

June 16, 2021

The Business Meeting of Lansdale Borough Council was held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at Lansdale Municipal Complex, One Vine Street, Lansdale, PA and called to order at 7:04pm 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, not present
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:

Jean Fritz – 531 Pennbrook Avenue
Nancy Frei – Cypress Street
Rose Chapman – 316 W. Mt. Vernon Street

Agenda Item #5 – President's Comments

President Burnell – An Executive Session was held earlier this evening related to four personnel matters, three real estate matters and one potential litigation matter. There will be action on two of the personnel items.

Agenda Item #6 - Petitions

None

Agenda Item #7 – Presentations

1. Retirement of Dan Shinskie:

- In 1978 Dan started as a trainee at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Over the course of his tenure, Dan worked as Operator, Lead Operator and Assistant Superintendent.
- In 1990 Dan was promoted to the position of WWTP Supervisor where he has been an enthusiastic innovator, pushing for and achieving greater efficiency in plant operations.
- Dan has a wealth of knowledge and always led by example showing his unique dedication to Lansdale.

- Thank you to Dan for his professionalism, dedication of service and thoughtfulness to the members of the Lansdale Borough family.
- Andy Krauss and Greg Rapp both spoke to thank Dan and John Ernst read a proclamation for Dan. Dan also said a few words about this time at the Borough.

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

Ms. Frtiz of Pennbrook Avenue – Pennbrook Avenue is finally paved, thank you. The Adams Avenue sign is crooked, can someone please have it straightened out. She thinks the Borough should get a fourth flagpole to hang other flags. She doesn't feel the Borough flag should be removed. Possibly use a spare pole from somewhere else in the Borough or fundraise to get an additional one. Thank you to Rick DeLong for helping me to my house while my road was being paved. Also, thank you to Jason Van Dame for always being responsive during the road construction. Should the voting districts be updated with the addition of the Madison apartments?

Ms. Frei of Cypress Street – Thank you for still providing the option of attending the meeting via Zoom.

Ms. Chapman of 316 W. Mt. Vernon Street – She wanted to commend those who found the person that shot and killed the woman on Church Road last year.

Chief Trail – Thank you.

Agenda Item #9 – 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 Shannon Hauser. 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.

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 John Einreinhofer. 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 May 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.

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Councilman Angelichio presented Motion C and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve the following meeting minutes:

Work Session: May 5, 2021
Business Meeting: May 19, 2021

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Councilman Angelichio presented Motion D and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize a \$1,000 budget for the Human Relations Commission for the remainder of 2021 to attend trainings, seek legal advice, when needed and participate in community events to distribute promotional material about the Human Relations Commission.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Currie Teoh and unanimously approved.

Councilman DiGregorio presented Motion E and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 21-24 granting Bennett Properties, LLC a one year extension of the final land development approval and related lot consolidation for six tracts located between 43 W. Third street and 19 W. Third Street.

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton presented Motion F and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Resolution 21-25 authorize the resumption of normal utility service billing and terminations by the Borough in accord with the Pennsylvania Utility Commission's action on March 11, 2021 to lift the PUC termination moratorium.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton presented Motion G and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to purchase a 2022 ALTEC AT40G Utility Truck through the Pennsylvania Costars Purchasing Program for the Electric Department in the amount of \$114,159.00. This purchase is on the Capital Improvement Plan and will be funded through Capital Reserves.

Motion seconded by Councilman DiGregorio and unanimously approved.

Vice President Fuller presented Motion H and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Payment #6 (final) in the amount of \$15,103.39 to Barwis Construction for work completed on the Liberty Bell Trail in Stony Creek Park per the recommendation of Pennoni Associates.

Motion seconded by Councilman Henning and unanimously approved.

Vice President Fuller presented Motion I and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the use of Memorial Park on Saturday, June 19, 2021 from 11:00am to 5:00pm for a Juneteenth Celebration sponsored the Lansdale Black Business Association per the recommendation of the Special Events Committee and the Parks and Recreation Committee. Set up time to begin at 10:00am.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Currie Teoh presented Motion J and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council adopt attached Ordinance 1950 amending sections 370-5B.(1) and 370-5.(4), of the Vehicles and Traffic provision to move three 15-minute parking spaces on Madison Street and to change three existing 15-minute parking spaces to 2-hour spaces on Madison Street.

Motion seconded by Councilman Carroll and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Currie Teoh presented Motion K 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 at 412 Columbia Avenue.

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Currie Teoh presented Motion L and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the closure of various borough streets in the downtown area (on file at the police department) for First Friday events hosted by Discover Lansdale the first Friday of each month beginning July 2, 2021 through October 1, 2021 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Additionally, authorize the use of Railroad Plaza as a staging area from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, set up time and road closures to begin at 4:30pm per the recommendation of the Special Events Committee and the Public Safety Committee.

Motion seconded by Vice President Fuller and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Currie Teoh presented Motion M and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the closing of West Main Street from Broad Street to Valley Forge Road, S. Cannon Avenue for staging cars and various other Borough roads (on file in the police department) from 2:00pm to 11:00pm on Saturday, September 25, 2021 for the Under the Lights Car Show sponsored by the Fairmount Fire Company per the recommendation of the Special Events Committee and the Public Safety Committee.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion N and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council approve Payment #1 (final) in the amount of \$47,822.00 to KBC Construction for emergent sink hole work completed on Ridge Street per the recommendation of Remington & Vernick Engineers.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Councilman Breish presented Motion O and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to purchase two (2) Fairbanks-Morse 4" Model 5433WD pumps per quote submitted by Kappe Associates in the amount of \$78,207.20 through the Pennsylvania Costars Purchasing Program. This purchase is on the Capital Improvement Plan and will be funded through Capital Reserves. This price includes removal of the old pumps and installation of the new pumps.

Motion seconded by Councilman Angelichio and unanimously approved.

Vice President Fuller presented Motion P and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council appoint Kristen Moore to the Civil Service Commission to fill the unexpired term of Michael Sobel effective immediately. The term expires on January 31, 2022.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Currie Teoh and unanimously approved.

Vice President Fuller presented Motion Q and read as follows:

I move that Borough Council appoint Rafia Razzak as an alternate on the Civil Service Commission effective immediately. This term expires on June 30, 2026.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton and unanimously approved.

Item #10 – Information Items

Mayor's Report: Mayor Herbert

1. On Memorial Day I participated in a small ceremony at Memorial Park honoring all those who gave their life in service of our country and our community. As I said in my speech, living up to the legacy of those who we honor on Memorial Day is a daunting task.
2. On June 5th, I was honored to be invited to Headway Art Collective's first annual "Ladies Night" that honored many of our female business owners in the community. I sadly, was unable to attend in person due to a family conflict. However, I shared my support with them via a few prepared words that was read at the beginning of the event. I deeply appreciate the work the Headway team put into helping our small businesses and I look forward to being there for the next event.
3. On Tuesday June 8th I met with Blue Sky Power alongside the Electric Committee to discuss the work they have done so far in determining our ability to move toward a more renewable future that allows us the flexibility to generate more of our own power locally. It is my hope that we will be seeing more of their work soon to see how we might be able to achieve those goals.
4. On June 9th I was contacted by the PBS program "Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid". They are interested in potentially highlighting Lansdale in one of their documentary series that they are producing this year. I will be presenting their information to our Economic Development Committee next week to further discuss the opportunity and if it is right for us to further the conversation.
5. Finally, I would like to thank multiple people who recently went above and beyond for a resident of our community. Recently, one of our street sweepers accidentally hit a basketball hoop and damaged it. The resident reached out to Officer Pelzer who immediately went out to help her with the issue. Officer Pelzer then coordinated with Rick and Kevin in public works on how to best address the issue. Within three days the team had completely repaired the damage on their own time. This resident was not most impressed by their work on the hoop...but was instead impressed by their speed, compassion and honest desire to help her. Her exact words to me in sharing this story were, "This is why Lansdale is so great, it is a community that really cares." And we do. Thank you to everyone who helped this resident and thank you for all that you do to make her words ring true.

Solicitor's Report: Patrick Hitchens

1. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work on ordinance and resolution matters– Approximately 4 hours.
2. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work on various land development matters and potential land development including 151 Mt. Vernon, 512 Green, and 325 Madison – Approximately 9 hours.
3. Communications with Borough staff and follow-up work relating to tax assessment appeal matters – Approximately 2 hours.
4. Communications with Borough staff and follow-up work relating to lien and lien litigation matters - Approximately 1.5 hours.
5. Communications with Borough staff and follow-up work/ legal review relating to sewer and electric department matters – Approximately 2 hours.
6. Communications with Borough staff and related follow-up work regarding miscellaneous Borough matters including compliance/ legal updates, litigation, and right-to-know matters – Approximately 6.5 hours.
7. The Governor's Disaster Declaration ended so therefore the Borough's Disaster Declaration did as well as of June 15, 2021.

Borough Manager's Report: John Ernst

1. Steve Pulli recently had his 47th anniversary in the Electric Department. He started as a substation technician.
2. Tom Meyer and Bryan Poster recently completed the Penn State Leadership Program.
3. The American Planning Association recently submitted consideration of an award for the Borough's 2040 Plan. They particularly liked the chapter on diversity.

Comments for the good of Council:

Councilwoman Hawkins Charlton – Thank you to Dan for hosting the WWTP open house for the Civics 101 classes. You will be missed.

Councilman Angelichio – Thanks Dan for your wealth of knowledge and your guidance was instrumental for the Public Works committee. Your accolades are well earned.

Councilman Breish – Thank you, Dan. As a new chairperson to the Public Works Committee, you helped me lead with confidence because of your knowledge and patience. Also, the Friends of the Lansdale Parks will be doing a clean up on Main Street, June 30 before First Friday at 6:30pm. We are meeting in Railroad Plaza.

Councilman DiGregorio – Thank you Dan for your years of service. You were very helpful when he was on the Public Works Committee. He will miss all of the Penn State football conversations.

Vice President Fuller – Thank you Dan for your dedication and years of service. When you took me on a tour of the plant you could answer all my questions. You have a true passion for your job. Also, Discover Lansdale is accepting Lifetime Achievement Award nominations. Go to the Borough website for more details. The Freight House project received a \$14,000 grant to help fix it up.

President Burnell – Thanks Dan for your service and helping me while I was Chair of the Public Works Committee a few years ago.

Councilman Carroll – Thank you, Dan. You gave the best municipal treatment plant tour ever. Also, thank you to Council and staff for helping him adjust to being a council member during a pandemic.

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Mayor Herbert – He would like to invite everyone to the Juneteenth events happening June 19. Happy Father’s Day to all the dads out there. He will become a father of two in December.

Agenda Item #11 – Old Business

None

Agenda Item #12 New Business

None

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.