

**MINUTES
LANGHORNE MANOR BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING OF MAY 6, 2008**

- 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, May 6, 2008 at 8:04 P.M. Eastern Time by Maryann Barnes, Vice President.

At this point in the meeting Mayor Farmer led us in the "Pledge of Allegiance."

PERSONS PRESENT –David Badgley; Maryann Barnes, Vice President; Donna Cianci; Sharon Gimpel; Nicholas Pizzola; Steven Yourtee; Loretta M. Luff, Secretary/Treasurer and Thomas J. Profy IV, Solicitor.

PERSON ABSENT – William McTigue

- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Motion was made by Mrs. Cianci and seconded by Mr. Pizzola to approve the minutes of April 1, 2008 as presented and amended. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. McTigue entered the meeting at 8:08 P.M.

- 3. POLICE REPORT** – Mayor Farmer gave the police report for the month of April 2008.

Mayor Farmer reported that he had met with representatives from CSX, PennDot, Senator Tomlinson's office, and Representative King's office, Middletown Township, PennDel and Langhorne Manor Borough at Senator Tomlinson's office pertaining to the three sets of railroad tracks on Bellevue Avenue. The two sets of tracks had been repaired they are the ones that Septa uses. The third set of tracks belongs to CSX, this set of tracks will be repaired between now and July or August. This will take a week to complete; we will receive a three week notice. We have to give PennDot a letter stating that we are agreeing to the 3:00 P.M. shut down along with Middletown Township and PennDel. A detour route has not been determined.

A motion was made by Mr. Yourtee and seconded by Mr. Pizzola to acknowledge and accept the street closing for Bellevue Avenue for the repair of the railroad track. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

- 4. INSPECTOR'S REPORT**- Mr. Peet gave the Inspector's report for the month of April 2008.

5. COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS & VISITORS – Mr. William Abbott (803 Hulmeville Avenue) spoke about the total fines collected in Hulmeville Borough according to a news paper article, totaling approximately \$27,000.00 and Langhorne Manor Borough takes in less then \$10,000.00 and Hulmeville Borough budget is about two thirds of what Langhorne Manor Borough's is. He wanted to know how this can be. Mayor Farmer replied that he had no Idea. Mr. Abbott feels that it is pretty obvious that our police department is not doing their job.

Mrs. Barnes replied that she disagrees with Mr. Abbott, she stated that Hulmeville Borough is noted for stopping any body doing over thirty-five miles per hour and part of the newspaper article was because Hulmeville Borough was writing tickets for drunkenness instead of driving under the influence, that is why their amounts are so high.

Mayor Farmer told Mr. Abbott to wait and read Wednesday's Courier Times and then tell him, that our police are not doing their job.

Mrs. Abbott stated that when they are out walking they see people going through stops signs all the time. She wants to know why the laws that are on the books are not being enforced, she asked why pay Mr. Profy to advertise these ordinances.

Mayor Farmer asked Mrs. Abbott, why don't you make a recommendation that Borough Council raise the taxes so the police can patrol the street for longer hours. Mr. Abbott feels that the police only have to do their job, when they are on duty.

Mayor Farmer asked the Abbott's if they were still following the police around. Mr. Abbott replied that he is not following them; he just goes past them and sees that they are not doing their job.

Mr. Yourtee stated that the hours on duty are fifty to one hundred less then they usually are. Mr. Yourtee asked if an officer had been on duty the day of the Langhorne Borough 5K Run and One Mile Walk on April 19, 2008 as he only saw Langhorne Borough police, but the newspaper article stated that Langhorne Manor Borough police participated. Mayor Farmer replied that there were two officers on duty that day. Mr. Yourtee also asked about the police car sitting in the Exxon station on the Access Road, the Exxon station is in Middletown Township. Mayor Farmer replied that this will be discussed at the June 3, 2006 Council meeting.

Mr. Mark Shapcot (108 Langhorne Avenue) spoke about his concerns pertaining to the property conversion to five apartments that were proposed at 629 Bellevue Avenue. His concerns are how the new owner is going to use all the buildings on the property, also parking spaces for five apartments and the impervious surface amount. They are worried as to what kind of problems storm water run off will cause. Mr. Shapcot also referred to the adjacent lot and what plan does the owner have for it now and in the future. They are also concern with the owner not going to live on the property, as he has a house in Holland. Mr. Shapcot wants Borough Council to be aware of what the new owner is planning to do with the property at 629 Bellevue Avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Shapcot spoke of the problems they have with the traffic at the corner of Langhorne and Bellevue Avenues and they wonder what it will be like if five apartments are allowed to be built there.

Mr. Shapcot stated that he is not in favor of having recycling picked up on Mondays, he would like to see it go back to the same day that trash is picked up which is on Wednesdays, he would also like to have more recycling days added.

Mr. McTigue stated that he received a call from Allied Waste in October 2007 asking if the Borough would consider changing our recycling day and that they would send a letter to the residents informing them of the change and what happens if a holiday occurs on our pick-up day, as of today the letter has not been sent and they have had the mailing labels for months.

Mr. McTigue is going to ask Mr. Profy to look at the verbal contract and see if it is alright to change the day of pick-up back to Wednesday, as they have not lived up to their obligation of informing our residents of the change and what is involved.

Mr. Yourtee stated that all of the items were not picked up when we had the yard waste pick up in April.

Mr. Yourtee would like to know how our share of our recycling money is figured if Allied Waste is picking up recycling in the other Boroughs.

Mr. Yourtee stated that he is not taking sides but asked pertaining to 629 Bellevue Avenue where they are proposing five apartments doesn't that mean five EDU'S and five sewer connections and it would not be an economical hardship for the Borough, as the Borough would be receiving five payments from a house that was previously one. I understand the concerns about the undeveloped lot next door and the issues of the impervious surface and run off of storm water, the widening of the driveway to twenty-six feet and the twelve parking spaces. Mr. Yourtee said that a possible solution for this is to ask the owner to give up development rights of the adjoining lot and it can become either an on sight retention basin or a parking area. Mrs. Barnes asked when the next Zoning Hearing Board meeting would be. Mr. Shapcot replied around May 19, 2008.

Mr. Yourtee referred to the past when Philadelphia Biblical University (PBU) came before Borough Council and asked for an expansion, one of the agreements was that they would create another entrance off of Flowers Mill Road, but Middletown Township refused their request. If they were turned down, PBU were to make improvements to Fairview Avenue and install a traffic light at the corner of Bellevue and Fairview Avenues and not use Manor Avenue as their main entrance. Mr. Yourtee feels that Borough Council should have forced PBU to install the traffic light. Mr. McTigue said that Mr. & Mrs. Shapcot's points are well taken and Council will stay on top of the situation.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS – Mrs. Barnes had no report for the Planning Commission, but Mr. Profy has plans that have to be signed by the Planning Commission members and Borough Council members. The plans are the Minor Sub-division Lot Line Change for 1002 North Avenue.

Mrs. Barnes reported that she had attended the 100th Anniversary Dinner for Our Lady of Grace Church and she had presented the proclamation on behalf of the Borough Council.

Mr. Badgley reported that he had received the contract for the \$5,000.00 grant that we received from the Department of Economic and Development.

Mrs. Cianci had no report on street lights.

Ms. Gimpel said that she had received a call from a resident at 205 Fairview Avenue stating that a neighbor has some large pine trees and branches that have broken off during recent storms and they have caused destruction to his property. The homeowner wanted to know what Borough Council could do to alert the neighbor of the dangerous situation these trees are causing.

Mr. Peet is to look at the pine trees and see if they are the neighbor's responsibility.

Mr. Yourtee asked if the Shade Tree Commission had looked at the dangerous tree on Station Avenue that he had reported at the April 1, 2008 Council meeting. Ms. Gimpel said that she would check on this tree.

Ms. Gimpel reported that she had reviewed the renewal package for the insurance that is due in July and that some new office equipment is to be added.

Ms. Gimpel reported that a C D was renewed on March 16, 2008 at a rate of 3.1 % for a year.

Mr. McTigue reported that last month it was discussed about regionalization of the four boroughs police department and whether to proceed with the letter of intent for the economic study with no cost to the Borough.

Mr. Yourtee asked why we can't investigate what the cost would be for the four Boroughs to join Middletown Township's police department.

Mrs. Barnes reported that she had attended a meeting of the League of Municipalities at Middletown Township and Middletown Township is putting a package together for PennDel Borough.

Mayor Farmer stated that he and Chief Bumm recommends that the study be done. All Borough Council members were in favor of the study.

Motion was made by Mr. Yourtee and seconded by Mrs. Barnes to have a letter of intent be submitted to the Department of Economical and Development authorizing the Mayor and Secretary to sign the letter indicating the Borough's intent to participate in the study. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Pizzola reported that he had surveyed Hill Avenue for the placement of the "No Parking" signs and they will be put up this weekend.

Mr. Yourtee reported that the Access Roads will be swept this coming week by Reilly Street Sweeping Inc.

Mr. Yourtee asked if anyone had seen any pot holes that need to be repaired. The only one reported was on Manor Avenue.

Mr. Yourtee reported that he was working with PennDot regional office in Doylestown in obtaining used guide rail. If and when the guide rails become available the Borough would have to arrange our own means to transport them from where PennDot has them stored, we would have to unload and store them.

Mr. Pizzola exited the meeting at 9:06 P.M.

Mr. Yourtee reported that seven companies submitted bids for the Langhorne Manor Borough Street and Intersection Resurfacing Project, A.H. Cornell and Sons, \$46,746.00, S.& H. Landscaping %56,902.52, Gorecon Inc. \$57,139.00, K.E. Seifert Inc. \$57,994.74, Bray Brothers, \$59,697.00, Miller & Son, \$62,902.19, General Asphalt, \$80,503.41. Mario Canales from Pickering Courts and

Summerson has reviewed the proposal from the low bidder of A.H. Cornell and Sons and he recommends that Council award them the bid.

Mr. Yourtee stated at the intersection of Hill and Elm Avenues at the northwest corner there is an eroded stone gutter and there is an ordinance that requires the homeowner to maintain their gutters. Pickering Corts and Summerson recommends re-stoning of the gutter and they are going to swale part of the intersection to maintain the flow of water, they are going to place a low berm, no higher than six inches on the property of Mr. and Mrs. Cloak. Mr. Cloak does not want the berm on his property; he does not feel that it would help the situation. Mr. Cloak was the person who brought to our attention the water problem at that corner. Mr. Yourtee stated that Council could take the \$2,500.00 that was allotted for the berm and add the intersection of Hill and Park Avenues and repair the hump in the road that is due to the installation of sewers at a cost of \$4,500.00 to \$5,000.00 in construction work. This work would be over seen by Pickering Corts and Summerson. The cost of the complete Street and Intersection Resurfacing Project with the addition of Park and Hill Avenues should cost about \$50,000.00.

After much discussion pertaining to eliminating the berm and adding the intersection of Hill and Park Avenues it was decided to proceed with awarding the bid to the lowest bidder and have the Borough engineer add or delete certain areas. The amount coming from the sewer fund is \$36,800.00 and from the highway aid fund is \$9,975.00. If Council as to add Hill and Park Avenues, as this is another sewer related problem, the \$2,500.00 from removing the berm from the project, would come off the highway aid total.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Badgley to award the contract to A.H. Cornell and Sons, the lowest bidder subject to receiving all required documents as outlined in the Bid Document. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Yourtee referred to the guide rails, the two quotes are from Collinson, Inc. \$49,725.00 and Long Fences \$39,312.50. Mr. McTigue asked if Council wanted to allocate money for obtaining the used guide rails from PennDot.

Motion was made by Mr. Badgley and seconded by Ms. Gimpel to allocate up to \$5,000.00 to be used to pick-up and unload the used guide rails from PennDot when it becomes available. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Yourtee was told to get three quotes for picking up and unloading the used guide rails from PennDot as the money will be coming out of the highway aid fund.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Farmer reported that a meeting was going to be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 to discuss the regionalization of the four Borough police departments in Langhorne.

8. SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Mr. Profy stated that he had no report.

9. CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. McTigue reported that the 2nd annual Global Warming Conference is to be held on Saturday May 10, 2008 at the Lower Makefield Township Building at 8:00 A.M.

10 APPROVAL OF BILLS & TREASURER'S FOR PAYMENT – Mr. McTigue stated that all Council members had received a copy of the bill list for payment. Motion was made by Mrs. Cianci and seconded by Mr. Badgley to approve the bill list as presented. No objections were presented. Motion carried. Mr. McTigue stated that all Council members had received a copy of the Treasurer's report and does anyone have any comments. Ms. Gimpel explained that Solid Waste and Recycling was going to a wrong account, so it was adjusted. Motion was made by Mr. Badgley and seconded by Mr. Yourtee to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. No objections were presented. Motion carried

11. SECOND MEETING – Mr. McTigue stated that a second meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 20, 2008; at the present time there is no business for the agenda. Motion was made by Mrs. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Badgley to dispense with the second meeting. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Yourtee asked where does our responsibility end on the overpass pertaining to the guide rails as the guide rails on one side of the overpass and at both ends of Highland and Gillam Avenues adjoin the Heritage Conservancy property, and from where at the edge of the road does our responsibility begin. Part of the problem with the guide rails is that they are over grown with vegetation. The new guide rails will have to be maintained. Mr. McTigue stated that we should get the legal information on the right of ways.

12. ADJOURNMENT – Mr. McTigue entertained a motion to adjourn this meeting. Motion was made by Mrs. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Badgley to adjourn this meeting. No objections were presented. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:58 P.M.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta M. Luff
Secretary/Treasurer
Langhorne Manor Borough