

March 17, 2021

The Business Meeting of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 online via Zoom Meeting and called to order at 7:07pm by Council President, Denton Burnell.

ROLL CALL:

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

Borough Representatives:

Borough Manager, John Ernst  
Finance Dir, Melissa Gemelli  
Police Chief, Mike Trail  
Parks & Rec. Director, Karl Lukens  
Electric Superintendent, Andy Krauss  
Public Works Superintendent, Rick DeLong  
Fire Marshal, Rick Lesniak

Borough Solicitor, Patrick Hitchens  
Borough Engineer, Chris Fazio  
Library Director, Tom Meyer  
IT/GIS Coordinator, Bryan Poster  
Code Enforcement, Jason Van Dame  
WWTP Superintendent, Dan Shinskie  
Asst. WWTP Superintendent, Greg Rapp

Residents:

Nancy Frei – Cypress Street  
Carol Zellers – 101 Elm Drive

Agenda Item #5 – President’s Comments

**President Burnell** – An Executive Session was held earlier this evening related to a personnel matter; there will be action taken tonight on the matter. An Executive Session will be held after the meeting related to two additional personnel items, potential litigation and a real estate matter. There will be no action this evening on those items.

**Mayor Herbert** read a proclamation to honor National Library Week.

Agenda Item #6 - Petitions

None

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

**Nancy Frei** of Cypress Street – She was surprised when passing by all the mud on the street near Oakland Avenue from a road project. She thought the roads needed to be cleaned after a day’s work. She also noticed that there were bills for the same company paid twice on the bills over \$1000.

**Carol Zellers** of 101 Elm Drive – She represents the Farmers’ Market and this will be there 13<sup>th</sup> season and their 5<sup>th</sup> season at Penndale. They will have 36 vendors which include 5 new vendors. They have developed a COVID safety plan similar to the one they had last year. They are very grateful for the borough’s support.

Agenda Item #8 – Action Items

**Councilwoman Currie Teoh** presented Motion #1 and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council of the Borough of Lansdale grant a conditional offer of employment with the Lansdale Police Department to James Thompson. The term "Conditional Offer of Employment" as used herein is as used and/or defined in the Borough of Lansdale Civil Service Regulations.

**Councilwoman Currie Teoh** – Thank you to the Civil Service Commission for all their hard work for us to be able to do this tonight.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Carroll and unanimously approved.*

**Councilwoman Currie Teoh** presented Motion #2 and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council of the Borough of Lansdale grant a conditional offer of employment with the Lansdale Police Department to Hazel Bundy. The term "Conditional Offer of Employment" as used herein is as used and/or defined in the Borough of Lansdale Civil Service Regulations.

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

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

I move that Borough Council approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2021 which shows the expenditures listed on the attachments.

*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: February 3, 2021  
Business Meeting: February 17, 2021

*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 21-07 regarding the Borough of Lansdale Equal Rights and Opportunities policy.

**Mr. Ernst** – Councilman Angelichio asked two weeks ago if there are any changes from previous years' resolutions. There are no changes as the language us fully up-to-date.

*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 21-08 to appoint the required Tax Collection Committee delegates for Lansdale Borough.

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

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

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 21-09 authorizing, empowering and directing the proper offices of the governing board to appoint a liaison between it and Berkheimer, the duly appointed collector of local taxes for the express purpose of sharing confidential tax information with the district for official purposes.

*Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.*

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

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 21-10 approving the application of the Westrum Development Company for Economic Incentives.

**President Burnell** – What tier will they qualify for?

**Mr. Ernst** – They are investing a lot of money, but will only have five full-time employees so they qualify for the 3% tier.

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

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

I move that Borough Council award the contract for the supply of five (5) 34kV Circuit Breakers to Siemens Industry, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder per the recommendation of Utility Engineers.

*Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.*

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

I move that Borough Council authorize the use of White's Road Park for the Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 4 from 7:00am to 9:00am by St. John's United Church of Christ subject to the Borough's receipt and approval of the required Certificate of Insurance.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Henning and unanimously approved.*

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

I move that Borough Council adopt the attached Resolution 21-11 authorizing the submission of a grant application for a DCNR 2021 C2P2 grant to provide funding for the White's Road Park Improvements.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Henning and unanimously approved.*

**Councilwoman Currie Teoh** presented Motion K and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the Lansdale Farmers' Market 2021 Season. The Market will be held on Saturdays from 9:00am to 1:00pm from May 15 through December 18, 2021 and will be located at Penndale Middle School located at 400 Penn Street. The organizers of the Market submitted a COVID-19 safety plan which was approved by the Public Safety Committee.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.*

**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 sections 370-5, 370-6, 370-7 and 370-35 of the Vehicles and Traffic provision to remove parking restrictions on a portion of Hemlock Street, add parking restrictions to the entire length of Broad Street and East & West Main Street during snow emergencies, increase the fine to \$50 for no parking violations during snow emergencies and amend certain definitions relating to snow emergencies.

**Councilman DiGregorio** – So this means we will ticket people \$50 for not moving their car? Are they warned first?

**Mayor Herbert** – The officers do verbally ask people to move their cars before they ticket them.

**Councilman Angelichio** – Will this be a scaled ticketing policy?

**Chief Trail** – Not at this time.

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

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

I move that Borough Council award the contract for the Columbia Avenue Rehabilitation - Base Bid, Alternate #1, and Alternate #2 to Joao & Bradley Construction, the lowest responsible bidder per the recommendation of Remington and Vernick Engineers. This is a joint project with North Penn Water Authority.

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

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

I move that Borough Council award the contract for the Laurel Lane Rehabilitation - Base Bid and Alternate #1 to Joao & Bradley Construction, the lowest responsible bidder per the recommendation of Remington and Vernick Engineers. This is a joint project with North Penn Water Authority.

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

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

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to purchase a 2022 Ford F-550 Chassis 4X4 Regular Cab through the Pennsylvania Costars Purchasing Program for Public Works. This purchase is on the Capital Improvement Plan and will be funded through Capital Reserves.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Henning and unanimously approved.*

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

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to purchase a J&J Light Duty Municipal Dump Body with salt spreader and snowplow from Triad Truck Equipment through the Pennsylvania Costars Purchasing Program. This purchase is on the Capital Improvement Plan and will be funded through Capital Reserves.

**Councilman Angelichio** – Just to clarify this motion is part of the prior motion to add to the chassis.

**Councilman Henning** – Are the plows regular or V plows?

**Mr. Ernst** – These are regular plows. The V plows will be a separate purchase for different trucks.

**Mr. Krauss** – These trucks are too big to plow alleys.

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

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

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to purchase a Sewer Equipment Co. Model 254-TK Truck Mounted High-Pressure Sewer Cleaner from Golden Equipment Company through the Pennsylvania Costars Purchasing Program for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This purchase is on the Capital Improvement Plan and will be funded through Capital Reserves.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Carroll and unanimously approved.*

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

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to purchase a 2022 Ford F-550 Chassis 4X4 Regular Cab through the Pennsylvania Costars Purchasing Program for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This purchase is on the Capital Improvement Plan and will be funded through Capital Reserves.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Carroll and unanimously approved.*

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

I move that Borough Council appoint Carole Farrell to serve a 4-year term on the Lansdale Planning Commission. This term is effective immediately and expires on March 31, 2025.

**Vice President Fuller** – Carole has been a regular attendee for many Borough meetings particularly the Planning Commission. She will definitely be an asset to the commission.

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

#### Item #9 – Information Items

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

1. On March 6th I attended the grand opening of a brand new Dunkin' Donuts located on Sumneytown Pike where they donated \$5,000 to Manna on Main Street to help combat the ongoing challenge of hunger in our community. We thank the owners and operators of this new Dunkin' and appreciate their support of our community.

2. On March 10th I attended the Borough's kick off call with Blue Sky Power where we discussed the future of power generation in the borough. I look forward to seeing how this project continues to develop and am excited by the energy and passion of both council and Blue Sky have brought to this new project.
3. I am extremely happy by the decision made by council tonight to extend offers to two new hires in our Police Department (PD). In particular, Officer Hazel Bundy has been an amazing asset to our PD. She has received awards for her performance and has shown time and again that she will greatly aide in making Lansdale a better place to live, work, and play. I deeply appreciate council's commitment and passion for helping grow our PD.

**Solicitor's Report: Patrick Hitchens**

1. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work on ordinance and resolution matters– Approximately 1.7 hours.
2. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work on various land development matters and potential land development – Less than 1 hour.
3. Communications with Borough staff and follow-up work relating to Right-to-Know Law matters – Approximately 8.5 hours.
4. Communications with Borough staff and follow-up work relating to tax assessment appeal matters – Less than 1 hour.
5. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding miscellaneous Borough matters including compliance/ legal updates, litigation, electric department matters, liens, and easement matters – Over 10 hours.

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

1. The Governor announced that he will relax the dining restrictions starting April 4. Because of this we will be eliminating the curbside pick-up ten minute parking.
2. A relief Bill that was signed by President Biden will allow the Your Way Home program to continue through December 31, 2021 for those in need. This program can help residents pay their electric bill. They can continue to apply through Manna on Main Street.
3. Congratulations to Carole Farrell on her appointment to the Planning Commission. He has been trying for years to get Carole to apply. She has always been an asset to the commission as a resident/audience member.

**Ms. Farrell** – Thank you.

**Comments for the good of Council:**

**Vice President Fuller** – Reminder that on Saturday, April 10 will be the Skatepark dedication to Carl Saldutti at 10:00am.

**Councilman Angelichio** – Remember that even though restrictions are being relaxed, we are still in a pandemic and masks are still to be worn.

**Agenda Item #11 – Old Business**

None

**Agenda Item #12 New Business**

None

*Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.*