

## Lansdowne Borough Council

### BUSINESS MEETING

October 5, 2022

### UNAPPROVED MINUTES

The Lansdowne Borough Council Business Meeting was held in person and virtually on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

President Hover opened the meeting and Mayor Byrne lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Members Present: President Hover, Mayor Byrne, Vice President Naji-Taylor, Ms. Young, Ms. Martsolf, Ms. Bowker, and Mr. Curry. Members Absent: Ms. James Also Present: Borough Manager Craig Totaro, Police Chief Kenneth Rutherford, Borough Engineer Kevin Matson, Borough Treasurer Ms. Donna Lang, and Mr. Robert Scott.

**Approval of Agenda** Ms. Bowker motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded: Vice President Naji-Taylor  
Vote: Unanimous with a friendly amendment of a presentation added

**Approval of Minutes** Vice President Naji-Taylor motioned to approve the minutes of the September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Business Meeting. Seconded: Ms. Bowker  
Vote: Unanimous

### Presentation

**Camellia Coffee House** Matt Saperstone, the owner of Camellia Coffee House came to present his business. The café will serve as a morning and afternoon coffee shop with locally roasted coffees and house-made pastries and other foods, serving exceptional coffee, tea, and local foods with a community-oriented approach. The café is open Tuesday to Thursday 7:30-3:00 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday brunch beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. They offer a competitive hourly rate with paid time off to their employees.

### Reports

#### **Solicitor Bob Scott –**

- There was not much to report. We are still waiting to hear when the hearing date is.

#### **Manager Craig Totaro –**

- Staining of the walls of Gateway Slope will happen October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> to complete the physical project.
- Grant closeout is ongoing.
- Work at the McKinley Tot Lot is expected to continue through October and be completed in early November.
- The SEPTA Trolley Modernization project contemplates extending the 34 Green-Line to at least Church Lane in Yeadon/Upper Darby.
- The Delaware County Greenways Grant application for construction of Veterans Parkway was submitted this week. Thank you to the American Legion 65 and the LEDC for thoughtful letters of support.

### **Police Chief Kenneth Rutherford –**

- There were 702 calls for the month of September.
  - 34 were burglar alarms.
  - 33 were motor vehicle accidents.
  - 18 adults were arrested. One juvenile was arrested.
  - 388 parking tickets were issued.
  - There were 111 motor vehicle violations.
  - Eight non-traffic citations were issued.
- This past week was a rough week for the high school. Chief Kenneth Rutherford is going to meet with the administration to help figure out a strategy. Some of the problems flowed into local businesses, including Wawa. There was a weapon and narcotics on school grounds. These problems will be addressed to the school to try to curb the behavior.
- Some of the parking signs are being installed. There are warnings being issued for violations. We are at a point where tickets will be issued.
- Unfortunately, we did not get the grants that Chief Kenneth Rutherford requested.

### **Engineer Kevin Matson –**

- The contractor and sub-contractor for the Road Program have completed the program. There are a few items that are still outstanding, but the bulk of the installations of the ADA ramps and the repaving of the streets have been completed.
- The borough submitted its required MS4 report in late September to be compliant with the state's mandate for the municipal separate storm sewer system requirements.

### **Fire Company Report –**

- For the month of September, the fire company report read:
  - Total alarms were 53
  - Year to date 543
  - Man hours 65 hours and 5 minutes
  - Firefighters responding on apparatus 2.7 average
  - Not on apparatus .8 average
  - Total average 3.4
  - In route time 2 minutes 44 seconds
  - Average arrival time 6 minutes 49 seconds
  - Average time on scene 29 minutes 2 seconds
  - Ambulance response year to date 1,291
- Major incident types for September:
  - Fires- 8
  - Rescue or EMS assist – 5
  - Hazardous condition- 9
  - Service call- 0
  - Good intent call- 22
  - False alarms- 9
- Weekly checks were complete and there were no defects found.

## Mayor's Report –

- It was great to see everybody out at the Free Fare that took place at the Landing. It is great to recycle and see our community helping each other.
- Open Sound wrapped up at the end of September. This was another great activity that takes place in the center of Lansdowne.
- Due to inclement weather Arts on the Avenue had to be cancelled. A special thanks to the LEDC, Susan Williams and our Councilmember Jayne Young.
- There are some great events coming up this month.
  - The Mayor's Clean Team will be out on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. to clean up the area around Gateway Slope. If you have some spare time, please meet us at the entrance of Gateway Slope and help us keep Lansdowne clean.
  - Traci's BIO will be hosting a Breast Cancer Awareness event on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in tandem with the Lansdowne Farmer's Market.
  - Lansdowne Friends is having their homecoming event on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bring your kids for fun, face painting, sing a long and a book fair.
  - On Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> the Lansdowne Presbyterian Church will be hosting their annual community day from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Some of our local crafters will be there with their goods as well a free flu shots and health screenings.
  - On October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m., Lansdowne Borough will be hosting a free concert with the world renowned Brazilian Bossa Nova group and famous Lansdowne residents-Minas! The concert is free, but you must sign up for a ticket on the borough website or Facebook Page.
  - The Annual Halloween Party will take place at the Landing on Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This is the last day of the Farmers Market. There will be a DJ and kids will get free trick or treat bags filled with goodies. Take your bags and do some trick or treating at the market.
- Mayor Byrne would like to give the Sycamore Award out at the end of October. This award will be given to Debra Van Dornick. Debra is very well known in the Buy Nothing Lansdowne Group.
- It was our understanding that a traffic study was done on Scottdale Road after the bike lanes were made. However, there was not. We would like to have a traffic study done after six months to see the effects of the bike lanes and traffic pattern changes in areas like Scottdale Road. President Hover was also asked to re-share his article on bike lanes in the next newsletter as a reminder of how the bike lanes came to be.

## President's Report –

- Although Arts on the Avenue was cancelled Council and the residents of Lansdowne recognize the hard work and dedication of the LEDC.
- Tomorrow, the last stages of Gateway Slope will be completed with the staining of the rocks. After this, we will be replanting some of the last plants due to the drought and erecting the boulder with the sign for the project.
- Last year at this time the Lansdowne Borough received \$100,000 from the Delco Greenways Fund to support the exploration of the feasibility of creating a pedestrian bridge across Darby Creek into Clifton Heights. This continues the vision of pedestrian and bikeways connecting

Lansdowne to the surrounding communities. The County has agreed to disburse the money and we are waiting on the county to sign the contract to begin the work.

- There will be a special meeting held on November 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss the final budget with the community and receive public comment before we vote in December.
  - Our goal for next year's budget is to retain the excellent services in Lansdowne in our Sanitation department and Police Department, increase investment in operations and continue with investment in projects to continue the economic development and improvements in quality of life for all residents in Lansdowne Borough.
  - Lansdowne Borough Council is working to enact no tax increases for the third year in a row.
- The members in our community of Italian Heritage are recognized and we note that October is the month of Italian American heritage!
- All of our community members who are teachers are recognized on World Teacher's Day!
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month is recognized in October!
- We invite all members of the community to the Beatles in Bossa Concert on October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 at the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club. The space is limited to 140 seats. Sign up while you can on our Borough's website or Facebook Page.

## **Old Business**

### **2023 Budget**

- The only update is the Cop Grant being denied.

### **Breast Cancer Awareness**

- It is important for us to keep in mind the number of people that could possibly come to this event. There are at least 75 volunteers, so there is not much we need to do. It is important for the community and the police to be aware of this event.

### **HLTC Construction Easement**

- This is going to be a nine-to-fifteen-month project. We are planning on getting an easement and will bring this up at the next council meeting.

## **New Business**

### **DCSWA Trash Fee**

- The draft budget presented to the board included an assumption that there would be no increase or decrease in tonnage from this year. The DCSWA based proposed increases on 5.4% increase in total DCSWA expenses including – Wages (5%), Contract hauling (14%), Covanta processing (+5%) overall, but down 5% YTD due to less tons delivered, and an increase in Host & DEP Fees of 946k.

### **Bird town Signs**

- Bird Town has changed its logo since the time when Lansdowne became an official participant.

- Bird Town PA is no longer directly tied to Audubon, PA. The Bird Town PA program is now part of the Pennsylvania Audubon Council, a sister 501-(c)(3) organization that focuses on Pennsylvania's specific environmental concerns. Because of this Bird Town created a new logo.
- Since Bird Town has a new logo, they have provided each of its participating towns with two new signs free of charge. They can be attached to metal poles with holes in them.
- Bird Town PA requires that the Borough Manager be present to receive the signs, but there is no requirement to use the press release or have a ceremony.

### **EAC recycling proposal**

- The EAC would like to see more recycling bins and do research with other towns to figure out some ideas on how to enhance recycling to our community. They are requesting permission to start a community education initiative focused on increasing resident participation in Lansdowne recycling program. They will target the recycling route that has the lowest participation and research the prospect of increasing public access to recycling bins in our business district and borough parkland.

**Public Comment** Vice President Naji-Taylor motioned to move into Public Comment. Seconded: Ms. Bowker

- Dale Harris resident of 79 Ardmore Avenue commented on recycling. Those that live in apartments that recycle are not accredited to the borough, so it is all residential.
- Will Giffin resident of 176 Blackburn Avenue thanked those who helped get our community out to register to vote for this upcoming election. He also agreed to help in anyway he possibly could with recycling.
- Suzanne McElroy resident of 200 Drexel Avenue commented on the preliminary budget, recycling and the new positions involved that was discussed at the preliminary budget meeting.

Vice President Naji-Taylor motioned to move into the action items. Seconded: Ms. Martsolf Vote: Unanimous

### **Action Items**

1. Vice President Naji-Taylor motioned to Authorize payment of bills for the period. Seconded: Ms. Bowker Vote: Unanimous
2. President Hover motioned to adopt Resolution 2022-38 regarding responsibility standards of Borough contacting and contractors. Seconded: Vice President Naji-Taylor Vote: Unanimous
3. President Hover motioned to adopt Ordinance 2022-04 setting a code of conduct for the Borough. Seconded: Vice President Naji-Taylor Vote:
4. President Hover motioned to adopt Ordinance 2022-05 establishing responsibility standards of Borough contacting and contractors. Seconded: Vice President Naji-Taylor Vote: Unanimous
5. Ms. Martsolf motioned to nominate candidate for reappointment to the Shade Tree Commission. Seconded: Ms. Young Vote: Unanimous
6. Ms. Martsolf motioned to nominate candidate for reappointment to the Shade Tree Commission. Seconded: Ms. Young Vote: Unanimous
7. Ms. Martsolf motioned to nominate candidate for reappointment to the Shade Tree Commission. Seconded: Ms. Young Vote: Unanimous

8. President Hover motioned to ratify Delco Greenways II grant agreement for ped-bridge feasibility study. Seconded: Vice President Naji-Taylor Vote: Unanimous
9. Vice President Naji-Taylor motioned to adopt Resolution in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Seconded: Ms. Martsof Vote: Unanimous

**Executive Session** Vice President Naji-Taylor motioned to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. Seconded: Ms. Young Vote: Unanimous

**Adjournment** Ms. Young motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Seconded: Ms. Bowker Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted

Hannah Pavlo

Borough Secretary