

January 15, 2020

The Business Meeting of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 in the Council Chambers, 1 Vine Street, Lansdale, PA and called to order at 7:01 pm 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, absent
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**

None

**Agenda Item #6 – Presentations**

**Business of the Month**

1. Swore in Rick Lesniak as the Borough’s Fire Marshal.
2. Chief Trail presented the 2019 police department awards to the following officers and staff:
  - Sergeant Richard Bubnis and Sergeant Adrienne Gori- September 27, 2019: In recognition of the successful completion of the FBI’s LEEDA Trilogy Training Program
  - 2019 No Sick Time – Sergeant Richard Bubnis, Officer David Pelzer, Detective Joel Greco, Sergeant Amanda North, Officer John Albany, Officer Corey Pfister, Officer Richard Kruppenbach, Officer Christian Gregory and Officer James McVeigh
  - **MERITORIOUS CONDUCT AWARDS**
    - November 13, 2019
      - Officer Hazel Bundy
    - September 9, 2019
      - Officer Scott Keeler
      - Officer Chad Bruckner

- Officer John Albany
    - Officer Christian Gregory
    - PSS. Ashley Perry
  - LIFE SAVING
    - July 28, 2019
      - Sergeant Adrienne Gori
  - AWARD OF MERIT
    - January 25, 2019
      - Officer Scott Keeler
      - Officer Timothy Cornelius
      - Officer James Owens
      - Officer John Albany
      - Officer Christian Gregory
      - Officer George Johnson
    - October 11, 2019
      - Officer Corey Pfister
    - October 19, 2019
      - Officer John Albany
      - Officer Christian Gregory
    - October 23, 2019
      - Officer George Johnson
      - Officer Richard McCarrick
      - Officer Scott Keeler
    - October 23, 2019
      - Detective Nicholas Oropeza
  - AWARD OF VALOR
    - July 5, 2019
      - Sergeant Daniel Gallagher
  - OFFICER OF THE YEAR
    - Officer James McVeigh
- 3. **Business of the Month** – Well Crafted Beer Company by Bruce Schwartz
  - Well Crafted Beer Company, at 310 Madison Suite B100, has been around for about a year and a half. But they've packed a lot of history and community involvement into that brief period.
  - A few years back, five majors in packaging science at Rochester (NY) Institute of Technology became friends and shared a love of beer. They got corporate jobs, worked a few years, and started to tire of the corporate life. One takes a sabbatical to get his brewers degree. Then the five — Nica Bellenger, Doug Bellenger, Joe Provo, Matt Bolton and Rick Solomon — seek the perfect location for their Well Crafted brewery.
  - They came to Lansdale – the basement of 311 Arts and the Masonic Temple – and somehow thought it'd be the perfect spot, despite the fact that it was a walk-down, a flight below street level, accessible not from Main Street but from Madison Street, with walled-off studio rooms and laminated tile flooring, as well as unfinished storage and HVAC areas.
  - Nica recalls that the place needed lots of work. They peeled back the floor tiles and scraped the glue by hand, sanded and refinished to get a uniquely patterned concrete look. They deconstructed the staircase to crane-lift tanks and equipment. The elevator allows them to bring in pallets of grain and supplies and remove heavy spent grain to send to a local farm for cattle feed. And, since the location was like a row house, installing a full kitchen with fryer, industrial oven and vent was problematic, so they opted for a menu focused more on lighter, healthier un-fried option. Well Crafted opened its doors in August 2018.

- They wanted a place where their own families would feel comfortable, and Nica's daughter, 6, and son, 3, come in with mom, play games, have lunch and dance to the music on weekend afternoons.
- While a third of their business is IPAs, you'll find light beers, dark beers, heavy beers and fruited sours. And then you'll find tastes like Tiger Tail, made with Frosted Flakes, Blonde Americano with Backyard Beans coffee and vanilla, and Cacao Caliente, with cacao (chocolate) nibs and just enough hatch pepper to give it a little zing.
- Many ingredients can condition beer, says Nica. Their most unusual to date: The Pea Flower, a Chinese herb similar to lavender. It turned the farmhouse saison bright blue, which was not quite the tone they were looking for. So they added lemon juice — and the acid turned the tone purple, and the taste into one of their fastest-selling beers.
- They added apricot to Friarhouse Blonde, one of several special brews to benefit local causes. Fairmount Fire Company, Knights For Life, the Lansdale Freight House, Manna on Main — Nica says it's important to support the local and larger community as they grow.
- The day after the first anniversary party last August, a leak from a water heater flooded Well Crafted. They closed for six weeks, particularly precarious for a young business. They needed to keep staff and their customers engaged, and friends and neighbors stepped up. They staged popups – spur-of-the-moment events wherever they could in Lansdale. Scent & Sip and the Underground hosted them, RG put their beers on tap, Michael Wister opened Smoke Daddy's doors to brews and music, telling them “my space is your space,” Stove & Tap gave their taps over to Well Crafted and Boardroom hosted a brunch popup.
- Their board has 16 beers on draft, and they have the capacity for 20. They make about 40 barrels — about 100 kegs — a month. They serve some 200 people on a typical weekend night. They already need to increase capacity and are bringing in more fermentation tanks next month. They want to serve more outside retail locations or open up a second location, or maybe both.

#### 4. **Bond Refinancing** – Ed Murray

- He is here tonight to discuss refunding the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2015 and the remaining 2014 and 2020 Bonds.
- The portion of the 2015, 2014 and 2020 Bonds will be below \$10 million which means the issue will be bank qualified . Bank qualified bonds typically receive lower rates than non-bank qualified bond issues and a more advantageous call date which is only 5 years rather than 8 or 10 years.
- The potential savings to the Borough is projected to be \$224,846.39 with a net present value of \$211,205.94 after paying all costs of issuance. It is not a huge savings, but still a savings.
- He will also look into bank loans again which the borough did last year to fund some infrastructure work and that worked out well.
- He will come back to Council in February with an approval resolution if Council so chooses to move forward.

**Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton** – Is it better to keep the 2010 bond and just pay it off and then issue a new bond for 2014 and 2015?

**Mr. Murray** – We won't be extending any of the bonds past than their original maturity date.

**Vice President Fuller** – If the timing is right then a \$224,000 savings is still a good savings.

**Mayor Herbert** – Now is the best time ever in 50 years to take on debt for the borough or anyone due to interest rates. Would this be a good time to borrow more money?

**Mr. Murray** – Now is the time to borrow money if you need to.

Agenda Item #7 - Petitions

None

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

None

Agenda Item #9 – 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 December which shows the expenditures listed on the attachment.

*Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton 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.

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

**Councilman Angelichio** presented Motion C and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the following meeting minutes:

Work Session: December 4, 2019  
Business Meeting: December 18, 2019

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

**Councilman Angelichio** presented Motion D and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 20-01 regarding the Borough of Lansdale Equal Rights and Opportunities policy.

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

**Councilman Angelichio** presented Motion E and read as follows:

I move that Lansdale Borough Council amend the start time of the monthly Work Session meetings to held on the first Wednesday of the month to 8:30pm pursuant to Section 9 of the Sunshine Act pa C.S. §709. Said meetings are to be held in the Municipal Complex at 1 Vine Street, Lansdale.

**President Burnell** – We are shifting the time of the Work Session in hopes to getting the reports out earlier to the residents that come to the meeting. Three committees will start at 6:30pm, the other three will start at 7:30pm. Code Committee and Electric Committee swapped times so Code will be at 6:30pm and Electric will be at 7:30pm. The Library Committee will

move back to the first Monday of the month at 6:30pm but will take place here in the Caucus Room.

*Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.*

**Vice President Fuller** presented Motion F and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Ordinance 1932 establishing an Environmental Advisory Commission and related qualifications, organization and powers and duties for said Commission.

**Councilman Angelichio** – Applications can be submitted for those interested?

**President Burnell** – Yes.

**Mr. Hitchens** – Council will appoint the Chair of the Commission after the applications have been submitted and the Commission members are seated.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Breish and unanimously approved.*

**Councilman Work** presented Motion G and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council appoint Richard Lesniak as the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator effective October 21, 2019.

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

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

I move that Borough Council authorize free parking at the on street meters after 4:00pm from February 3 through February 9, 2020 for Restaurant Week. Regular metered parking hours to resume February 10, 2020.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.*

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

I move that Borough Council approve Payment #1 in the amount of \$265,131.88 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 Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.*

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

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Ordinance 1933 approving an intergovernmental agreement that extends an existing agreement for the Borough's participation in the Wissahickon Creek Watershed and authorizing the appropriate Borough officials to execute the intergovernmental agreement.

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

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

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Ordinance 1934 approving an intergovernmental agreement with the North Penn Water Authority for road base repair work to be performed on the roadway in the Pennbrook section where North Penn Water Authority is completing water main and service replacements.

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

#### Item #10 – Information Items

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

1. Congratulations and thanks to all the dedicated officers in attendance tonight. Your service to Lansdale is central to our success as a community. To those who received awards, a special thank you for your passion and steadfastness in your career. Lansdale is better place to live, work, and play because of your actions.
2. On January 4th I attended Former Mayor Hugh Cullen's memorial services where his family and friends honored the life he lived and the passion he shared with all of us throughout that time. Hugh was elected Mayor of a Lansdale at 29, our youngest Mayor ever, and served faithfully and with passion from 1969 to 1973. After serving Lansdale, Hugh continued his dedication to service by becoming a volunteer firefighter in the community and remained at that post for the rest of his adult life.
3. For work I attend the Consumer Electronics Show. While at the show I had the opportunity to sit in on some conferences and seminars on city management and infrastructure by truly enlightening individuals who are trying to solve some of today's problems with tomorrow's technology. I am excited to say that advancements in smart cameras and artificial intelligence will allow us to solve a myriad of issues including traffic congestion, infrastructure maintenance, and water management. As we plan for our own future I ask council and staff to not just simply repair the infrastructure of the past, but help build the smart community of the future where we can become even more effective and efficient with taxpayer funds.
4. On January 11th a small group met to discuss the future of the Mardi Gras parade. I would like to thank all those who attended and helped make that meeting a success. Ensuring that the parade lives on after this year is extremely important and I look forward to meeting with the same group again in the spring.
5. Office hours are 9-5 on Tuesdays and 9-12 on Saturdays.

##### **Solicitor's Report: Patrick Hitchens**

1. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding real estate including easement matters at 308 S. Broad. – Approximately 2.0 hours.
2. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding WVWA intergovernmental agreement and requested extension/ revisions and cost sharing agreement with North Penn Water Authority– Approximately 3.0 hours
3. Worked on land development matters with staff including 431 Church and 117 S. Broad – Approximately 10 hours.
4. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up regarding liberty bell trail extension and DCNR grant requirements. – Approximately 2.0 hours.
5. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding 1000 Cannon Avenue (North Penn Business Center) and land development submission – Approximately 2.0 hours.
6. Worked with staff regarding Borough electric matters. – Approximately 3.0 hours.
7. Worked with staff regarding property assessment appeal matters – Approximately 2.0.
8. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding miscellaneous Borough matters including municipal liens, code enforcement, 2017 hazard mitigation plan/ adoption, right to know matters, and ordinance revisions. – Approximately 5 hours.

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

1. John Ramey was appointed to the Management Committee of the Montgomery County Tax Committee.

**Comments for the good of Council:**

**President Burnell** – The committee assignments for 2020 are:

Admin & Finance – Leon (Chair), Carrie and Denton

Public Safety – Tom (Chair), Mary and Meg

Code – Rich (Chair), Bill and BJ

Public Works – BJ (Chair), Leon and Tom

Parks & Rec. – Mary (Chair), Bill and Meg

Electric – Carrie (Chair), Rich and Denton

**Councilman Henning** – Tomorrow night, January 16, we will be holding a meeting here in Council Chambers, open to the public to hear feedback and give some ideas on planning the Borough's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Also, Restaurant Week runs from February 3 through February 9, 2020.

**Vice President Fuller** – She hopes that people will be come out tomorrow night as we will need a lot of volunteers for this event.

Agenda Item #11 – Old Business

None

Agenda Item #12 New Business

None

*Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.*