

Langhorne Borough Council Meeting

May 10, 2023

A Langhorne Borough Council meeting was held in person in Council Chambers on Wednesday, May 10, 2023. Vice President Rich Mason called the session to order at 7:30 p.m. and invited those in attendance to pledge allegiance to the Flag. President Murdock arrived at 7:45 p.m. and continued presiding over the meeting.

In Attendance: President Paul Murdock; Vice President Rich Mason; Councilpersons Tony Marfia, Nancy Culleton, Kathleen Horwatt, and Scott Haldeman; Mayor Joe Taylor; Treasurer Ellyn Schoen; Solicitor representative Barbara Kirk; Manager Steve Bradshaw; Clerk Mary Zimmerman.

Absent: Police Chief John Godzieba, Councilperson Kristen Farry.

Public Comment: No Report.

Police Chief's Report: No Report.

Introduction of Barbara Kirk:

Ms. Kirk spoke to the fact that she works alongside David Truelove at Hill Wallack. She has thirty years of diverse law practice experience. Currently she is working with several municipalities and zoning hearing boards and in family law.

Public Comment:

Don Minnick, 149 W. Richardson Ave, Senior Vice Commander of the Jesse Soby American Legion Post, offered an update on the 104th Memorial Day parade. He also solicited volunteers to place 3200 flags at Our Lady of Grace as well as placing them on the 6 Borough cemeteries. Donations for the parade can be mailed to American Legion Post 148, 115 W. Richardson Ave.

Peggy Carter, 130 Summit Ave, Langhorne PA, informed Council of people driving up Summit, a one-way street, the wrong way. Additionally, people are speeding dangerously between 4:30- 7:00 p.m. She almost got hit three times. Residents on the street would like a speed hump.

Chris Foster, 202 Dilworth Ln, Langhorne PA, from the Langhorne Garden Club, introduced herself as the newly appointed Chair of the Club.

Council Discussion: No Discussion

The Enactment of revision to municipal code to conform with PA. 2020 Stormwater Act

Vice President Mason discussed possible construction restrictions having to do with sediment reductions. He also mentioned the Borough's responsibility to advertise before September.

Motion: On motion of Councilperson Marfia seconded by Councilperson Horwatt, Council voted 6/0 to approve Middletown Township to street sweep before the Memorial Day Parade in the amount of \$1,184.16.

Announcements & Presentation:

Natalie Szapowalo, a representative from the State Senate office on behalf of Senator Frank Farry, presented Councilperson Horwatt with a certificate recognizing her 40 years of service to the Borough.

Motion: On motion of Councilperson Culleton, seconded by Vice President Mason, Council voted 6/0 to approve emergency tree trimming at Mayor's Park, not to exceed \$7,000 with authorization for the Borough Manager to go with the lowest qualified estimate.

Motion: On motion of Councilperson Horwatt, seconded by Councilperson Culleton, Council voted 6/0 to approve and adopt a Resolution creating an Open Records Policy and to appoint and designate the Borough Manager as Langhorne Borough's Open Records Officer under Pennsylvania's Right to Know Law.

Manager's Report:

- PennDOT is planning a street resurfacing on Rt. 413/Pine St. starting near Flowers Ave.
- Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) will be conducting a traffic study on Bellevue Ave, from the Business Rte. 1 service road to Flowers Ave.
- The potholes will be filled along the parade route.
- Manager Bradshaw reported the paperwork was almost complete for the Workers Comp insurance policy change.
- The Manager has been in regular contact with Fire Co. President Link to discuss how the Borough can better understand and assist the needs of the Fire Co. President Link is aware that revised questions are being worked on to present to them.
- There has been communication with Middletown Township management regarding commercial buildings and apartment building inspections, enforcing fines for excessive fire alarm calls, and establishing a Knoxbox ordinance. A Knoxbox is a box with a key in it, which allows firefighters to enter a business if an alarm is triggered.
- The Borough Solicitor has been engaged to create a formal agreement between the Borough and the Fire Company for a shared use of the generator, drain line, and stormwater system.

Council Discussion:

It was suggested that CKS work with the Solicitor to create an easement with Mr. Brockwell for the drain line as it is on his property. The Borough should have a maintenance easement because the drain line services the building.

Action: Manager Bradshaw would look into what was discussed with the fire company for the driveway, the drain, and the storm water basin in 2014.

- Statewide municipalities are considering offering tax rebates to EMS homeowners to intensify interest in the profession and volunteerism. It was proposed that the Borough consider a program to increase community staffing.

Engineer's Report: George DiPersio from CKS Engineers reported:

- The Borough roof is progressing well. The Solicitor was very helpful putting together an agreement with the neighbors.
- ProCon reported there was a need for some sheathing replacement, which was 182 sq. ft. at \$20 per sq. ft., which will get added to the invoice in the amount of \$3,640. This does not require a change order.
- The gutter and downspout color was selected and ordered and is on schedule.
- For the Richardson Drainage project, CKS did receive the Right of Entry letter from 230 W. Richardson Ave. The contractor is asking for a start date of May 30th. Council set a deadline of June 17th due to the car show.
- PECO is also scheduled for their work around the same time, which will require an update as well.
- Tom Comitta, CKS and the BCPC have been working together and shared with Toll and ESE a site analysis plan following a status update call on Monday 15th. Toll will be required to make a payment to Woods by the end of May. Tom Comitta suggested after the May 17th meeting, on the 18th a

packet be released to Toll with information from the March 6th meeting with the BCPC up through the present.

Planning Commission: Brian Smiley spoke to the fact there was a walk around the property with Councilperson Horwatt, Chris Blaydon, and George DiPersio, noting trees of importance and discussing the various options that might occur with the current ordinances and plan. Tom Comitta referred to the importance and the tremendous impact of the site analysis report, which offered great clarity reflecting the guiding principles, keeping the number of dwellings down, addressing stormwater, and creating the block layout.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion: On motion of Councilperson Horwatt, seconded by Councilperson Haldeman, Council voted 6/0 to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Council Discussion: Councilperson Haldeman had questions about some deposit details.

Motion: On motion of Councilperson Haldeman, seconded by Vice President Mason, Council voted 6/0 to approve the payment of the bills.

HARB: Motion: On motion of Councilperson Horwatt, seconded by Councilperson Marfia, Council voted 6/0 to approve the HARB Report.

Environmental Advisory Council: The Council did not meet. However, they are moving forward implementing the MS4 plan.

Fire Company: No Report. Councilperson Marfia inquired about a missing fire hydrant at Flowers and Bellevue Ave.

Action: Manager Bradshaw will look into it.

Motion: On motion of Councilperson Horwatt, seconded by Councilperson Haldeman, Council voted 6/0 to table approval of the April 12 Council Meeting minutes and March 30 Work Session minutes with revisions as discussed in chambers.

Heritage Farm/L.O.S.I.: Chair Pat Carr gave updates on events at the farm and reported the Caretaker house renovation is near completion. Mr. Carr had questions regarding insurance for the sewer and water line and who was responsible for the main valve.

Recreation Board: Chair Trish Gorman thanked the contributors to the Easter Egg hunt. She reported they are hard at work pulling weeds in the park. Councilperson Horwatt mentioned that community service has started.

Shade Tree Commission: Councilperson Culleton shared the Shade Tree plans to incorporate an Arbor Day event with the HLA Strawberry Festival on June 10th. There was a walk in Catawissa Open Space to identify dangerous trees along the trail that need removal. Pat Carr would be contacting some tree services for advice and prices.

Action:

- Move forward to plant a tree in memory of Arthur Sloan, Judy Sloan's husband.
- Complete and submit paperwork to be recognized as a Tree City and up-date the signs.

Communications Team: Borough Clerk Mary Zimmerman shared that the team discussed enhancements to the website such as, creating a photo contest in which residents can submit their favorite photos of the Borough to be used on the website. In addition, we have started a new navigation layout; we are setting up bill-pay; we have started to refresh forms and information on the committee's webpage. Councilperson Culleton reported also discussing how well the social media content is going.

Public Comment:

- Janet Burns, 135 W. Maple Ave, said the fire siren greatly impacts her home-based business. It disturbs her workday, and disrupts teaching and recording structure.
- Councilperson Horwatt mentioned Toll is looking into another development on the other side of Pine Street.

Solicitors Report: Solicitor Barbara Kirk reported she was able to turn around the consent forms in 24 hours for the roofing project.

Adjournment: With no other business, on motion of Councilperson Vice President Mason, seconded by Councilperson Horwatt, Council voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Bradshaw, Secretary

Next Council Meeting: June 14, 2023 at 7:30pm