

January 18, 2017

The Business Meeting of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 in the Council Chambers, 1 Vine Street, Lansdale, PA and called to order at 7:04 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
- (X) Councilman Van Dame
- (X) Councilman Work
- (X) Mayor Szekely

Borough Representatives:

Borough Manager, Jake Ziegler  
Finance Dir, John Ramey  
Asst. Borough Manager, John Ernst  
Parks & Rec. Director, Carl Saldutti  
Electric Superintendent, Andy Krauss  
Public Works, Rick DeLong  
WWTP Superintendent, absent

Borough Solicitor, Sean Kilkenny  
Borough Engineer, Chris Fazio  
Police Chief, Robert McDyre  
Library Director, Tom Meyer  
IT/GIS Coordinator, Bryan Poster  
Cust. Svc/Records Mgr., Pat Chapman

Residents:

Ann Malaxisin – 111 Beechwood Avenue  
Paul Stinson – 111 E. Sixth Street  
Lisa Allen – 1009 E. Main Street  
Ed Cole – Sixth Street  
Rose Chapman – 316 W. Mt. Vernon Street  
Dennis Fickert – 635 Hill Drive  
Robert Willi – 711 W. Fourth Street

Agenda Item #5 – President's Comments

**President Burnell** – An Executive Session was held earlier this evening related to potential litigation. There will be action taken at tonight's meeting and will be done during action items.

Agenda Item #6 – Presentations:

**District Justice Ed Levine**

- Judge Levine's jurisdiction consists of Lansdale Borough, Hatfield Borough, Towamencin Township and the northern part of Hatfield Township.
- His courtroom is very busy and he has four full-time employees and one part-time employee. His Court is the in the top third of all aspects of civil, criminal and landlord/tenant cases.
- He heard 5,335 cases of all above genres in 2016.
- Traffic cases are down 11% from 2015 and civil cases have decreased in 2016 as well. However tenant/landlord disputes have increased from the prior year.

- Crime in all of the municipalities he serves is about the same. Lansdale’s criminal cases have decreased steadily every year and he thinks that the Lansdale Police Department works very hard with their citizens to resolve issues before they get to his courtroom.
- He also wants people to know that it is incorrect that police officers must hit a quota of tickets each month, that’s just not true.
- Judge Levine has participated in the Borough’s Civics 101 class twice so far and will be doing so again in March. He has had a good turnout for his class.
- He also talked about the heroin epidemic and how it is a big problem in all communities and it takes a community to help those addicted. There is no one to blame. It is a serious problem.
- He also assigns community service to offenders so if anyone has any ideas for community service to please contact his office.
- He does conduct video participation for those held at County jail. This program saves officers time and resources so they do not have to transfer inmates back and forth to his court and the County jail.

**Business of the Month – Lansdale UFC Gym presented by Ray Liberto**

- Larry Mays opened the UFC Gym in February of 2014 and has built up a membership of over 500 members today. They offer anything from lifting weights and cardio equipment, group boxing and kickboxing classes to personal training along with Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) classes. If you are looking to challenge yourself this is the place to start.
- Larry has assembled a great team of coaches that will welcome you in to the UFC Family here in Lansdale. It’s truly a no judgment zone and everyone feels welcomed from the first class they take. Their motto is “Train Different” and train different you will, getting and staying healthy.
- The UFC Gym has been involved with the community from the start, being a Member of the PennSuburban Chamber, a vendor at First Fridays and Lansdale Day each year. They also open their doors to the Future Soldier Program that lets the Army Recruiters train the recruits when the weather is bad to ensure they stay the course. Fundraising is another big part of the UFC Gym’s mission. With the help of the Coaches they run food drives for Manna, collections for Soldiers at Walter Reed and Glow in the dark boxing where people donate money and the proceeds go to a local charity.

**Mr. Mays** – Some people are intimidated about coming into the gym because they think it is a fight gym but it is really a fitness gym. Their theme is “Get Fit Not Hit” and “The Biggest Loser” contest is going on in January with participation of local businesses.

**Tiffany Bobb** (Gym Manager) – People think that they need fighting experience to be a part of the gym, but you don’t need experience. In fact, most people do not and they become addicted to the work out.

**Agenda Item #7 – Petitions**

None

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

**Ann Malaxisin** of 111 Beechwood Rd – In regard to single hauler trash pick-up will there be a senior citizens discount? She is concerned that seniors will be lumped in with family pricing since most seniors do not produce much trash. She negotiated with her current trash hauler to get a better price and won’t be able to do that with single hauler trash. Also, leaf collection is an issue within the Borough because the leaves are picked up too early. Most of the trees have not lost their leaves by the time of the scheduled pick-up. Another thing, will a single hauler take bulk items for free? She likes the competition between trash haulers. Why does the

Borough not have discounts for seniors on any of their services. She pays NPWA for her water and then pays the Borough for it go down the pipes.

**Mr. Fazio**, Borough Engineer – Leaf collections and bulk collection will be included in the cost to the resident. Right now we are putting this out to bid so we can get pricing for Council to make an educated decision as to whether to move forward or not.

**Paul Stinson** of 111 W. Sixth Street – He and some of their neighbors do not like the eight or nine trucks that drive through their alleys. They would prefer a single hauler for the Borough.

**Lisa Allen** of 1009 E. Main Street – She has worked for trash companies in the past and she can help explain some of the ins and outs. For example, you are not only paying for trash pick-up you are paying for the drivers, the trucks, etc. You need to have people who know what they are doing when they are driving those large trucks. She did not notice a list of standard services on the website. If residents don't like so many trucks going down their alley they can always get together and agree on one hauler for their block. Her current trash agreement allows her to have bulk and yard waste pick-up whenever she wants. Will there be any extra fees? There is nothing online about that.

**Mr. Fazio** – Everything that Ms. Allen mentioned is in the bid spec and the haulers can't raise their fees during the year. What is on the website is a much smaller document than the entire bid specification.

**Mr. Ed Cole** of Sixth Street – He moved to Lansdale in 1957. Twenty-five years ago we went through a single hauler and it was a disaster. When you take away competition you take away service. He does not want a single hauler again.

**Ms. Chapman** of W. Mt. Vernon St. – Not everyone has an alley in the Borough and maybe trash can be picked up on street side. Also, she would like to clean up the cemetery.

**Mr. Dennis Fickert** of 635 Hill Drive – What about container size for trash. Would the cans be one size or would we have a choice?

**President Burnell** – In the bid, containers are one size.

**Mr. Fickert** – Right now we can put yard waste in our trash cans and we don't have to separate like how the bid says to separate yard waste.

**Mr. Fazio** – separating organic waste is a state law and that is why it is in the bid that way.

**Mr. Fickert** – The construction that is currently going on Crestview has caused road damage to Knoll Drive because of the big construction vehicles. Those vehicles have caused more damage in two weeks than the trash trucks have in 6 months. There has been no preventive maintenance to Knoll Drive in thirty years.

**Councilman Hansen** – There has been a lot of talk about leaf pick-up. Rose Chapman has mentioned many times a leaf vacuum truck would be a great addition.

**Councilman Malagari** – We can put on the Public Works agenda regarding a leaf vacuum truck.

**Robert Willi** of 711 W. Fourth Street – A vacuum truck would not work well because of all the cars parked on the streets all the time. Each homeowner would have to be notified of pick up

dates and times and people on his block don't even move their cars for snow alerts so they won't move for leaf pick up.

**Rita Reuben** of 327 E. Sixth Street – She would like to invite Council to see the park and see how 10,000 square feet of concrete will take away from the park. Also, they had a water main break yesterday and NPWA came out so quick to fix it and she knows that they had to coordinate with Lansdale Electric and Police. She just wanted to say thank you.

**Vice President Fuller** – Parks and Rec. Committee will not be in the position to make a recommendation to Council on the Skate Park location at the next business meeting. They are still gathering information and may have another separate public meeting.

Agenda Item #9 – Action Items

**Councilman Van Dame** presented Motion #1 and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the Council President to execute the attached letter waiving a conflict of interest to allow Obermayer, Rebmann, Maxwell & Hippel, LLP to represent Univest Bank and Trust Co. in the drafting and negotiation of loan financing documents to the Borough to the extent stated in the attached letter.

**Mr. Kilkenny** – Obermayer is working with Univest as the solicitor for the financing of the DVRPC Street Light Program and he sometimes works for the Borough as bond counsel so that is the reason for this motion.

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

**Councilman Van Dame** 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 Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.*

**Councilman Van Dame** 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 Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.*

**Councilman Van Dame** presented Motion C and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the following meeting minutes:

Work Session: December 7, 2016  
Business Meeting: December 21, 2016

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

**Councilman Van Dame** presented Motion D and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council award a three (3) year contract for the Turf Maintenance at Borough owned properties to Biase Landscaping, LLC, the lowest responsible bidder.

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

**Councilman Van Dame** presented Motion E and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 17-01 which authorizes the Assistant Borough Manager to execute documents on behalf of the Borough when the Borough Manager is unavailable or inaccessible and thus unable to sign documents.

**Mr. Ziegler** – Sometimes I am unavailable to sign documents so this motion allows the Assistant Borough Manager can sign, particularly for Motion F.

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

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

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 17-02 approving, subject to the Borough Solicitor's review and approval, revised agreements for the DVRPC Regional Streetlight Procurement Program, and authorizing the execution of any and all documents required to participate in the DVRPC Regional Streetlight Procurement Program.

*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 purchase through the Pennsylvania Costars Purchasing Program (#777034) an AltecModel #DB37 rear yard machine in the amount of \$131,850.00. This item will be purchased through the Capital Reserves Fund.

**Councilman DiGregorio** – This machine is an advantage as it can get into fenced yards to replace electric poles. It also has jackhammer hydraulics and has a bucket on it to for high work.

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

**Councilman Work** presented Motion H 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 located at 1032 Poplar Street.

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

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

I move that Borough Council authorize payment #1 in the amount of \$144,399.60 to SJM Construction Company for work completed on the 2016 Roadway & Utility Rehabilitation Project per the recommendation of Remington, Vernick & Beach, engineering consultants for this project. This project will be funded through the Capital Reserves Fund.

*Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.*

#### Item #10 – Information Items

#### **Mayor's Report: Mayor Szekely**

1. He attended the International Spring Festival dinner on January 11. It was a well-attended evening. The Festival is on April 22<sup>nd</sup> this year.

2. Lansdale was voted the best in Philly.com as Best in Philly area for our park systems.
3. A few landlords and businesses have reached out to him wanting to know how to make Lansdale a better place and attract business. He pointed them to the EDC meetings and the Citizens for the Revitalization of Lansdale Facebook page. Part of the reason that crime has gone down in Lansdale is that three problem bars were shut down the last few years.

**Solicitor's Report: Sean Kilkenny**

1. Assisted with the items on tonight's agenda related to the DVRPC Street Light Program.
2. Working with Lansdale Hospital on the needed easement agreement for the Ridge Street Pump Station project.
3. Is drafting an ordinance for medical marijuana. This is something that all municipalities are working on. Zoning approval will be needed when the Borough receives an applicant. A dispensary would be similar to a pharmacy.
4. Working with staff and WB Homes on the Penn Square agreements for financing and utilities.
5. Attended the closing of 311 W. Main Street.

**Borough Manager's Report: Jake Ziegler**

1. We are starting to work on the design of the East Main Street Streetscape project. Surveying will need to be done and letters will be sent to businesses and residents before the surveying is completed.
2. Derstine Avenue residents will receive notification soon for the sanitary sewer work that will be done on their block.

**Comments for the good of Council:**

**Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton** – Civics 101 class is on Legislation is on January 31, 2017 7:00-9:00pm.

Agenda Item #11 – Old Business

None

Agenda Item #12 New Business

None

*Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.*