

January 18, 2023

The Business Meeting of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at Lansdale Municipal Complex, One Vine Street, Lansdale, PA and called to order at 7:04pm by President, Denton Burnell.

ROLL CALL:

- (X) Councilwoman Bollens
- (X) Councilman Breish
- (X) President Burnell
- (X) Councilman Carroll
- (X) Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton
- (X) Councilman DiGregorio
- (X) Vice President Fuller
- ( ) Councilman Ladley – personal matter
- (X) Councilwoman Currie Teoh
- (X) Mayor Garry Herbert

Borough Representatives:

Borough Manager, John Ernst  
Finance Dir, Glenn Dickerson  
Police Chief, Mike Trail  
Parks & Rec. Director, not present  
Electric Superintendent, Andy Krauss  
Public Works Director, not present  
Fire Marshal, not present

Borough Solicitor, Patrick Hitchens  
Borough Engineer, not present  
Library Director, Tom Meyer  
IT/GIS Dept., Kevin Kissinger  
Code Enforcement, Jason Van Dame  
WWTP Superintendent, Greg Rapp

Residents:

Rose Chapman – 316 W. Mt. Vernon Street

Agenda Item #5 – President’s Comments

**President Burnell** – An Executive Session was held earlier this evening regarding two separate personnel matters. There will be action taken later in the meeting.

Agenda Item #6 - Petitions

None

Agenda Item #7 – Presentations

1. **Lansdale Police Department 2022 Annual Awards** – presented by Chief Trail
  - This is our first in-person recognition ceremony since January 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our officers have adhered to their oath and continued to deliver uninterrupted police services to the community despite the great risk to their personal safety. The year 2020 during the pandemic was the year with the fewest number of our members missing work due to illness or injury.
  - First award, Meritorious of Service goes to all members of the Lansdale Police Department for their unwavering service to the community during the pandemic.
    - Years of Service Recognition - Officer George Johnson – 25 years
    - Certificates of Recognition – Sgt. James McVeigh and Ofc. Christian Gregory

- Iron Officer (no use of sick time) – Sgt. Jeffrey Mallozzi and Sgt. James McVeigh has never taken a sick day since being hired in 2018.
  - Meritorious Conduct Awards:
    - Sgt. Bubnis – 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
    - Emergency Management Coordinator – Rick Lesniak
    - North Squad – SEPTA bomb threat
    - Mallozzi Squad – Philadelphia murder suspect
  - Officer of the Year – Ofc. Hazel Bundy
2. **Business of the Month** - Lansdale Tavern by Pete Naber
- Buddy Harris and Julie Palermo purchased the Lansdale Tavern in early 2020 before the start of the pandemic. They made many interior changes to make the restaurant/bar brighter and more open concept and made the restaurant more food centered.
  - They were able to keep their business open and alive during the pandemic by temporarily changing up their business plan to do take out orders since they were not allowed to have indoor/in-person dining. They then switched to outdoor dining when allowed and created a comfortable, laid back setting in the back parking lot. Once they could have indoor dining, they continued take out dining and have been quite successful.
  - Revitalization happens slowly and then booms quickly. Lansdale Tavern is the definition of a neighborhood tavern and they are what you would call a traditional anchor restaurant/bar to Lansdale.
- Buddy Harris** – It was always Julie’s dream to buy Lansdale Tavern and it is such a part of who they are. They opened 72 days before the pandemic and even homeschooled their kids in the dining room so they could offer take out in the bar area. This place taught them who they are as a couple. It has been asked what is their identity and to them it is neighborhood and Lansdale. That is their identity. We want to bring good vibes and energy to the Borough.

Agenda Item #8 – Residents to be heard on any item

**Ms. Rose Chapman** of 316 W. Mt. Vernon St – Is there any ordinance about how long signs can be on someone’s front lawn and what is acceptable? The bricks on the Main Street sidewalks are shifting. Why are we going over single hauler trash again? Maybe it would be better if trash companies could pick up trash from the street instead of alleys or maybe have people take their trash to a public dump. Put it to rest that homeowners own the alleys. You always do improvements so take over for the residents and lower taxes.

**President Burnell** – If there are specific locations as to where you are seeing the signs please pass that information along so it can be addressed.

**Kevin Love** (AFSCME union rep) – Thank you to council and staff for the hard work put in during contract negotiations.

Agenda Item #9 – Action Items

**Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton** presented Motion A and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2022 which shows the expenditures listed on the attachments.

*Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.*

**Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton** presented Motion B and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the bills \$1,000.00 and over as per the attachment.

*Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.*

**Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton** presented Motion C and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the following meeting minutes:

Work Session: December 7, 2022  
Business Meeting: December 21, 2022

*Motion seconded by Councilman Carroll and unanimously approved.*

**Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton** presented Motion D and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 23-01 regarding the Borough of Lansdale Equal Rights and Opportunities policy.

*Motion seconded by VP Fuller and unanimously approved.*

**VP Fuller** presented Motion E and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the attached Parks and Recreation seasonal employee wage and salary schedule for 2023.

*Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.*

**VP Fuller** presented Motion F and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Payment #2 (Final) in the amount of \$31,382.50 to Recreation Resource USA for work completed on the Whites Road Park Pavilion.

*Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.*

**VP Fuller** presented Motion G and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize Remington & Vernick Engineers to prepare and advertise bid specifications for the Whites Road Park Facilities Improvements Project.

*Motion seconded by Councilwoman Currie Teoh and unanimously approved.*

**Councilman Carroll** presented Motion H and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the Manna on Main Street Annual 5K & 10K race on Saturday, April 29, 2023 from approximately 7:00am to 12:00pm with road closures (route on file at the Police Department) per the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee and the Special Events Committee.

*Motion seconded by VP Fuller and approve 7-0. Councilwoman Currie Teoh recused herself since she works at Manna on Main St.*

**Councilman Breish** presented Motion I and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Change Order #1 in the amount of -\$44,980.99 (reduction) for the 2021 CDBG N. Richardson Avenue Rehabilitation per recommendation of Remington & Vernick Engineers. This change order reflects adjustments to the scope of work including installation of Wrapid Seal around new sanitary manholes castings, storm pipe material changes, and inlet box modifications due to unforeseen field conditions, additional sanitary wye and lateral installation for future use at shared lateral locations, and modifications to existing manholes to facilitate the utility improvements as well as balancing the contract quantities to the actual field quantities.

*Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.*

**Councilman Breish** presented Motion J and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Payment #4 (Final) in the amount of \$48,451.53 to KBC Construction Company for work completed on the 2022 CDBG N. Richardson Avenue Rehabilitation per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick Engineers.

*Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.*

**Councilman Breish** presented Motion K and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Change Order #2 for the 2022 ADA Curb Ramp Replacement Program per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick. This change order reflects a one hundred- and eighty-six-day (186) extension of the contract time in order to accommodate the installation of concrete curbing. The date for completion of all authorized work is July 14, 2023.

*Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.*

**Councilman Breish** presented Motion L and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Change Order #1 for the Ridge Street Pump Station Electrical Upgrade Project per the recommendation of Keystone Engineering Group. This change order reflects extension of the completion date by an additional 262 calendar days due to the long lead time on the generator and its proposed shipment date of October 19, 2023.

*Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.*

#### Agenda Item #10 – Information Items

##### **Mayor's Report: Mayor Herbert**

1. On Thursday, January 5, in a professional capacity, I attended the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. I took note that multiple car manufacturers have now made the commitment to be producing only 100% EV cars by 2028. As you all know we are entertaining the possibility of, for the first time, allowing our publicly purchased power to be re-sold by third parties. Obviously, this adjustment to a massive volume of electric vehicles on our roadways and in our homes will dramatically challenge every community, but it will especially challenge municipal electric boroughs. I believe we are well positioned to plan ahead for this challenge and I look forward to continuing to understand how we can build a more resilient electric infrastructure to support this shift.
2. I would just like to thank all the officers tonight for their steadfast commitment to our community. Their actions and persistent aide to our borough is in-measurable in its impact. The investment of the new officers to our PD is absolutely going to help us

1/18/2023

Business Meeting

Page 4 of 6

become and even better place to live, work, and play by virtue of the hard work and training of the officers they will be working alongside.

**Solicitor's Report: Patrick Hitchens**

1. Communication and related follow-up work regarding land development matters. – Less than 1 hour.
2. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding litigation matters including tax assessment appeals and insurance related matters. – Approximately 3.6 hours.
3. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding miscellaneous Borough matters including personnel, code, real estate and compliance matters – Approximately 2.5 hours.

**Borough Manager's Report: John Ernst**

1. I had the privilege of joining Chief Trail and other community leaders this past Monday for a breakfast honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The breakfast was sponsored by the Ambler American Legion Post 769 named in honor of Penllyn native and African American Civil War volunteer Daniel W. Dowling. It was an honor to participate in an event that highlighted the diversity of the community and the important legacy of Dr King.
2. I am always please to talk about accomplishments of our staff, and this evening is no exception. Beginning in September, Borough employees from all different departments have participated in the Penn State Leadership Certificate program. This program offers seven, one-day classes on various aspects of leadership and management. The program is offered in partnership with Pennsylvania State University and our Insurance carrier – Delaware Valley Insurance Trust. The classes were offered here at Borough Hall and any open seats will filled by staff members of surrounding municipalities. Last week was the final course of the program and I'm proud to say that sixteen Lansdale staff members completed the certificate program.
3. You may have noticed that the Freight House Parking Lot continues to progress towards completion. The concrete curbing and entry aprons are in place. Lighting has been installed and the main areas have had a base coat installed and lighting has been put in place. The final 'finish' coat will be installed in mid-April when the temperatures overnight are more consistently above freezing. We're still working out if the lot will be available for limited use between now and final paving.
4. Reminder that the North Penn School Board will be meeting in Borough Hall tomorrow evening at 7:00pm. The agenda for the meeting has been posted on the doors entering the building for those interested in attending.
5. Reminder that the Borough will open at 9:00am (1 hour late) next Wednesday, January 25 so we can have our quarterly Staff meeting.

**Comments for the good of Council:**

**Councilwoman Currie Teoh** – Thank you to Chief Trail for the presentation tonight.

**Councilman DiGregorio** – Thank you Chief and the department for their hard work and dedication. Will the doors be open during the staff meeting for people to drop off their payments?

**Mr. Ernst** – Yes.

**VP Fuller** – Lansdale lost a steadfast community and business member, Georgette Koehler, last week. Condolences to her family.

**Agenda Item #11 – Old Business**

None

1/18/2023

Business Meeting

Page 5 of 6

Agenda Item #12 New Business  
None

*Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.*