

Langhorne Borough Council Meeting

October 3, 2022

At 7:30 p.m. on October 3, 2022, in Council Chambers, Langhorne Borough Council held a continuation of its regular September 14 meeting, dedicated to public comment on the proposed EIT ordinance. President Murdock called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and invited those present to pledge allegiance to the Flag.

In Attendance: President Paul Murdock; Vice President Rich Mason; Councilpersons Nancy Culleton, Kristen Farry, Kathleen Horwatt, Scott Haldeman, and Tony Marfia; Mayor Joseph Taylor; Treasurer Ellyn Schoen; Police Chief John Godzieba; Manager Paul Leonard.

Public Comment: The public was invited to comment on the proposal to establish a 1% Earned Income Tax for all residents and non-residents.

Dr. Steven Van Schoyck, 148 W Marshall Avenue, reported that his property tax bills sent by a third party had continually been misaddressed, resulting in a penalty, and said that Borough Council needs to be certain that anyone participating in third party billing follows good practices and procedures.

Council responses and further discussion centered around the details of tax collection, the amount of the tax and the timing of the vote, the reasons why the tax is needed, and how the money will be used. These uses include future investment in personnel to bring pay to a competitive level, building a rainy-day fund, and general maintenance projects in the Borough.

Council agreed that a copy of the proposed ordinance should be put on the website and that a notice about the October 12th vote should be sent out as an insert in the trash bill. Treasurer Schoen agreed to draft the notice.

Motion: On motion of Councilperson Horwatt, seconded by Vice President Mason, Council voted unanimously to have the same notice sent out through Constant Contact.

President Murdock advised Council members of a meeting of municipalities to discuss workers' compensation and insurance for the Fire Company. Middletown Township is proposing the cost be shared by the municipalities based on population.

Motion: On motion of Councilperson Haldeman seconded by Councilperson Marfia, Council unanimously approved the draft of a letter that will be sent to PennDOT expressing disagreement with its response to SAFE's report.

Toll Brothers Overlay: Manager Leonard drew Council's attention to an initial draft of the proposed overlay ordinance for the Woods/Toll property at S Bellevue Ave, S. Pine Street, and Flowers Avenue. Council did not discuss the draft at length but asked that the Borough Planning Commission meet with the appropriate individuals at Bucks County Planning Commission to review this draft. Council also agreed it could be shared with Shade Tree Commission and HARB.

Executive Session: Council moved into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Adjournment: On motion of Councilperson Haldeman seconded by Vice President Mason, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Culleton, Councilperson/Interim Secretary