

September 7, 2016

The Work Session of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at Lansdale Municipal Complex, One Vine Street, Lansdale, PA and called to order at 9:27 pm by Council President Denton Burnell.

ROLL CALL:

- (X) Councilman Angelichio
- (X) President Burnell
- (X) Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton
- (X) Councilman DiGregorio
- (X) Vice President Fuller
- (X) Councilman Hansen
- (X) Councilman Malagari
- () Councilman Van Dame – absent personal reason
- (X) Councilman Work
- (X) Mayor Szekely

Borough Representatives:

Borough Manager, Jake Ziegler
Asst. Finance Director, Brian McGowan
Asst. Borough Manager, John Ernst
Parks & Rec. Director, Carl Saldutti
Electric Superintendent, Andy Krauss
Public Works, Rick DeLong
WWTP Superintendent, not present

Borough Solicitor, not present
Borough Engineer, not present
Police Chief, Bob McDyre
Library Director, Tom Meyer
IT/GIS Coordinator, Ross Becker
Cust. Svc/Records Mgr., Pat Chapman

Residents

Ray Peacock – 920 Derstine Avenue

Agenda Item #5 – Committee Reports

Administration and Finance Committee – President Burnell

1. The committee reviewed the financial reports for this year and all is going well to date.
2. Discussed the proposed 2017 budget expenditures. Operating expenses are down a little from last year and expenses have gone up about 1.3% for the 2017 budget.
3. Motions to appear before Council at the next business meeting:
 - The Committee received 3 quotes for purchase and installation video equipment to record Council meetings. The lowest quote of \$26,592 from AVT will be the one the committee recommends to Council to accept. The Borough received \$29,000 in grant money from Comcast which will cover the cost of the equipment. The meetings will also be able to be viewed on public access channels through Comcast and Verizon FIOS.
 - Resolution to rebid and include additional items for the Municibid website to sell Borough owned property.
 - Motion to recommend preparing and advertising bid specs for single trash hauler in the Borough. By doing this we will get an idea of

what the true cost savings would be for residents. We do not have to accept the bids if we choose not to.

Councilman DiGregorio – The Admin & Finance Committee wants a single hauler for the Borough?

President Burnell – We want to investigate further the costs but we need to have bid specs done first.

Councilman Angelichio – How did this information get to the committee since he sits on the trash committee and didn't hear anything about this.

President Burnell – It doesn't mean that they only want single hauler. They are just trying to move forward in the process and incoming bids will give us a good starting point to work from.

Vice President Fuller – Are you going to open this up for public comment again?

President Burnell – I think that the business meeting is a great place for that particularly after we receive bids back from trash companies we can have public comment again.

Councilman Hansen – He agrees that we have to let the public know what is happening.

Vice President Fuller – When Council meetings are televised will there be parameters or regulations of what can be put on our public access channels?

President Burnell – We don't know that yet.

Councilman Angelichio – What is the projected timeline for Council to review the revenues for the budget?

President Burnell – Next month.

Code Enforcement Committee – Councilman Angelichio

1. Discussed guidelines for prior/during the sale of homes in the Borough. The committee is considering enacting a curb/sidewalk conditions check and house number visibility checks before a home can be sold.
2. Permits have been up the past month and citations are down. 52 citations were issued by this time last year and only 7 citations have been issued to date.
3. Discussed the 2017 budget expenditures.
4. Planning Commission – The Comprehensive Plan Task Force had a table set up at the Festival of the Arts and they received a lot of great ideas and feedback from residents.
5. Zoning Hearing Board –WB Homes is requesting a height variance for proposed stacked townhomes on Cannon Ave. Spartan Maple is requesting a variance for youth and parking

6. Public comment – A resident of W. 8th Street commented about an issue he is having. Parking issues with certain kinds of vehicles on Borough streets.

Communication Commission & Economic Development Committee – Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton

1. April Donahue from QNB was at the meeting and she said there is a possibility of QNB assisting with low interest grants for Main Street façade improvements for businesses.
2. Bruce McClellan of AVT reviewed their business proposal for video equipment. This would include training for four staff members.
3. New business for the month of August were El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant on Main Street, Ambitech, LLC on 5th Street and Brightway Insurance on Main Street.

Electric Committee – Councilman DiGregorio

1. Motions to appear before Council at the next business meeting:
 - Resolution to accept the investment grade audit and proceed with LED Street Light Program.
 - Purchase fiber optic cable to continue with connecting all Borough owned buildings to the municipal complex.
2. AMP Solar Power Program – discussed the Borough participating in this program. We can realize savings with solar power purchase and this will help increase the Borough portfolio.
3. The North Montco Tech School student started with the department on September 6. He is scheduled to work a couple of days a week with the crews and go to school the other days.
4. The 2016 budget is trending as it should year to date. Discussed the 2017 expenditures budget.

Councilman Angelichio – Kudos to Andy to have our linemen trained to install fiber optic cable so we don't have to bid out the labor for a cost savings to the Borough.

Library Committee – Vice President Fuller

1. No report since Library Board meeting was held prior to Work Session this evening.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Vice President Fuller

1. Discussed and approved a pool membership refund to a resident due to extenuating circumstances.
2. Manna on Main Street Human Chain event – Manna is forming a human chain to transfer food from their current location to North Penn Commons.
3. Motions to appear before Council at the next business meeting:
 - Approval to use White's Road Park for the 7th Annual Oktoberfest and Firkin 5K race.
 - Prepare and advertise bid specifications for construction of the Liberty Bell Trail.
 - Prepare and advertise bid specifications for the renovations to the grandstand at Weaver Field in Memorial Park.

4. Lunchtime concerts on Wednesdays in Railroad Plaza started today and will run throughout the month of September.
5. Our pools remained open through Labor Day even though school started August 30. We modified the weekday hours to 3:00-8:00pm for the last week of August.
6. Fall programs have begun such as Zumba and yoga classes. See the Borough website for all programs and pertinent information.
7. Founders Day was a huge success and the fireworks went off as anticipated.
8. The Festival of the Arts was well received and a profit was made this year. Usually the Parks and Recreation Department breaks even on this event.
9. October 7 is the next First Friday and the Chili Cook Off will be that night. The 2nd Annual Zombie Walk will be on Friday, November 4. More details to come.
10. There was a sanitary sewer issue at the Wissahickon Park Building. The crew from WWTP helped out the department with this issue.
11. Skate Park – Fourth Street Park will be the site of the new skate park. There will be a public meeting for residents and users in the near future.
12. Eagle Scout Nathaniel Maier will be presented with a proclamation at the next business meeting for the work he did on his Eagle Scout project. He created the stands and plaques that tell the history of the cannons in Memorial Park.

Public Safety Committee – Councilman Work

1. A handicapped parking request for 491 Franklin Street was denied by the committee. There is adequate off street parking.
2. Signage has been added to Fourth and Line Streets to make the pedestrian crossing there more visible to motorists.
3. No parking signs were removed from W. Sixth Street.
4. Motions to appear before Council at the next Business Meeting:
 - Prepare and advertise an ordinance re: no parking on side of Mitchell Avenue between Main and Mill Streets.
5. A draft copy of the Special Events ordinance will be sent to all of Council to read and review. This is something that staff has been working on for over a year.
6. Discussed commercial vehicle parking on Borough streets such as RV's. The current ordinance is out of date and needs to be updated.

Chief McDyre – PennDOT has 25 classes for vehicles in their code. The Borough only lists two classes in our code so we need to update to match the State.

Councilman Angelichio – We will need to take in consideration what vehicles we will restrict. His personal vehicle, a truck, could be deemed in a class that would be restricted if we don't look at the classes closely and what people have as personal vehicles.

Vice President Fuller – If RV's are parked on the streets, please continue to contact the Police Department so they can send a warning and then cite the vehicle if they have to.

Public Works Committee – Councilman Malagari

1. Motions to appear before Council at the next Business meeting:
 - Change order for the Perkiomen Avenue road project in the amount of \$7,684.37. Some residents had the Borough hire a contractor to replace their sidewalks. When they pay the Borough we will get the money back that we paid in this change order.
 - Payment #5 (final) for the Perkiomen Avenue road project in the amount of \$204,278.64.
 - Bid award for snow plowing with drivers to PK Moyer & Sons.
2. Crestview Rd/Derstine Ave project should start in the beginning of October per the contractor, SJM Construction Co.
3. Mr. DeLong will be meeting with PK Moyer to create the list of roads that will have patch paving done in the next couple of weeks. The department is looking the area of Hancock Road, Cherry Street, Church Road, Pennbrook Avenue, etc. A list when completed will be sent to Council.
4. Knapp Road bridge- The committee has decided to get proposals on wayfinding signage and see how that works before going any further with this item.

Councilman Hansen – It is a safety concern on Knapp Road. The sidewalk is only three feet wide and it could be a safety issue for children walking to school. Put a pedestrian bridge on the other side of the current sidewalk.

5. WWTP – Thirteen out sixteen municipalities have signed the Wissahickon Creek TMDL agreement so far. The other three municipalities will be meeting later this month and are expected to sign.
6. GIS Pavement Management – Justin Smith, GIS Coordinator gave a presentation to the committee on their pavement management system. This program rates the roads and keeps track of when they were paved or had area repaved. There is an interactive link on the Borough's website for all to view.
7. Discussed the 2017 budget.
8. The COSTARS salt price dropped in price for this year by \$4 per ton.
9. A question was posed as to whether the Borough can and should do its own road repair and paving projects. We are limited in what we can do because of not the right equipment or enough staff or training. This is something to possibly consider for the future. Would it be more cost effective for the Borough to do in-house versus bidding these projects out to contractors?

Councilman Angelichio – Can we solicit contractors to bid on the snow removal bid?

Mr. Ziegler – We can talk to contractors but they have to bid. Smaller companies don't have equipment large enough and large companies go after larger projects as the Borough is too small a job for them.

Councilman Hansen – Why don't we tar and chip roads anymore?

Mr. Ziegler – That can be a good procedure but the tar can bleed through the chips and get on cars and get on people's shoes which they end up tracking into their homes, etc. and it is really difficult to remove tar.

Agenda Item #6 – Announcements

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – The Fairmount Fire Company’s golf outing is Saturday, September 17.

Councilman Malagari – The North Penn Mosque Community Day is Saturday, September 17 from 11:00am to 5:00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Councilman Angelichio – The Egyptian Church in Hatfield is holding their festival and their new church on Unionville Pike September 10 and 11 as well September 17 and 18.

Vice President Fuller – Cruise Night is Saturday, September 17 on Main Street. She would also like to express her condolences to Rose Chapman, a regular council meeting attendee, on the loss of her husband. She can’t thank enough Borough Department Heads and staff, the Founders Day Committee, the Police Department, Public Works crew, Parks & Rec. crew and countless volunteers that helped make this year’s Founders Day the huge success that it was.

Mayor Szekely – North Penn Commons is near completion and he wanted to ask Council if they would give permission for the Borough to make a one-time donation of \$150,000 to North Penn Commons.

President Burnell – He will be asking the fire department, the historical society, Discover Lansdale, etc. to do brief presentations on their organizations and financial accounting since we contribute to each of them at a future Council meeting.

Agenda Item #7 – Public Comment

Mr. Peacock of 920 Derstine Avenue – He and the residents on Derstine Avenue have an issue with a motor home that is parked on their street. It has parked near the corners of roads and it is difficult to see around it when trying to make a turn. Plus, it is too large for the narrow Borough streets particularly when a car is parked on the opposite side of the street. Emergency vehicles would never get through. This is a safety issue to all residents and visitors to Lansdale. He hopes that Council can look into how to get these vehicles off the streets.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45pm