

**MINUTES
LANGHORNE MANOR BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING OF MARCH 2, 2004**

1. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting of Langhorne Manor Borough was called to order in the Langhorne Manor Borough Hall, 618 Hulmeville Avenue, Langhorne, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, March 2, 2004, at 8:05 P.M. Eastern Standard Time by Maryann Barnes, President.

At this point in the meeting Mayor Seader led us in the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag."

PERSONS PRESENT – Maryann Barnes, President; Robert J Byrne; Francis J. Farmer; Sharon Gimpel; William McTigue Vice President; Nicholas Pizzola; Steven Yourtee; Gerald Seader, Mayor; Thomas J. Profy, III, Solicitor; and Loretta M. Luff, Secretary/Treasurer.

PERSON ABSENT - None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –Motion was made by Mr. McTigue and seconded by Mr. Byrne to approve the minutes of February 3, 2004 as amended. No objections were presented. Motion carried. Mrs. Barnes and Mr. Yourtee abstained.

3. POLICE REPORT – Mayor Seader gave the police report for the month of February.

Mayor Seader reported that there is a vacancy in the police department and when candidates had been interviewed last year Mr. Jonathan Sherno was interviewed at that time. Mayor Seader read Mr. Sherno's qualifications and stated that all paper work was completed. He presently works part time for Pennndel Police Department.

Mr. Sherno told the Borough Council about himself and Mrs. Barnes asked if anyone on Borough Council had any questions for Mr. Sherno. Mr. Farmer explained what the Council expects from him, and he is to review the Borough Policies and patrol the street and being visible means a lot to the residents of the Borough.

Mr. McTigue asked when he would be available to work. Mr. Sherno stated that he would be available two or three days a week.

Motion was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. Yourtee to hire Jonathan Sherno. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

4. COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS & VISITORS – Matt Marion, 600 Hill Avenue asked Borough Council if they would consider revising the Fence Ordinance, particularly Section 72-8 Sub-section C that pertains to fences on corner properties. He wants Council to consider waiving the set back on side properties that face the street. Mr. Marion's concern is with the traffic on Highland Avenue as he has two children and a dog and he is concern with their safety. He has had the property surveyed and concrete monuments in place at a cost of \$3000.00.

Mr. Farmer stated that this issue was discussed last fall and at that time Borough Council had agreed to amend the Fence Ordinance at that time.

Mr. Farmer asked Mr. Profy if the waiver could be granted this evening.

Mr. Profy replied that the consensus is Borough Council is going to amend the Fence Ordinance. You authorize the amendment this evening; you may give an application pending. You will be taking certain risks on the basis of the waiver, but it is something the Council can do. The risk being Council didn't amend the ordinance.

Motion was made by Mr. McTigue and seconded by Mr. Farmer that Borough Council waives the requirement this evening for Mr. Marion. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Profy stated that the Fence Ordinance should be amended so a provision maybe put into the Fence Ordinance that under certain circumstances Council would be able to grant a waiver under Section 72-8(C). Motion was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. McTigue to authorize the preparation and advertisement of the amendment to the Fence Ordinance which would permit Council to grant waivers under existing circumstances of this corner double set back. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS—Mrs. Barnes had no report for the Planning Commission. She received correspondence from Bucks County Boroughs Association announcing their General Membership Meeting to be held on Tuesday March 23, 2004. She also received two letters from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Operations and Compliance Office thanking the Council for the two applications for grant money that had been submitted for the fiscal year 2004 for street signs.

A letter was received from Loretta Luff resigning from the Shade Tree Commission Committee. Motion was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. McTigue accepting Mrs. Luff letter of resignation with regrets. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mrs. Barnes stated if anyone is interested in serving on the Shade Tree Commission, they should contact either herself or Mrs. Luff so an appointment to the Shade Tree Commission maybe made at the April 6, 2004 Council meeting.

Mr. Byrne reported that the 1st light on Hulmeville Avenue north of Gillam Avenue was repaired. Mr. Farmer reported that the light at Station Avenue and the Access Road was out. It was also reported that the light on pole #19 on Hulmeville Avenue across from 502 was out; Mr. Byrne stated that they would be reported.

Mrs. Barnes reported on the death of Mr. William Carlin, who has been with the law firm of Begley, Carlin & Mandio for thirty-seven years. She stated the family is requesting donations in Mr. Carlin's memory for Bucks County Boy Scouts of America. Motion was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. Yourtee to send a donation in the amount of \$100.00 in memory of Mr. Carlin. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Farmer reported that a couple stop signs had been fixed, but a couple of poles that had been knocked over could not be fixed, as they could not get them out of the ground. Mr. Farmer stated that he received two quotes for a non-hydraulic pole and post puller, \$620.00 and \$610.55 includes grabber and chain.

Mr. Yourtee asked why the old poles could not be cut off at ground level. Mr. Farmer stated that is not the safest way to do it.

Motion was made by Mr. Mctigue and seconded by Mr. Pizzola to purchase a pole and post puller at a cost of \$610.55. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Farmer reported at the police committee meeting Mayor Seader reported that the Use of Force Policy and the Fire Arms Policy were given to the Solicitor to amend as the wording had to be changed since we have purchased our own weapons. Hats are being ordered and there are gun locks available at no cost to the residents.

Mrs. Barnes reported potholes on Manor Avenue. Mayor Seader recommended that Penn Dot be contacted concerning the potholes on Hulmeville Avenue.

Ms. Gimpel-No report.

Mr. McTigue reported that he was able to meet with Mrs. Bartnikowski and he spoke on the list of items that Mrs. Bartnikowski had done to up date the web site (1) added a webmaster contact information to the footer on each page of the web site. (2) Set up a web master E-Mail system. (3) Updated 2004 calendar. (4) Added Our Lady of Grace Church link to the community page. (5) Added additional park links to the community page. (6) Added the child safe link to the Emergency Service Page. (7) Deleted outdated bios for Council members. (8) Put Borough web site link to the Bucks County official site and the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. (9) Registered the Borough's web site with Google, Yahoo, Net Scape and Directory Project. Mrs. Bartnikowski needs bios from Mr. Byrne and Ms. Gimpel, and a list of committee members. Mrs. Bartnikowski has offered to set up e-mails for Council members and she is willing to meet with the different committees, to get their input as to what they would like on the web site.

Mrs. Bartnikowski inquired as to who made the plaques; she would like to add the graphics to the web site. Mr. Farmer stated it was Bob Shaw's Signs in Doylestown. Mrs. Bartnikowski stated that she had signed up to the link for the Amber Alert System. She will be notified if an Amber Alert goes out and she will run a banner across the top of the web page.

Mr. McTigue reported that he will be setting the date at the end of April for one leaf pickup, he will also schedule the bulk pickup date.

Mrs. Barnes asked Mr. Yourtee about the Community Yard Sale. Mr. Yourtee stated it is to be the week prior to bulk pickup. Both dates are to be added to the web site calendar page.

Mr. Pizzola – No report.

Mr. Yourtee reported that there is a large amount of masonry joint deterioration and paint is deteriorating and also a leaking roof on the outside corner of the Borough Hall. Mr. Farmer stated when money becomes available they will be fixed.

Mr. Yourtee referred to the February 3, 2004 minutes where Ms. Linington's expressed concern about the parking on both sides of the Hulmeville Avenue overpass when it snows and people are sledding and it was stated that it is a state road and the Borough can not erect signs stating no parking. Mr. Yourtee asked if the road had been officially turned over to the Borough.

Mr. Farmer replied the Hulmeville Avenue over pass and the access roads have not been turned over to the Borough.

Mr. Yourtee stated that he does not have a problem with the people sledding there, but parking on both sides of the overpass does create a problem.

Mrs. Barnes stated that the ownership of the roads has not been resolved.

Mr. Byrne asked if Penn Dot posted no parking signs on one side of the overpass, would the police department be able to give tickets to the cars that park there.

Mrs. Barnes asked who would be responsible for giving tickets to the cars that are parked there.

Mr. Profy replied that there isn't any Parking Ordinance pertaining to that road.

Mayor Seader stated that when our police department is on duty and they observe parking on both sides of Hulmeville Avenue overpass, they could tell the people that there is no parking on the north bound side of the road.

Mrs. Barnes feels it is a good point, but she does not know what can be done about the problem.

Mr. Profy stated that you couldn't enforce it; you cannot give tickets since they are not in violation of any ordinance and the Borough does not have the right to erect signs at that location, as Penn Dot would remove them.

Mr. Yourtee asked if we could have Penn Dot repair the end guardrails on both sides of the overpass.

Mrs. Barnes stated that some had been repaired, but there are others in very bad condition.

Mayor Seader stated that 2006 Super highway is to be widened to three lanes north and south from route 213 to the turnpike.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT –No report.

7. SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Mr. Profy stated that he would like to discuss a matter pertaining to 705 Bellevue Avenue and the Philadelphia Biblical University. We have in our agreement for preservation purposes and restrictive conveyance, the provision states that they will have the right to have one sign to be placed at the existing entrance to the property and the sign would have a maximum of fifteen square feet. The University has asked to have a sign of twelve and one half square feet, which is within the size area of the sign. They propose to erect the sign in front of the property close to the intersection of Fairview and Bellevue Avenues.

Motion was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. McTigue to allow Philadelphia Biblical University to change location of the sign from the driveway entrance to the position shown on the plan near the intersection of Fairview and Bellevue Avenues. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

8. INSPECTOR'S REPORT –Mr. Bush gave a report for January and February 2004.

9. CORRESPONDENCE –Mrs. Luff stated a letter had been received from the County of Bucks Department of Health requesting permission to spray again this year for mosquitoes and West Nile Virus. A Letter is to be written advising them of the Borough's approval for the spraying again this year.

10. APPROVAL OF THE BILL AND TREASURER'S REPORT –Mrs. Barnes stated that all Council members received a copy of the bill list for payment. She asked if there were any questions or discussion. Mrs. Luff stated that there are two additional bills for \$25.00 each for Mr. Bush to attend two conferences sponsored by Pennsylvania Boroughs State Association.

Motion was made by Mr. Pizzola and seconded by Mr. McTigue to approve the bill list with the two additions of \$ 25.00 each. No objections were presented. Motion carried. Ms. Gimpel abstained.

Mrs. Barnes asked Ms. Gimpel why she abstained. Ms Gimpel stated that she would like to see more details on the bill list. Mrs. Barnes told Ms. Gimpel that she has a right to abstain, but when you abstain you should give a reason for why you are abstaining.

Mrs. Barnes entertained a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. A motion was made by Mr. McTigue and seconded by Mr. Pizzola to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. No objections were presented. Motion carried. Ms. Gimpel abstained. She could not balance some of the accounts.

11. SECOND MEETING –Mrs. Barnes stated that a second meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 16, 2004, at this time there are no items for the agenda for that meeting. Motion was made by Mr. McTigue and seconded by Mr. Byrne to dispense with the March 16, 2004 meeting. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

12. ADJOURNMENT –Motion was made by Mr. Byrne and seconded by Mr. McTigue to adjourn this meeting. No objections were presented. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 P.M.

The next meeting will be Tuesday April 6, 2004 at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Loretta M. Luff
Secretary/Treasurer
Langhorne Manor Borough