributed by the end of August.

Save the Date for the upcoming events:

July 23rd—11:00-1:00 on Borough Greene. Please join us as we join together with members of the Liberian community for the flag raising and celebration of the Liberian community and Liberian Independence Day.

August 1st—National Night Out. Please join us as we celebrate National Night Out at 6:00

To all of my friends, neighbors, and fellow residents, I hope to see you around the town in the coming weeks.

Committee Reports –

1. Public Health and Safety – Ms. Naji-Taylor
 - At 7/12/2023 meeting the following was discussed: Police manual with new batch of policies, National Night Out, police officer promotions, Union Avenue flooding, new handguns, street signs, Kia and Hyundai locks, Community Day, ladder truck, agreement for EMT services, crosswalks, speedbumps, and communications related to speedbumps.
2. Finance and Administration – Ms. James
 - No report.
3. Economic Development – Mr. Hover
 - No report.

4. Environment, Parks, and Recreation – Ms. Martsof

- At 7/10/2023 meeting the following was discussed: Openings on EAC Parks and Rec Shade Tree boards, Delaware County grant writing support, tree signs, Interboro Park pollinator events, message boards and benches.

5. Community Relations – Mr. Griffin

- 7/4/2023 meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for 8/1/2023 at 5:00 until 6:00 pm.

6. Infrastructure and Public Works – Ms. Young

- At the last meeting, the following was discussed: Solid waste rules language and emergency alert banner on borough website, recycling, sewer jobs, residents' requests for speed bumps, storm water/flooding, street signs timetable, deep cleaning of borough buildings and bids on sound enhancement system.

7. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Mr. Curry

- No report. Next meeting scheduled for 8/8/2023 at 6:00 pm.

Communications

Petition for speed bumps from residents on Madison Road.

Old Business

- Ambulance Lansdowne Fire Company Agreement
- School Resource Officer Agreement update/revisions
- Marlyn Park benches
- Park message boards

New Business

- Mural proposal
- Veterans Park proposal
- American Legion 65 use of 20CC/fee
- Temporary library sign request
- New tree lawn signs
- Animal control

Public Comment

Mr. Bill Horton of Linden Avenue commented on Veterans' Park clean-up, Right to Knows, Marlyn Park Fence and communication, ; Ms. Liz Moorehead of 78 Price Avenue commented on school resource officer; Malita Reagan of 158 Walton Place commented on school resource officer and

county funded pilot prevention program; Josh Moorehead of 78 Price Avenue commented on school resource officer and school district finances; Heather Giardinelli Cronin of 102 Madison Avenue commented on Madison Avenue speed bumps, car break-ins and information sharing; Anna Gavin of Albemarle Avenue commented on school resource officer; Suzanne McElroy of Drexel Avenue commented on school resource officer, benches and maintenance in Marlyn Park, cork boards, and mural project proposal; Diane Eckternot of 31 Forrest Road commented on Madison Avenue; Molly Connors of 85 E. Stewart Avenue commented on school resource officer.

Action Items:

Motion by Ms. Young to authorize payment of bills for the period. Seconded by: Mr. Curry
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Mr. Griffin to adopt Resolution 2023-17 recognizing Delaware County Art Week.
Seconded by: Mr. Curry
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Mr. Griffin to adopt Resolution 2023-18 recognizing Labor Day 2023. Seconded by: Mr. Curry.
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Ms. Naji-Taylor to ratify agreement with the PA Office of the Budget extending RACP grant award through 6/30/2024. Seconded by: Mr. Griffin.
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Ms. Naji-Taylor to promote Officer Lyons to Class A Patrol Officer effective July 22, 2023. Seconded by: Mr. Griffin.
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Ms. Naji-Taylor to promote Officer Lassiter to Class B Patrol Officer effective July 7, 2023. Seconded by: Mr. Curry.
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Ms. Naji-Taylor to approve Batch #6 of the Police Policy manual. Seconded by: Mr. Curry.
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Ms. Naji-Taylor to appropriate \$1,500 for National Night Out. Seconded by: Mr. Griffin
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Ms. Naji-Taylor to utilize Asset Forfeiture Funds up to \$15,000 to procure firearms.
Seconded by: Mr. Griffin.
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Mr. Griffin to approve park benches in Marlyn Park. Seconded by: Ms. Naji-Taylor.
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Mr. Griffin to approve cork boards in Hayes Park up to \$500. Friendly amendment to include Belmont Park up to \$1,000. Seconded by: Ms. Naji-Taylor.
Vote: Ms. Naji-Taylor – yes; Ms. Martsolf – yes; Ms. Young – yes; Mr. Curry – yes; Mr. Hover – no; Mr. Griffin – no.
Motion passes

Motion by Mr. Griffin to waive fee of 20CC for the American Legion on 11/11/2023. Seconded by Mr. Curry.
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Mr. Griffin to approve the Upper Darby Summer Stage advertisement at the Lansdowne Library from current date until August 7, 2023. Seconded by: Ms. Young
Vote: Unanimous

Motion by Ms. Martsolf to approve fifty-three street tree program signs made by Dandelion Digital not to exceed \$200. Seconded by Ms. Young
Vote: Unanimous

Executive Session

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 pm