

July 7, 2021

The Work Session of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, July 7, 2021, at Lansdale Municipal Complex, One Vine Street, Lansdale, PA and called to order at 8:39pm by President, Denton Burnell.

ROLL CALL:

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

Borough Representatives:

Borough Manager, John Ernst
Finance Director, not present
Police Chief, Mike Trail
Parks & Rec., Karl Lukens
Electric Superintendent, Andy Krauss
Public Works, Rick Delong
Fire Marshal, Rick Lesniak

Borough Solicitor, not present
Borough Engineer, not present
Library Director, Tom Meyer
IT/GIS Coordinator, Kevin Kissinger
Code Enforcement, Jason Van Dame
WWTP Superintendent, Dan Shinskie
WWTP Asst. Superintendent – Greg Rapp

Residents

None

President Burnell – Vice President Fuller is on vacation and Councilwoman Currie Teoh is joining us via Zoom.

Agenda Item #4 – Committee Reports

Administration and Finance Committee – Councilman Angelichio

1. As the financials were reviewed, some line items were a bit skewed due to timing; things swing far for both revenue and expenses. Due to timing the General Fund is up. Parks & Rec. revenue is up 448% because of summer programs, pool memberships, etc.
2. 400 calls have been made to date for those who have past due electric accounts for them to pay their bill. After that initial call, 30% of account holders paid in full. Manna on Main Street still has their Your Way Home program and residents are still signing up for it.
3. Discussed County assessments and this time the Borough received money instead of owing money to a property owner.
4. We are looking into hiring a consultant to help up navigate and administer the American Rescue Plan Act \$1.6 million received from the Federal Government. A presentation that another municipality did is in One Drive for Council to review.

5. We are talking about hiring a collection agency to help collect past due electric bills. More discussion to come.
6. The Police union notified the Borough that they are ready to start contract negotiations. Their contract ends the end of 2021.
7. Green Light Go grant money was awarded to the Borough. More information to come.

Code Enforcement Committee – Councilman Henning

1. Motions to appear before council at the next business meeting:
 - Right of Way agreement with 125 S. Chestnut Street to build a deck over a Borough easement.
 - Right of Way agreements to keep street trees on Columbia Avenue during and after the road rehabilitation project. Homeowners will have for responsibility for the trees at 809, 811 and 813 Columbia Avenue.
 - Waiver of Land Development for the WWTP for a pole barn for a new treatment plant system.

Councilman Angelichio – It is nice to see that the curb line will change to keep the trees.

Councilman Breish – Thank you to those homeowners who wanted to save those trees and take responsibility for them.

Economic Development Committee – Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton

1. Discussed possibly participating in the program “Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid.” Mayor Herbert connected us with the producer. There will be a cost to the Borough to participate. Staff will be meeting with a segment producer soon.
2. The committee discussed bringing back the Business of the Month presentations in the fall.

Electric Committee – Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton

1. Pennsylvania Power & Light (PPL) protection relay project, we are still waiting on final approval of the construction documents so we can move forward.
2. Reviewed the dashboard for the EV charging stations on how they are being used and how long cars are staying at a station after they have been charged. Should we start charging for electric? More to come on this topic.
3. The Main Substation breakers are in the process of being replaced.
4. The oil heaters for the services building are expected to be delivered in September. There are supply issues everywhere for equipment.
5. Reviewed department operations for the month of June including tree trimming around the Borough, MS4 training with the WWTP, continued pole attachment negotiations with Comcast. The department is looking into alternative fuel grant/rebate opportunities this summer for possible EV fast charging and then the committee also spoke about fleet branding and assessment of future needs for the fleet. Discussed training partnership between Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association and the Northwest Lineman College, bringing lineman training to public lineman across the state of Pennsylvania.

Councilman Breish – Are there any challenges with fleet procurement and higher costs?

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – We are looking forward at vehicles for 2022. We are also looking to buy vehicles off the lot instead of ordering if possible.

Library Committee

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1. No report
2. Next meeting July 26.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Councilman Henning

1. Three concerts have been held so far and three have been postponed due to weather.
2. Movie night in White's Road Park is "Trolls World Tour" on Friday night.
3. A corn hole tournament will be held at 4th Street Pool on July 11 and August 8. All are welcome to enter a team for \$20.
4. Applications are coming for the Lansdale Festival of the Arts on August 28.
5. The first ever skateboarding camp is being held now and it has a waiting list.
6. Residents can sign up for Zumba and Yoga now for the upcoming sessions.
7. Pool day passes are back and can be purchased at the Parks & Rec. building. Evening passes are half price.
8. Maintenance activities for the parks and pools is ongoing.
9. The bottle filling stations have been well received.
10. The tennis courts at Memorial Park are completed and playable. Pickleball lines will be added on Friday.
11. Staff is working on preparing for the 2022 budget. Park sign maintenance/replacement will be moved to the spring next year due to the high costs of materials. Lumber is incredibly high right now.

Public Safety Committee – Councilwoman Currie Teoh

1. **Councilwoman Currie Teoh** presented Motion A and read as follows:
I move that Borough Council approve the Special Events application submitted by Round Guys Brewing Company for the closure and use of a portion of Courtland Street from South Wood Street to Susquehanna Avenue between the hours of 4:00pm to 11:00pm for a Drag Show on Saturday, July 10, August 7 and September 11, 2021 with the condition that the Fire Department's Connection at the rear of the building on Susquehanna Avenue be free and clear of at least a five foot wide access and pay full reimbursement costs for the safety barriers placed by the Borough to close the road.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – Round Guys will pay the cost to close the road for each event?

President Burnell – Yes.

No public comment.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

2. The speed study done on N. Line Street results show that the average speed is 36mph and the highest speed recorded was 80mph. The marked speed limit is 25mph. The LPD will increase enforcement in that area.
3. One of our new hires will start in two weeks and the other new hire will begin the Police Academy on July 26.
4. Staff will begin reviewing the special events ordinance to make some needed changes.
5. Motions to appear before Council at the next business meeting:
 - Prepare and advertise ordinance to include arrests made without a warrant for summary offenses.
6. Discussed issues with portable basketball hoops on neighborhood streets. Officers have let residents know that they should not be left on the streets and moved when kids are

done playing. They can't be left on sidewalks either. The committee did not feel that an ordinance needed to be created to deal with this issue.

7. This is the time of year that fireworks are going off all the time. Call 911 when/if you see them being set off.

Councilman Angelichio – Thank you for the increased enforcement in the Squirrel Lane area.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – Can you explain more about the portable basketball nets?

Councilwoman Currie Teoh – The officers will continue to talk to residents if they see the hoops left in the streets when no one is using it. There is a portable basketball hoop in the 300 block of Perkiomen Avenue that can be dangerous for kids when cars whip around that corner. It is hard to see around corners with cars parked on the street.

Chief Trail – If residents are thinking of buying these, nets please think about where you will put it. It creates a problem just banning them Borough wide.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – Will officers have the authority to make people move them without an ordinance?

Chief Trail – Yes, we can because it is an object in the street and if they do not comply, we can cite them.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – Can the net be stored on the street next to the curb?

Chief Trail – No, they have to be moved out of the street completely when not in use.

Councilman Breish – Would it be possible to add more nets to our parks so kids can play there.

Councilman DiGregorio – A kid can put it to the curb to play and then move it back to their property at night when they are done playing, but they can still play on the street?

Chief Trail – Yes.

Councilman Breish – The netting on the hoops in the parks are not the best according to a resident. Maybe we should get better nets and more kids would play in the park.

Public Works Committee – Councilman Breish

1. 2020 Mill & Overlay – Punchlist items to be done over the next few weeks.
2. Columbia Avenue - water main has been completed and the contractor is currently working on the installation of sanitary sewer main. The sanitary main should be completed this week. Work on the sanitary laterals and water service lines will begin in the next couple of weeks. The WWTP will be televising the sanitary sewer line.
3. Laurel Lane - Joao & Bradley has completed the storm sewer work, sanitary work and work for NPWA. We are anticipating the curb and sidewalk work will be soon. Milling and paving will take place in a couple of months. The curbing work is included in this contract and the letters to the residents for sidewalk replacement will be sent out shortly.
4. CDBG N. Richardson Ave – waiting to hear if we will receive the grant money.
5. Bid specifications have been advertised for snow plowing with operators. Bids to be received and opened on July 26.
6. Motions to appear before Council at the next business meeting:
 - County Transportation Program (CTP) Grant – will apply for a grant to upgrade the storm sewer system along Salford Avenue and Derstine Avenue through the CTP Grant Program. The amount of the grant we would like to apply for is \$393,906.25 and the Borough has a 20% match under this grant.
 - Hatfield-Walnut Sanitary Sewer Extension – The intention of this project is to increase flow characteristics and increase line capacity to resolve extreme wet weather capacity issues in this area. The committee recommended putting forth

a motion to add this project as an alternate to the CDBG Project for bidding purposes.

- Prepare and advertise bid specifications for the UV Disinfection Project upon the DEP's permit approval for this project.
 - Trickling Filter Pump Repair – We received a proposal from A.C. Schultes to remove, inspect, rebuild, and reinstall the trickling filter pump in the amount of \$29,903.00 under the Costars Purchasing Program.
7. White's Road Park Streambank Stabilization – The contractor has finished removing the matting and the new matting has been installed. There are a few punch list items remaining dealing with the five trees that were removed along with stump grinding. The contractor needs to clean out the grindings and the reseed the areas.
 8. Pennbrook Pump Station Generator – A preconstruction meeting was held and shop drawings have been received and approved. A large tree was removed and the stump ground to facilitate with the installation of this project. The contractor broke ground on June 28 and this project should be completed in October.
 9. The WWTP maintenance staff have removed an original 40-year-old clarifier gear drive and replaced it with the clarifier gear drive they rebuilt over the winter months. This started with the purchase of a new clarifier gear drive which was installed during the work on the first clarifier. The pulled drive will then be rebuilt by the maintenance staff. A Costars proposal in the amount of \$16,240 has been received to do this year's clarifier gear drive removal and installation. This work should be completed soon, and our goal is to complete all the rebuilds and then rebuild the extra unit as a spare that can be used if a drive fails in the future.

Agenda Item #5 – Announcements

Councilman Henning – Thank you for coming out to First Friday last week. Discover Lansdale is hoping to make sure the Mardi Gras parade continues. We will need a lot of volunteers. You can sign up or ask questions at info@discoverlansdale.org

Mayor Herbert – Discover Lansdale made a good amount of money for the dunk tank.

Agenda Item #6 – Public Comment

None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32pm