

July 3, 2019

The Work Session of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at Lansdale Municipal Complex, One Vine Street, Lansdale, PA and called to order at 9:15 pm by Council President, Denton Burnell.

ROLL CALL:

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

Borough Representatives:

Borough Manager, John Ernst

Finance Director, John Ramey

Police Chief, Mike Trail

Parks & Rec., Karl Lukens

Electric Superintendent, Andy Krauss

Public Works, not present

WWTP Superintendent, Dan Shinskie

Borough Solicitor, not present

Borough Engineer, not present

Library Director, Tom Meyer

IT/GIS Coordinator, Jen Ames

HR Director, Nancy Shaw

Code Enforcement, Jason Van Dame

Residents

None

An Executive Session was held regarding a personnel matter from 9:17pm to 9:31pm. No action to be taken.

Agenda Item #5 – Committee Reports

Administration and Finance Committee – Councilman Angelichio

1. **Financials YTD** - We are looking good so far through the end of May 2019 and revenues are up \$189,000, or 3%, and expenses are up \$165,000, or 4%. Revenue was budgeted at 4% and expenses at 5%. Year- to-date for the Borough we are at 65% for revenues and 33% for expenses for the budget. Last year we were at 64% and 34% for the budget which was expected and planned. Tonight, we are looking at the base value of property tax for 2019. This is the face value and it's not what is received because of the 2% discount. We have \$41,600 more billed without a tax increase and assessment. At this point in 2018 we collected 91% of face value taxes and also at 91% this year for 2019.
2. Motions to appear before Council at the next Business Meeting:
 - Resolution for disposition of Borough records; this is done annually.
 - Ordinance for refinancing of the 2014 General Obligation Bond. Potential savings could be up to \$700,000 in savings.

3. **2020 Budget** - We are still moving forward and we had a good meeting today to go over capital and a Capital plan moving forward. We will have a document for the Business Meeting in August for Council to review.
4. **Elm Terrace Electric Incentive** - Coming out of EDC is the Electric Incentive for Elm Terrace Gardens. They qualify for the 10 years at 10%. Their average bill is \$38,000 and the savings is \$3,800 and are looking for \$461,000 back over 10 years which includes \$50,000 in permits fees. They made a huge investment of \$14 million here in Lansdale.
5. **Alley Maintenance Program** - The Borough did undertake a routine alley maintenance program which it stopped 5 years ago because of legality and lawsuits. Since we stopped, our complaints by residents have multiplied. Now with no maintenance, we have trip and fall hazards. The liability was there before when we did maintenance. We are not taking on anymore or any less liability if we start this again. Talking to the Public Works Director regarding the staffing and the crews spending their time on this was a scheduled workday investment of time that was budgeted into. The cost of material and 2A stone dropped into the alley. Having conversations with Public Works that we may have enough stone to scrape and level. This would level out the surface. Electric needs to use alleys, trash trucks drive down, Amazon deliveries and vehicular traffic all puts wear and tear on our alleys. Here we are looking at starting a program. This is a summer maintenance program and we could do 1.5 to 2 alleys per day of scrapping and rolling.
Councilman Hansen – He has seen alleys in other municipalities and theirs are in awful condition as well. We should get back to maintaining the alleys.
Councilman Angelichio – Alleys are a right of way for emergency vehicles and some homes front the alley. It is something we should explore further.

Code Enforcement Committee – Councilman Hansen

1. Motion to appear before Council at the next Business Meeting:
 - Mattero Recycling annual license renewal.
2. Permit statistics - For the month of June, 85 applications received and 72 permits processed. This is an 31% increase year-to-date.
3. Funds from the Façade Improvement Program made available to the Dresher Arcade. Improvements have begun to the Dresher Arcade on the Madison Street side.
4. Lansdale Apartments are making excellent progress despite the extremely wet weather during the month of June. Courtyard area work underway and is nearing completion.
5. Modern Male Barbershop on W. Main St. held their grand opening in June.
6. Montgomery County Zoning Officers will be hosted here at Borough Hall on July 12.
7. Staff review of a model ordinance along with State regulations has determined that creating an Ordinance for the regulation of Honeybees would not be more effective than what is being done for existing situations. Staff suggests education detailing the benefits of honeybees with the hope this will help to aid in reducing fears. In addition, Mr. Van Dame is collecting the information of the local beekeepers to compile a list for assistance to help aid in the event a situation should arise.
8. Continuing discussion regarding a revision to the Emergency Management Ordinance.

9. Discussion regarding adding smoke from recreational fires as a nuisance condition is under review. This complaint has become difficult to regulate and bring into compliance with the recently adopted 2015 International Fire Code.

Economic Development Committee – Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton

1. There was further discussion on the Façade Improvement Grant applicant on Courtland Street for a multi-residential unit within in the commercial district which ultimately was decided it did not fit the scope of the program's intent.
2. New business welcomed in May were:
 - Blue Mountain Wellness at 415 West Main Street
 - Allan Myers Inc. at 229-231 South Broad Street
3. Marketing brochure for businesses - The Committee decided to move forward with a gatefold marketing piece that existing businesses will be able to take with them to conventions, fairs and other events to help market the Borough's business climate.
4. Potential funding opportunities through the Keystone Opportunities Program, which is a part of DCED, and help by offering potential funding to the Borough may be available soon. This program requires the Borough to make a five-year commitment to the program, which includes matching funds from the Borough, so we need to get all those details before making any decisions.

Electric Committee – Councilman Henning

1. **EV Charger Rebate Program** - The Borough is happy to announce that five (5) electric vehicle chargers are now available to the public. All the final paperwork has been submitted and approved to receive our rebate of approximately \$43,016.25.
2. **EV Vehicle Purchase** - We received grant money to purchase three (3) electric vehicles. We are waiting on pricing from the manufacturer and have until November of 2019 to use the grant money.
3. **Richardson Substation Update** - The department has been working hard to get the new Richardson Substation online and serving the 1000 plus customers that this unit encompasses. We hope to have this project completed by mid-August.
4. A full capital plan and assessment is being completed by the entire Borough and we hope to have a detailed document to full council by mid-August.
5. **Department Operations** - We discussed tree trimming, substation maintenance, the Madison Apartment Project, the multiple summer events that take place in Lansdale and the NPWA Hillcrest Water Tank demo/reconstruction progress. We will start to collect fees using the Utility Pole Attachment Audit that we have been working with Adtell to develop.
6. We should be roughly at 41% for both revenues and expenditures at this time. We are at 37% of revenue, which is where we were this time in 2018. On the expense side, the department is currently at 39% expenditures versus 40% at the same time last year. These numbers show that we are right on track with our budget for 2019.
7. The committee spoke briefly about 1CP versus 5CP days. These coincidental peaks set our transmission and capacity rates on an annual

basis. If we can hit the 1CP peak for the year, we could possibly save money on transmission. We would like to encourage the community to band together and try to hit at least 1CP peak when notified by the Borough.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – How did we do with the last load share?

Mr. Krauss – We haven't gotten the results back yet.

Library Committee – Councilman Breish

1. The committee did not meet because of a lack of quorum but Councilman Breish gave an update on things happening at the library.
 - Looking into improving the fire/security system.
 - CCAP results and review is on the library website.
 - Clean and Green event is July 20.
 - Members can sign up or renew a BJ's membership in July and BJ's will donate to the library.
 - Talked about having Library book boxes around town.
 - It was mentioned that the awning above the front door needs to be updated, it's not looking so great.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton

1. Motion to appear before Council at the next Business Meeting:
 - Motion to approve Amphitheater rental Saturday, September 21 or 28, 2019 to host the MyFest event. Event will run from 12:00n – 4:00pm. Set up will start at 8:00am and clean-up will be done by 5:00pm.
 - Motions to approve payments to Grace Industries for the Liberty Bell Trail, Railroad Avenue section.
2. Modern Male requested to use Railroad Plaza for a business event. This request was denied and it was suggested that they add their event to another community event.
3. Weaver Field: The Cannoneers baseball organization requested permission to install a retractable awning over the first base dugout to protect the players from the sun. The committee asked that they come up with other options that would be better suited for the field.
4. All the summer programs are now in full swing and going well.
5. Monthly maintenance continues to happen in all parks, playgrounds and the pools.
6. Lansdale won the NPWA rain garden contest. Mr. Lukens commented that there is a PECO Green Region Grant and we should submit an application in the amount of \$5,000 in support of the award from NPWA.
7. Skatepark update - Borough Engineer submitted the requested information about re-engineering of the park. We will need some time to review the information. A discussion took place about the possible next steps with the project.
8. Field D in the little league fields is not usable due to the hole in the outfield. They need permission from the Borough to fix the field and they are hoping the Borough will assist as well.

Councilman Breish – Are there any plans for new lighting and benches?

Mr. Ernst – Yes, to both.

Public Safety Committee – Councilman Work

1. Motions to appear before Council at the next Business Meeting:
 - Approval of Bike Night on September 7.
 - Approval of Manna's CROP Walk on October 6.
 - Approval Sergeant promotions.
 - Prepare and advertise an ordinance to update parking ordinance to include additional permit parking areas and for the allowance of enforcing the use EV chargers.
2. The LPD has purchased two new bikes for use by certified officers for bike patrol. The additional bikes will allow multiple officers to patrol on bike at the same time.
3. The LPD is in the process of obtaining an Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) for use in the patrol division. The ALPR is a device which scans license plates and checks them against data bases for stolen vehicles.
Councilman Angelichio – parking in the SEPTA garage will be \$2 per day?
Mr. Ernst – Yes, when SEPTA starts charging likely after Labor Day.

Public Works Committee – Councilman Angelichio

1. Motions to appear before Council at the next Business Meeting:
 - Whites Sewer Lining project – Change order #1 and Payment #3 (final) to AM Liner East.
 - Bid award for ADA program to G. Cipolini & Sons.
 - Payment #4 for 2018 microsurfacing project to Marino Corp.
 - Payment #2 for Influent Pump & Piping project to Eastern Environmental Contractors.
 - Prepare and advertise bid specifications for the upgrade of the WWTP fire/security system.
2. N. Line Street Rehabilitation – Work is continuing on curb and sidewalk replacement and the Borough will identify the areas not completed by the residents and have DOLI Construction replace these curbs and sidewalk.
3. W. Third Street Rehabilitation - Work is continuing on curb and sidewalk replacement and the Borough will identify the areas not completed by the residents and have SJM Construction replace these curbs and sidewalk.
4. 2019 Mill & Overlay Program – We should receive word in the next few weeks when James J. Morrisey is scheduled to start this project.
5. 2019 N. Cannon Avenue Road Rehabilitation – A preconstruction meeting was held with Marino Corporation in June. Work is scheduled to begin the week of July 22, 2019.
6. Budget – The Public Works budget is tracking normally and we are currently working on the 2020 budget and Capital Projects.
7. Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership – The Partnership is continuing to put the final touches on the Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) which will be submitted to EPA. Wissahickon Watershed Association will be presenting a progress update at the July Partnership Business Meeting.
8. Mr. DeLong presented the numbers for the 2018-2019 winter maintenance cost and a street sweeper program per the request of Mr. Angelichio. A total for the 2018-2019 winter season is \$143,121.33. The estimated cost for a street sweeper program is \$27,705.00 which includes signs and

manpower only. The committee will investigate a way to educate the community about street sweeping.

9. The committee discussed costs, manpower issues, timeframe for work and possible storm water runoff issues associated with creating an alley maintenance program. It was determined the best course of action at this time would be to authorize the Borough Manager to begin talks with the Borough Solicitor to draft a resolution to memorialize this program which would allow the Borough the option to assess the residents for maintenance of the alleyways and outline the scope of the program i.e. snow removal, etc.

Mr. Ernst – A public meeting will be held regarding the Cannon Avenue road project and the NPWA Pennbrook area project on July 18 at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – Instead of changing signs at that cost maybe we could just do a social media campaign for when people should move their cars.

Councilman Breish – It should also be explained why the street sweeper is so important.

Agenda Item #6 – Announcements

Councilman Hennin – First Friday on July 5 has a Wet 'N Wild theme. July 9 is the next concert in the park and July 12 is the next movie in the park.

Mayor Herbert – He will hold his Saturday office hours at the Farmers' Market this weekend.

Councilman Hansen – Happy 4th of July!

Councilman Breish – Shout out to the staff at both pools for all their hard work.

Agenda Item #7 – Public Comment

None

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37pm