

**Langhorne Borough Special Council Meeting
December 28, 2023**

A special meeting of Langhorne Borough Council was held at Council Chambers on Wednesday, December 28, 2023. President Murdock called the session to order at 6:30 p.m. and invited those in attendance to pledge allegiance to the Flag.

IN ATTENDANCE: President Paul Murdock; Councilpersons Tony Marfia, Nancy Culleton, Kathleen Horwatt, Scott Haldeman, and Kristen Farry; Mayor Joe Taylor; Solicitor David Truelove; Treasurer Ellyn Schoen; Manager Steve Bradshaw; Clerk Gabe Tenaglia

ABSENT: Vice President Rich Mason, Police Chief John Godzieba. Mayor Taylor left at approximately 7:00 p.m. due to a fire emergency call.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rudy Taurino, 317 Station Avenue, reiterated his complaints from the meeting on December 13th about the truck his neighbor keeps parked in the street. He amended that it is a class 8 vehicle, not class 6. He said that he spoke with and emailed Manager Bradshaw but did not feel the matter had been addressed.

President Murdock said that Chief Godzieba had agreed to talk to the neighbor. He reiterated Chief Godzieba's previous point that action cannot be taken against the neighbor because there are no signs at the entrances to the Borough prohibiting vehicles of a certain gross weight.

Councilperson Haldeman said that Manager Bradshaw was correct in informing Mr. Taurino that the Borough cannot get involved and referring the matter to Code Enforcement.

Thanks: Councilperson Farry thanked President Murdock for his service and dedication as President.

John Scheetz memorial: President Murdock informed Council that the Fire Chief said there will be a memorial event for John Scheetz on the 13th of January. The Fire Department will bring something to formally present to Council at the next meeting. President Murdock recommended that the Borough institute a community service day in honor of Mr. Scheetz.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE: There were two proposed amendments to a portion of the zoning ordinance. Solicitor Truelove suggested breaking the amendments to 1a and 1b, 1a amending the zoning ordinance to add the TND overlay, and 1b amending the permitted uses in the PS district. That way, the meeting minutes would reflect that they had been considered for advertisement separately and voted on in separate motions.

Councilperson Horwatt clarified that Council is voting to advertise for a vote at the February meeting, as the advertisement has to go to Bucks County to be reviewed. The proposed amendments cannot be advertised without their approval. She said that there was also an error in the zoning map which was found by the Bucks County Planning Commission, who were working to correct it.

The motion to approve advertisement of amendments to the zoning ordinance, made by Councilperson

Marfia and seconded by Councilperson Horwatt, was tabled.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Horwatt, seconded by Councilperson Marfia, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve advertisement for AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF LANGHORNE, BUCKS COUNTY, AMENDING A PORTION OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AS ADOPTED IN 1995, AND FURTHER AMENDED TO ADD TND OVERLAY DISTRICT, TO MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO REPEAL INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS, AND TO ESTABLISH SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE. Councilperson Farry abstained.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Horwatt, seconded by Councilperson Haldeman, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve advertising AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF LANGHORNE, BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING A PORTION OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH AS ADOPTED IN 1995, AS AMENDED, REGARDING PERMITTED USES WITHIN THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (PS) ZONING DISTRICT, TO REPEAL INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS, AND TO ESTABLISH SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE. Councilperson Farry abstained.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Culleton, seconded by Councilperson Farry, Council voted 6 to 0 to adopt and enact AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LANGHORNE, COUNTY OF BUCKS, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 IN THE AMOUNTS OF 14.0 MILLS FOR GENERAL BOROUGH PURPOSES, 1.7 MILLS FOR STREET LIGHTING PURPOSES, 1.65 MILLS FOR FIRE TAX PURPOSES, 0.06875 MILLS FOR RESCUE SQUAD TAX PURPOSES, AND 0.0275 MILLS FOR SHADE TREE TAX PURPOSES, AS PROVIDED UNDER THE PENNSYLVANIA BOROUGH CODE with a correction to Section I.b to show the Street Light millage as 2.45.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON 2024 TAX ORDINANCE: Councilperson Culleton pointed out that the total millage on the 2024 ordinance did not add up to the current millage. On review it was discovered that the street light millage on the 2024 ordinance was incorrectly listed as 1.7 instead of 2.45. Solicitor Truelove suggested that Council approve the ordinance as changed to show the correct street light millage.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Farry, seconded by Councilperson Horwatt, Council voted 6 to 0 to approve Resolution 2023-17; setting forth the salary scale, schedule of hours and standards for the Langhorne Borough Police Department.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON RESOLUTION 2023-17: Treasurer Schoen showed Council the resolution. Councilperson Haldeman explained the percentage changes to the salary scale.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON FIRE COMPANY ORDINANCE: Treasurer Schoen asked if the ordinance specified earned income tax, and Solicitor Truelove replied that it does and that Council should advertise the ordinance for 30 days before the February meeting.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Culleton, seconded by Councilperson Horwatt, Council voted 5 to 0 to approve advertisement of the ordinance establishing volunteer service credit program, authorizing local tax credits for volunteer members of volunteer Fire Companies, and establishing administrative procedures and appeals. Councilperson Farry abstained.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON BENCH AT REVOLUTIONARY WAR CEMETERY: Councilperson Culleton said

she would like more information on how this offer was made and by which chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Councilperson Horwatt said she believes it is the Washington Crossing chapter. She explained that there was opposition to the plan because some DAR groups had a history of prejudice, but after some research it was found that the organization had become more diverse. Councilperson Culleton suggested that the bench be approved pending approval from HARB on the plaque and the design. She also suggested educating the community on the DAR.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Horwatt, seconded by Councilperson Farry, Council voted 6 to 0 to approve placing of the bench at the Revolutionary War Cemetery subject to approval from HARB.

MOTION: On motion of Councilperson Marfia, seconded by Councilperson Culleton, Council voted 6 to 0 to ratify the approval of Gabriel Tenaglia as Borough Clerk.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comment.

ADJOURNMENT: With no other business, on motion of Councilperson Farry, seconded by Councilperson Haldeman, Council voted 6 to 0 to adjourn at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Bradshaw, Borough Manager / Secretary