

April 22, 2020

The Business Meeting of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 online via Zoom Meeting and called to order at 7:04pm by Council President, Denton Burnell.

ROLL CALL:

- (X) Councilman Angelichio
- (X) Councilman Breish
- (X) President Burnell
- (X) Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton
- (X) Councilman DiGregorio
- (X) Vice President Fuller
- (X) Councilman Henning
- (X) Councilwoman Currie Teoh
- (X) Councilman Work
- (X) Mayor Herbert

Borough Representatives:

Borough Manager, John Ernst	Borough Solicitor, Patrick Hitchens
Finance Dir, John Ramey	Borough Engineer, Chris Fazio
Police Chief, Mike Trail	Library Director, Tom Meyer
Parks & Rec. Director, Karl Lukens	IT/GIS Coordinator, Bryan Poster
Electric Superintendent, Andy Krauss	Code Enforcement, Jason Van Dame
Public Works Superintendent, Rick Delong	WWTP Superintendent, Dan Shinskie
Fire Marshal, Rick Lesniak	

Residents:

None

Agenda Item #5 – President’s Comments

President Burnell – This is the first business meeting we are doing online. State legislators passed a bill that allows us to hold the meeting virtually. Thank you to staff and first responders for your continued hard work during this trying time.

Agenda Item #6 - Petitions

None

Agenda Item #7 – Residents to be heard on any item

None

Agenda Item #8 – Action Items

Councilman Angelichio presented Motion A and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the Treasurer’s Report for the month of February & March which shows the expenditures listed on the attachment.

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilman Angelichio presented Motion B and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the bills \$1,000.00 and over as per the attachment for the months of February and March 2020.

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Councilman Angelichio – The sums for Amerigas seem high as well as the purchase of fuel oil since prices are so low right now. Can someone contact them to inquire about these costs? We should be able to negotiate a better price.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Councilman Angelichio presented Motion C and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the following meeting minutes:

Work Session: February 5, 2020
Business Meeting: February 19, 2020
Special Meeting: March 4, 2020
Work Session: March 4, 2020

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilman Angelichio presented Motion D and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 20-06 to extend the Borough's real estate tax discount period to May 31, 2020 and the Real Estate Tax face period to December 31, 2020 as a result of COVID-19.

Councilman Angelichio – This is a departure from what we discussed before in that we are extending the time to pay the full tax bill to December 31, 2020 with no penalties in addition to extending the discount period to May 31.

Vice President Fuller – This is reasonable and we should move forward with this. Ninety percent are paid through escrow accounts and will be paid on time anyway.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – This should be posted on social media so we can get the word out there.

Ms. Flynn (Communication Coordinator) – This will also be added to the May newsletter.

Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.

Councilman Angelichio presented Motion E and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 20-07 ratifying and extending the Emergency Disaster Declaration for Lansdale Borough.

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilman Angelichio presented Motion F and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare and the Borough Manager to advertise an ordinance to establish a property tax abatement program under the Local Economic Tax Act for certain deteriorated property within the Borough and the advertisement of a public hearing for consideration to make the property located at 117 S. Broad Street parcel no. 11-00-00956-00-5 eligible for local property tax abatement.

President Burnell – We will have to schedule the public hearing, we just don't know when yet.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Councilman DiGregorio presented Motion G and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to advertise a public hearing for the review and adoption of the Borough's Lansdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton presented Motion H and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 20-08 to voluntarily comply with the emergency order issued by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission prohibiting public utilities from terminating utility service during the pendency of the proclamation of disaster emergency proclaimed by Governor Tom Wolf in response to the pandemic of COVID-19.

Councilman DiGregorio – So we are not turning off power or putting limiters on right now?

Mr. Krauss – That is correct. And no penalties or late fees.

Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.

Vice President Fuller presented Motion I and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 20-09 to support the DVRPC Transportation and Community Development Initiative grant application.

Mr. Van Dame – This is a multi-municipality application to extend the Liberty Bell Trail that we are supporting. Most of our trail is complete. Upper Gwynedd and Hatfield are doing the bulk of this to get their trails done.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Vice President Fuller presented Motion J and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council retroactively approve Payment #1 in the amount of \$24,615.00 to Marino Corporation for work completed on the site work for the Lansdale Skatepark per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick Engineers, engineering consultants for this project.

Councilman Angelichio – Has there been any concerns from the public about safety of the construction site?

Chief Trail – No complaints to date.

Motion seconded by Councilman Henning and unanimously approved.

Vice President Fuller presented Motion K and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Payment #2 in the amount of \$126,219.74 to Marino Corporation for work completed on the site work for the Lansdale Skatepark per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick Engineers, engineering consultants for this project.

Councilwoman Currie Teoh presented Motion L and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare and the Borough Manager to advertise an Ordinance, amending Ordinance 985, to establish a Handicapped Parking Zone at 23 E. Sixth Street.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Currie Teoh presented Motion M and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 20-10 authorizing the submission of an application to PennDOT to expand an existing school zone to include a new driveway for Knapp Elementary School and install pedestal mounted flasher assemblies on Knapp Road and also authorize the Borough Manager to execute and submit the same.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – Is NPSD paying for this?

Mr. Ernst – Yes, they are.

Councilman DiGregorio – Could solar beacons be used?

Mr. Ernst – He will ask NPSD about that.

Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion N and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt Resolution 20-11 regarding the Montgomery County Community Development Block Grant.

Councilman Angelichio – Do we have the funds to do this grant? How much will it cost us?

Mr. Van Dame – We will pay the engineering fees and the utility work will be paid through the WWTP fund.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion O and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council award the contract for the Whites Road Flashing Warning Device to Carr & Duff, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder per the recommendation of Pennoni, Associates, Inc. engineering consultants for this project. This project is partially funded by a Montgomery County Transportation Program (CTP) Grant.

Councilman DiGregorio – When can the work begin?

Mr. Fazio – We want to get the paperwork all done so when the physical work can begin we will be ready. Some construction may be able to start as early as May 8 per the Governor.

President Burnell – Is there a contractual risk of we can't finish the project this year?

Mr. Fazio – No, because we will not send out the notice to proceed until we are sure the work can start.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion P and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council award the contract for the 2020 Liquid Fuels Microsurfacing Program - Base Bid and Alternate #1 to Marino Corporation, the lowest responsible bidder per the recommendation of Remington and Vernick Engineers, engineering consultants on this project.

Councilman Breish presented Motion Q and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council award the contract for the 2020 Liquid Fuels Mill & Overlay Program - Base Bid , Alternate Bid #1, Alternate Bid #2, Alternate Bid #3 and Alternate #4 to Harris Blacktopping, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick, engineering consultants for this project.

Councilman Angelichio – Is the curb work included in the bid?

Councilman Breish – We had planned for a public meeting, but we had to cancel to due the stay at home order.

President Burnell – Could we do a meeting virtually?

Mr. Ernst – The project is starting on Monday by NPWA. Social media will keep everyone updated.

Councilman DiGregorio – Please make sure that the contractor keeps their equipment and supplies secure as it doesn't look like they have been.

Mr. Ernst – As this is NPWA's contractor we are not able to make that request, it must come from them. But we will reach out to NPWA.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion R and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to enter into a four-year lease agreement with Bortek Industries, Inc., for a Global M3 Street Sweeper per Quote #Q0054040.

Councilman DiGregorio – Bortek will handle all maintenance?

President Burnell – Yes.

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion S and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 20-12 to temporarily display banners that will portray Lansdale Borough Veterans "Hometown Heroes" from approximately May 1, 2020 through November 12, 2020.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion T and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 20-13 to authorize an approval for cost sharing and reimbursement agreement by North Penn Water Authority for mill and overlay road work in the Norway Drive and Lakeview Drive area in conjunction with the 2020 Liquid Fuels Mill and Overlay Program.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion U and read as follows:

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

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion V and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council retroactively approve Payment #1 in the amount of \$177,284.94 to SJM Construction Company for work completed on the 2018 CDBG E. Third Street Improvement Project - Phase II per the recommendation of Remington, Vernick & Beach, engineering consultants for this project. This project is partially funded by the Montgomery County Community Development Block Grant Program.

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion W and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council retroactively approve Change Order #1 in the amount of \$28,241.91 (addition) for the 2019 ADA Curb Ramp Replacement Program per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick, engineering consultants for this project. This change order reflects adjustments to the scope of work due to the addition of concrete cheek walls.

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion X and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council retroactively approve Payment #2 (Final) in the amount of \$90,914.03 to Albert G. Cipolloni Jr. & Sons, Inc., for work completed on the 2019 ADA Curb Ramp Replacement Program per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick Engineers, engineering consultants for this project.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion Y and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council retroactively approve Change Order #1 in the amount of - \$104,517.42 (reduction) for the 2019 Liquid Fuels Mill & Overlay Program per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick engineering consultants for this project.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion Z and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council retroactively approve Payment #2 (Final) in the amount of \$118,063.43 to James D. Morrissey, Inc. for work completed on the 2019 Liquid Fuels Mill and Overlay Program per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick Engineers, engineering consultants for this project.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion AA and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council retroactively approve Payment #2 in the amount of \$24,138.00 to A. N. Lynch Co., Inc. for work completed on the Fire Alarm & Security Upgrades at the WWTP per the recommendation of Schiller & Hersh Associates, Inc. engineering consultants for this project.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion BB and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Payment #3 in the amount of \$14,113.80 to A. N. Lynch Co., Inc. for work completed on the Fire Alarm & Security Upgrades at the WWTP per the recommendation of Schiller & Hersh Associates, Inc. engineering consultants for this project.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Item #9 – Information Items

Mayor's Report: Mayor Herbert

1. Obviously, there have been no events or celebrations as of late.
2. Instead my time has been spent in regular meetings with Chief Trail, President Burnell, Vice President Fuller, Emergency Manager Rick Lesniak and Borough Manager John Ernst responding and keeping up-to-date on all the changes associated with the current pandemic. I would like to thank each of them for their time, passion and dedication to helping our community get through this challenge.
3. In addition, I would just like to thank everyone who has been staying home to help flatten the curve and thank everyone who has been supporting all the local businesses who are struggling at this time.
4. While the end date of this challenge cannot be predicted I am positive that Lansdale will be able to re-establish our local economy when it does finally end. Additionally, I believe we will continue to build a community that values our neighbors, our friends and remain forward thinking in how we will grow beyond this moment and into the future.
5. Sadly, office hours cannot be held at this time. So, if anyone would like to speak with me please email mayor@lansdale.org or call 215-361-8310.

Solicitor's Report: Patrick Hitchens

1. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding real estate matters – Approximately 4.0 hours
2. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding comprehensive plan and ordinance matters including DROP program, LERTA and business overlay. – Approximately 10.8 hours.
3. Communications and follow-up work regarding Borough personnel matters – Approximately 6.8 hours
4. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding electric department matters. – Approximately 1.6 hours
5. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding parks and recreation and code and zoning enforcement matters – Approximately 3.6 hours.

6. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work on various land development matters including 117 S Broad (Luxor), 700 Knapp Rd (Knapp Elementary), 1000 Cannon Ave (North Penn Business Campus) and 411 and 431 Church Sts. (Station Sq. at Pennbrooke). – Approximately 30 hours.
7. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding miscellaneous Borough matters including assessment appeals, municipal liens and right-to-know matters. – Approximately 11.5 hours.
8. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding COVID-19 matters – Approximately 20.7 hours

Borough Manager's Report: John Ernst

Manager's Report – 4/22/20

Department Workloads:

1. Electric:
 - a. Team 1 = general electric system maintenance and monitoring; fiberoptic run to 4th street pool and finished all splicing in the fiber ring to feed data both directions creating business continuity; traffic signal and street lamp repair/replacement.
 - b. Team 2 = has been working on scheduled tree work and line clearing also handling PA one calls.
2. Parks & Rec:
 - a. Parks Maintenance (Disinfecting Offices & Vehicles / Trash / Grass Cutting / Tree work / Preparing the pools to operate)
 - b. Recreation (Budget adjustments / Canceling postponing programs events / PRPS calls on Aquatics, Parks Maintenance, Camps / Webinars / Processing refund requests)
3. WWTP:
 - a. Televising sewer laterals for the construction project on Pennbrook Avenue, cleaning some sewer mains to maintain flows, and extra hours to prepare this month's state report. We are scheduling tank cleaning and maintenance for next week.
4. Public Works:

Storm inlet cleaning and repair; Repair potholes; Sanitary sewer lateral repairs; Street sweeping; Repair/replace street signs; materials ordered for replacement bridge at Knapp Elementary.
5. Fire Marshal:
 - a. Maintaining situational awareness locally, regionally and at the County level; assisted local long-term care facilities with obtaining personal protective equipment; communicating daily with yourself, department heads, fire company, ambulance and Jay Daveler through Incident Action Plans and Situation Reports
 - b. Working with Tracy to post public safety information to the website and Facebook page
 - c. Monitoring fire calls to determine whether follow up is needed as the Fire Marshal

Roadwork Update:

1. East Hancock Street will be detoured during working hours beginning today (4/22) between Church Road and North Wales Road for ongoing utility and road reconstruction.
2. The contractor for the NPWA has completed water main replacement work along Norway, Berberry and Lakeview Drives. They will now be moving to Knapp Road for water main replacement which will require Knapp Road to be detoured during working hours from Lansdale Avenue to Norway Drive – beginning tomorrow (4/23)

Stay at Home Extended:

The governor has extended the “stay at home” order through May 8, 2020. The Borough offices will remain closed through that time, but we are involved in discussion about how to begin to open the Borough offices for in-person business transactions.

Library:

Tom Meyer has asked me to share that we are currently in the midst of National Library Week as promoted by the American Library Association. Their slogan for the initiative was going to be “Find your place at the library,” but as most of the Country began to stay at home, the slogan has been changed to “Find the library at your place.” The Lansdale library has great electronic resources available for use from home and there are several online events that you can sign up for. Please contact Tom Meyer for further details.

Liberty Bell Trail:

We received word from Mark Bickerton that the Liberty Bell Trail has been awarded the “**2019 Project of the Year**” as selected and presented by ASHE Del-Val (Delaware Valley Section of American Society of Highway Engineers). This is a professional society that both Earl and I belong to that plays a significant role in the transportation engineering industry. This section covers Philadelphia and the Five County area.

Comments for the good of Council:

Councilman Angelichio – Thank you to those who have been reasonable in this unprecedented time. Safety, health and welfare come first in our community. We can’t rush to open things or have events too soon.

Vice President Fuller – On April 30 WNPV signs off for good. Thank you to Pete for all your years of service and good luck.

President Burnell – We hope to have a new Council member appointed on May 20 if we can have our meeting in person.

Agenda Item #10 – Old Business

None

Agenda Item #11 New Business

None

Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.