

MINUTES
LANGHORNE MANOR BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2006

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 September 5, 2006, at 8:08 P.M. Eastern Standard Time by William McTigue, President.

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

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

PERSON ABSENT –Stephen Galazin

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion was made by Mr. Yourtee and seconded by Mrs. Cianci to approve the minutes of August 1, 2006 with one correction. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Yourtee and seconded by Mrs. Barnes to approve the minutes of August 15, 2006 as presented. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

3. POLICE REPORT – Mayor Farmer gave the police report for the month of August 2006.

4. COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS & VISITORS –Mr. William Abbott (803 Hulmeville Avenue) inquired about the speeding and truck traffic on Hulmeville Avenue, pets running loose, and watch children signs on Hulmeville Avenue and what has happen to the street signs that had been ordered in April 2006.

Mr. McTigue stated that the bridge over the railroad tracks is properly posted and, therefore, the bridge’s capacity is not a factor that can be used to reduce truck traffic on Hulmeville Avenue. Mayor Farmer reported that the police had conducted speed traps along Hulmeville Avenue and a couple of citations had been issued.

Mr. McTigue stated that nothing had been resolved pertaining to the issue concerning the street name signs, but there is on-going communication with the vendor that supplied them.

Mr. Abbott was told to contact Middletown Township as they have the authority to send their animal control officer into Langhorne Manor Borough.

Mr. Abbott stated that there are a lot of children and adults walking on Hulmeville Avenue and he feels that Watch Children signs should be posted along Hulmeville Avenue, just like the other streets throughout the Borough.

Mr. Kevin Transue (324 Hill Avenue) addressed the placement of some of the new street signs, stating that some are in front of telephone poles. Mr. Transue also stated that there was one hundred ninety-one signs removed which leaves the same number of holes and that could be very dangerous; the holes should be filled in.

Mayor Farmer stated that he had a verbal quote of \$800.00 to have the tree trimmed so the stop sign could be seen at the corner of Station Avenue and the access road. He does not feel that he should have to pay because of where the new sign was placed. This has to be corrected before there is an accident.

Mr. Transue reported that a sign at Elm and Bellevue Avenues is located near a fire hydrant and should be moved.

Mr. McTigue stated that the placement of the signs is consistent with the guidelines of PennDot's specifications. Mr. McTigue also stated that it would be Council's decision on how to handle the holes that were left from the removal of the poles.

Mrs. Patricia Patchet (203 Fairview Avenue) stated that she had spoke to her neighbor across the street and he feels that the new signs should be moved and put between the properties. Mrs. Patchet is willing to pay to have the signs moved.

Mayor Farmer stated that Mrs. Patchet should not have to pay to have the new signs moved. Mr. Jeff Schauder (903 S. Pine Street) told Mrs. Patchet that he would move the signs for her.

Ms. Jane Boyle (308 Gillam Avenue) stated that she does not want the storm drain problem by her property forgotten when the moratorium for new sewer hook-ups is lifted,

Ms. Betty Linington (308 Gillam Avenue) stated that she feels Mrs. Patchet was treated unfairly last month, and she is glad that her problem with the new signs will be taken care of.

Ms. Linington stated that people from other areas are talking about Mr. Galazin not attending the Borough Council meetings until he receives an apology.

Ms. Linington stated that she had checked out the requirements on having handicap parking signs installed. She had been told that the signs can be installed without an ordinance.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS – Mrs. Barnes had no report for the Planning commission.

Mrs. Cianci reported that three street lights were out, pole #84540B on Hill Avenue, at the corner of Hill and Highland Avenues and pole # 404A on Hill Avenue and on pole #8 on Hulmeville Avenue the lens is out. Mrs. Cianci inquired about the light that was down at the corner of North and Comly Avenues due to the storm. She wanted to know who is responsible for having the light put back up.

Mr. McTigue asked Ms. Gimpel to find out the cost to have the light installed on the new pole and if the Borough's insurance would pay for it.

Ms. Gimpel had no report for the Shade Tree commission.

Ms. Gimpel reported that she had received a letter from Paist & Noe pertaining to the purchase of an Extended Reporting Endorsement (tail coverage). Recommendation by Paist & Noe is that the Borough should not purchase this policy. Mr. Profy agreed with Paist & Noe's recommendation.

Ms. Gimpel reported that a check in the amount of \$4,703.99 had been received from our insurance company for damages to 616 Hulmeville Avenue from the storm in July, 2006

Mayor Farmer inquired about the insurance policy that is required by the insurance company pertaining to grievances to the police department that was suppose to be done within sixty days, he wanted to know if our police officers are insured. Mr. Profy replied that the officers are insured and he had received a draft of the policy from Paist & Noe. The policy is in full force and the Borough should receive the policy by the October 3, 2006 Council meeting.

Mr. Galazin was absent.

Mr. McTigue addressed the matter of Mr. Galazin's absence, and said that he anticipates and feels that by the next Council meeting there will be more information.

Mayor Farmer asked if Mr. Galazin is responsible for the mix up of the original street sign order. Mr. McTigue stated that it could become a litigation matter and he does not feel that he should comment on it at this time.

Mr. McTigue stated that a bid document was in the process of being prepared for the new trash contract.

Ms. Barnes inquired if branches and leaves could be put out at any time for collection. Mr. McTigue replied that there is a designated time in the fall and spring for leaf pick-up, and possibly that the new contract could have additional leaf pick-up dates added, there would be an additional cost for this service.

Mr. McTigue asked that a reminder be put in the newsletter stating that is the responsibility of pet owners to see that their animals are not running loose and that Langhorne Manor Borough has access to Middletown Township's animal control officer.

Mr. McTigue spoke on a letter received from John Swenson of Carroll Engineering corporation pertaining to the "web-based" pump run time meter after further investigation of this pump Carroll Engineering determined that it would not serve the Borough's needs. Carroll Engineering received verbal cost information for a monitor unit called Catalyst.

This monitor unit with level sensor, extra memory and an outdoor enclosure cost \$5,100.00 plus freight. One-day startup and technical support is estimated to cost \$750.00. Installation and freight is not included in the cost information, but is estimated to cost \$750.00 and \$1000.00. The total purchase and installation cost is approximately \$6,850.00 not including the cost to periodically download and process meter data, which would be accomplished by CEC personal.

Mayor Farmer stated that he feels that council should approve the installation of the sewer pump meter as there are a couple of houses to be built in the Borough, and they can not hook into the sewer system until the moratorium is lifted.

Mr. Yourtee referred to the discussion when Mr. John Swenson from Carroll Engineering had attended out Council meeting pertaining to when the moratorium would probably be lifted by the end of the year, and he also inquired about the two homes that would not allow an inspection for sump pumps. Mr. Yourtee stated that the manholes that need new liners in them should be completed so they know that we are correcting the problems that had been found.

After much discussion pertaining to the sewer system, Mr. Profy suggested that Mr. Swenson should be contacted and asked to come back to another Council meeting.

It was decided to wait until the October Council meeting to make a decision on the installation of a meter at the sewer pump station and after Mr. Swenson is contacted for clarification.

Mr. Pizzola stated that the preliminary budget will be ready by November and the finalized budget will be ready to be approved at the December council meeting.

Mr. Pizzola reported that he would do an inventory of the old street signs and advertise on the web-site that they are for sale on a first come first serve basis. The cost for the signs will be \$30.00 for the black cast aluminum signs and \$15.00 for the green aluminum signs.

Mr. Yourtee recommended that the money from the sale of the street signs be put into a fund for the Borough Hall restoration.

Mr. Yourtee reported on a quote of \$1,200.00 from Spencer's Landscaping & Lawn Care for a three-man crew to prune back branches away from the street signs through out the Borough for an eight-hour day.

Mayor Farmer asked if Mr. Spencer has a contractor's license. Mr. Yourtee replied that he is the only tree contractor to have a license. Mr. Bush stated that Rick's Tree service also has a contractor's license.

Mayor Farmer asked Mr. Profy if you have a quote for work to be completed in one day and you exceed the limit within two or three days, would it be required to get more than one quote and how would that be handled. Mr. Profy stated that \$0.00 to \$4,000.00 requires one quote, \$4000.00 to \$10,000.00 requires three quotes and it has to be in writing or telephonic recording.

Mayor Farmer suggested that Council should have two quotes. Mr. Yourtee stated that Mr. Spencer feels that he will have the job completed in one day.

Mr. Bush stated that Mr. Spencer does have a contractor's license for this year. Mayor Farmer stated that he stands corrected.

Motion was made by Ms. Gimpel and seconded by Mrs. Cianci to accept the proposal from Spencer's Landscaping & Lawn Care at a maximum of two days at a cost of \$2,400.00 to prune back the branches from the street signs throughout the Borough. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mayor Farmer asked if someone went through the stop sign at his corner and had an accident because of the limbs obstructing the stop sign would the Borough be liable. Mr. Profy replied that the property owner has the primary responsibility.

Mr. Yourtee would like the information pertaining to the pruning of the limbs away from the signs be put into the newsletter informing the residents that this is a one time project and it would then become the responsibility of the homeowners.

Ms. Gimpel stated that the newsletter is almost completed and she will have it in the mail by this weekend. Mr. McTigue stated that he would get the dates for leaf pick-up for the newsletter.

Mr. Yourtee spoke on the issue of the potholes on Highland Avenue. He spoke on the proposal from Langhorne Paving in the amount of \$3,950.00 to repair 118 potholes through out the Borough, with 54 of the 118 potholes being on Highland Avenue from the overpass to the Borough line. Council had approved the patching of 64 potholes through out the Borough for a total cost of \$2,000.00. Langhorne Paving wanted \$3,310.00 to patch the 64 potholes and \$640.00 to patch the remaining 54 potholes on Highland Avenue. Langhorne Paving stressed that Highland Avenue is in such poor condition that patching is going to be useless.

Mr. Yourtee reported on a letter he received from Lisa Deon, Chief of Staff at State Representative Matt Wright's office referring to the complaints that her office is receiving pertaining to the potholes on Highland Avenue and the letter stated that they had contacted PennDot and they were advised that Langhorne Manor Borough receives Liquid Fuel money for that portion of the road and it is the responsibility of Langhorne Manor Borough to maintain the road.

Mrs. Barnes asked if we have proof that the Borough has been receiving Liquid Fuel Funds for these roads. Mr. Yourtee replied that PennDot says that we have.

Mayor Farmer replied that Representative Wright gave the Borough a map approximately six years ago, which did not show Highland and Gillam Avenues, the bridge or the access roads belonging to the Borough.

It was stated that Langhorne Manor Borough owns these roads and the feeling of Council is that PennDot has to show the Borough in writing that the roads in question belong to the Borough. Mr. Yourtee stated that PennDot had showed them a map dated 2003.

Mr. Profy stated that there are prior maps showing the roads in question do not belong to the Borough.

Mr. Profy stated that the only question this evening is whether Council wants to spend an additional \$640.00 to repair the potholes on Highland Avenue.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Pizzola to accept the proposal of \$3,950.00 from Langhorne Paving to repair the 118 potholes. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Yourtee spoke on the two drains on Bellevue Avenue that are in need of repairs, the road surface and the metal grate belongs to PennDot, the concrete structure that supports the grate which is below the surface belongs to Langhorne Manor Borough. PennDot stated that they would do a temporary repair on the surface, but Langhorne Manor Borough will have to start addressing the problems as the inlets are collapsed.

Mayor Farmer inquired as to when the cracks on Hill Avenue between Gillam and Central Avenue will be sealed. Mr. Yourtee replied that Langhorne Paving said that they would seal those cracks as part of their proposal of \$3,950.00, but it is not listed. Mr. Yourtee will see that those cracks are sealed.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Farmer read a letter of resignation from Sergeant Sam Anderson effective September 1, 2006 from Langhorne Manor Borough Police Department. Mayor Farmer stated that applications are being accepted to fill Officers Anderson and Vesdel's positions,

Mr. McTigue stated that the Borough appreciates Sergeant Anderson's service to the Borough and his resignation is accepted.

7. SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Mr. Profy reported that Bucks county Consortium has finalized a Master Cable Franchise Agreement with Verizon, and he received a copy of the ordinance at the end of last week. He will be working on the Ordinance, as the Borough may have to amend the Ordinance that had been advertised.

Mr. Profy reported that the trash collection bid documents are prepared and he recommended that the bids be opened on Tuesday October 17, 2006 at 4:00 P.M. as Mr. McTigue called at the end of last week and suggested some modifications to the document. Mrs. Luff will be in attendance for the opening of the bids.

Mr. Profy reported that McCaffrey's of 200 West Fairview Avenue had a hearing before the Zoning Hearing Board on August 24, 2006, and he anticipates that a decision will be made on September 14 or September 21, 2006.

Mr. Profy addressed the audit that had been completed by Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC and Weiss advisory Group Inc. The first contract was with Weiss Advisory Group for performing the preparation of the DCED annual audit, assistance and preparing books and records for the year end audit, assistance with Peachtree accounting system and general financial consulting and advisory services. The contract had a cost of \$7,425.00. The Borough paid \$5,147.50; the service provider Weiss Advisory made a reduction adjustment of \$1,530.00. The services provided were \$6,677.50 and a credit of \$1,530.00. This bill is paid in full.

The audit was a stand-alone separate engagement for \$7,500.00 of which the Borough had paid \$3,250.00. There were total bills submitted in the amount of \$8,870.00 and a credit of \$1,250.00 brings the total bill down to \$7,500.00. We still owe \$4,250.00. Mr. Profy feels that this is a legitimate obligation, and the outstanding amount should be paid.

Motion was made by Mr. Yourtee and seconded by Mrs. Barnes to pay Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC \$4,250.00 for the audit, and it is too paid out of the sewer account. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mayor Farmer told Mr. Profy that the last time the Borough Ordinances were updated was in 1993 and there are several ordinances that are not available in the Borough Office. Mayor Farmer asked Mr. Profy if he could see if the Borough has all of the Ordinances. Mayor Farmer would also like to see the fees up dated pertaining to the building codes, etc. that also have not been up dated since 1993.

Mr. Profy stated the originals are kept at the Borough Office and he asked Mrs. Luff to review the minutes from 1993 and make a list of the names and the dates the Ordinances were adopted.

Mr. Bush stated that a letter should go out to the old Council members requesting them to return the Borough Code Books.

8. INSPECTOR'S REPORT –Mr. Bush gave the Inspector's report for the month of August 2006. Mr. Bush also reported that he had spoke with Pickering Corts and Summerson who reported that NPDES drawing is done and it should be available for the October Council meeting.

Mr. McTigue stated that a quote of \$1800.00 had been received from R.J.B. Painting for painting of the exterior of the Borough Hall. The quote provides for scraping all old paint from exterior windows, doors, sanding flat surfaces and spot-priming where needed, applying 2 coats of MAB Sea Shore exterior enamel paint (White). Also caulk any open areas from wood to brick.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Pizzola to accept the proposal by R.J.B. Painting at a cost of \$1,800.00 to paint the exterior of the Borough Hall. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

9. CORRESPONDENCE – A proposal for a new copier machine was received from Associated Imaging Solutions Inc. at a cost of \$2,600.00. The features are copy, print, faxes, and scans at 20 cpm, a 50-page document feeder and a matching cabinet. Service will be provided at .01 per copy, which includes all toner, parts, and labor but not paper. There will be a minimum monthly billing of \$25.00 for service. The price includes delivery, installation and training.

Motion was made by Mrs. Cianci and seconded by Mrs. Barnes to purchase the copier from Associated Imaging for \$2,600.00. Motion carried. Mr. Pizzola and Mr. Yourtee abstained.

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. He asked if there were any questions or discussions. Added to the bill list \$117.00 for stamps for the newsletter and \$4,250.00 for Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC. Motion was made by Mr. Pizzola and seconded by Mrs. Barnes to pay all bills. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Pizzola to approve the Treasurer's report for March, April, May, June, July, and August 2006 as presented. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

11. SECOND MEETING – Mr. McTigue stated that a second meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 19, 2006; at the present time there is no business for the agenda. Motion was made by Mrs. Cianci and seconded by Mrs. Barnes to dispense with the second meeting. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

12. ADJOURNMENT – Mr. McTigue entertained a motion to adjourn this meeting. Motion was made by Mrs. Cianci and seconded by Mrs. Barnes to adjourn this meeting. No objections were presented. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:26 P.M.

The next meeting will be Tuesday October 3, 2006 at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta M. Luff
Secretary/Treasurer
Langhorne Manor Borough