

Langhorne Borough Council Work Session

March 30, 2023

A work session of Langhorne Borough Council was held in person in Council Chambers on Thursday, March 30, 2023. President Paul Murdock called the session to order at 7:00 p.m. and invited those in attendance to pledge allegiance to the Flag.

In Attendance: President Paul Murdock, Vice President Rich Mason, Councilpersons Tony Marfia, Nancy Culleton, Kristen Farry, Kathleen Horwatt, and Scott Haldeman; Manager Steve Bradshaw; Clerk Mary Zimmerman.

Issues for Discussion:

Hiring a new Solicitor: Council discussed the three applications received for Borough Solicitor and agreed that the Manager would submit to each applicant a compiled list of questions from Council members.

Preferred Format for Meeting Minutes:

Most Council members expressed a preference, in future, for a condensed version of the minutes, perhaps with a little more detail than legally required, rather than the extended version submitted in recent years.

Steps for the Codification and Modernization of the Borough:

It was suggested the Manager have it stated in the contract that the Borough would have an inalienable right to the content produced by General Code in a searchable database once they have completed the initial project, even if we were to not renew the annual hosting subscription.

Action Steps:

1. Follow up with General Code for amendments to their contract.
2. Make sure we can get the searchable data.
3. Make sure that all updates are provided in both written and digital forms.

Update to Keystone Municipal Services providing Building/Zoning/Code enforcement:

A new fee schedule was submitted by Keystone.

Action Steps:

1. Motion to move forward at the April 12th Council Meeting

The African American Museum Juneteenth Celebration at the Mayor's Playground:

Council discussed the logistics of this event proposed by the Museum.

Manager Brief:

PennDOT is conducting a timing study and will be retiming the 3 lights in the Borough.

Action Steps:

1. PennDOT will need to give the Borough the counts to have a reference sheet posted on the control boxes for Armour and Sons.

The Manager had a conversation with Representative Hogan about having the speed limits on Pine Street and Maple Ave lowered to 25 mph.

Action Steps:

1. The Borough needs to submit a formal request to PennDOT.

Manager Bradshaw and President Murdock met with Manager Stephanie Teoli-Kuhls, Assistant Manager Nick Valla, and Fire Chief Mark Antozzeski of Middletown Township. As Langhorne Borough moves forward with extending the proposed Rental Property Ordinance to cover fire safety enforcement, we are considering entering into a shared services agreement with Middletown Township for fire safety inspection enforcement.

Action Steps:

1. The Borough's fire safety code should be written to coincide with Middletown's code and should be written into the Borough's ordinances.
2. It was suggested that the building permit fee (not the inspection fee or state fee) be waived for the first two years after passage of the ordinance, to incentivize landlords to have any needed work completed.

Upgrading Borough Hall Internet:

Action Steps:

1. A motion to move forward will be made at the April 12 Council Meeting.

The Fire Siren:

Council discussed issues related to the fire siren. Most Council members supported the postponement of further discussion for at least six months.

Reminders:

1. There will be a public officials Meet & Greet with Senator Farry on April 4 at 6:00 p.m. at Langhorne Manor Borough Hall.
2. The March PSAB magazine has an article regarding the fact that townships receive vastly more funding than boroughs for addressing stormwater management.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Bradshaw, Borough Secretary

Next Work Session: April 27, 2023 at 7:00 PM