

MINUTES
LANGHORNE MANOR BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2024

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – the Meeting of Langhorne Manor Borough Council was called to order in the Langhorne Manor Borough Hall, 618 Hulmeville Avenue, Langhorne, Pennsylvania on January 14, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time by Nick Pizzola.

PERSONS PRESENT – Nick Pizzola – President, Cheryl Oessenich – Vice-President, Councilpersons: James Niwinski, Sam Jennings, Devin Marie Keating, Philip Gillies and Bob McBeth, Mayor Robert Byrne, Police Chief, Jack Kenney, Solicitor: Thomas J. Profy, IV., Borough Manager: Peter Gray, Secretary-Treasurer: Bonnie McGoldrick.

PERSONS ABSENT –

- 2. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Nick Pizzola
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Council President stated that the meeting minutes for November 12, November 26, December 10 & December 26 were completed and submitted. Council President asked if there were any questions, concerns or corrections.

Council President called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes for November 12, 2024. Mr. Gillies made the motion as called for. Mr. McBeth seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Council President called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes for November 26, 2024. Mr. McBeth made the motion as called for. Mr. Gillies seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Council President called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes for December 10, 2024. Mr. McBeth made the motion as called for. Mr. Jennings seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Council President called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes for December 26, 2024. Mr. Gillies made the motion as called for. Mr. McBeth seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

4. RESIDENT COMMENTS - None

5. POLICE REPORT – Chief Kenney reported 220 hours for November and 154 hours for the month of December 2024.

Accidents non-reportable – 3 Dec.

Assist Other Police – 6 Dec

Civil Dispute/Matter – 1 Nov & 1 Dec

Fraud – 1 Nov & 1 Dec.

Medical Emergency – 1 Nov & 1 Dec

Theft – 1 Nov.

Gas – 40 Gal

Total Mileage – 345

Total Citations – 0

Total Complaints – 18 Nov & 12 Dec.

The newest police car is in service. The '23 Ford required a new transmission. A Grant has been approved for a new police car in 2025.

The Chief reported that a resident was victim of a new phone scam that cost her \$5800, reports have been filed that “may” result in recovery of her loss but that is not a guarantee at this point in the investigation.

6. INSPECTOR’S REPORT – There were 2 Permits issued in September, 4 Permits issued in October.

7:10 pm Chief Kenney left the meeting

7. REVIEW OF FINAL ESCROW ACCOUNTING OF GRUPP PROPERTY REVIEW – Council President advised that he has made progress on the Grupp property escrow review, and he wants to institute new accounting procedures for the escrow accounts going forward. He has a summary, which he presented to Bob

Grupp and asked that his sons review the figures for comment. Council President further stated that we need to create standardized procedures for tracking the escrow accounts as those procedures do not exist today.

8. **MOTION TO APPROVE CANDIDATES FOR THE STORM WATER COMMISSION** –Ms. Keating advised when the Storm Water Commission was established, everyone was appointed to 5-year terms which expired at the end of 2024. There are vacancies on the Storm Water Commission and two new candidates have been identified: Teresa Weiser and Margie Gillies. Before they are appointed, terms of service should be established. There are a total of six (6) positions on the Storm Water Commission and according to the by-laws, we need to establish the following staggered terms: two (2) seats will be one-year terms, two (2) seats will hold two-year terms, and two (2) seats will hold three-year terms.

Jim Keba, an active member of the Storm Water Commission commented that the By-laws specified that terms of service would be assigned in January 2025.

Mr. Profy clarified that since all terms expired at the end of 2024, all positions are considered officially vacant, and the commission would have to appoint six new members to staggered terms.

Council President asked if the Commission had determined which members would fill which terms? Ms. Keating stated they had not been decided.

Council President deferred the motion to appoint new members and the establishment of staggered terms until the next council meeting on January 28, 2025, giving the Commission time to identify who would fill each term.

9. **MOTION TO APPROVE RENEWAL OF UNUSED \$250,000 CREDIT LINE WITH FIRST NATIONAL BANK** – Council President called for a motion to approve renewing the \$250,000 credit line with First National Bank. The original credit line, though never used, will expire this month and must be reapplied for.

Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Mr. Gillies seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

10.MOTION TO APPOINT REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS (RVE) AS STORMWATER ENGINEERS FOR 2025 – Council President advised that RVE, after some negotiation, agreed to retain their 2024 fee schedule in 2025. In light of their agreement to not raise their rates in 2025, Council President supported the appointment and called for a motion to approve RVE as the Stormwater Engineers for 2025. Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Ms. Oessenich seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

11.MOTION TO APPROVE SALARY INCREASES FOR BOROUGH PERSONNEL – Council President recommended a 3% salary increase for Borough Police, as discussed in the executive session held on December 26, 2024. Mr. Niwinski commented that our salary rates for the police are lower than surrounding boroughs and townships.

Council President called for a motion to approve a 3% salary increase for borough police. Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Mr. Gillies seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Council President recommended a salary increase for the Borough Secretary to \$25/hour and the addition of 2 weeks' vacation (30 hours per week), 6 holidays and 5 sick days, as discussed in the executive session held on December 26, 2024. Council President commented that Ms. McGoldrick has efficiently held the position for 31 months. The Borough Manager confirmed the salary increase would be within the mid salary range for that position among other boroughs.

Council President called for a motion to approve the salary increase for the Borough Secretary. Ms. Oessenich made the motion as called for. Mr. Gillies seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Ms. McGoldrick thanked the council for their consideration.

12.REVIEW OF PEDDLING AND SOLICITING ORDINANCE WITH MOTION TO REVISE AND UPDATE THE ORDINANCE –

The current Peddling and Soliciting Ordinance was written in 1982. Council President would like the council to revise and update the ordinance, stating that recently, a solar company had contacted the Borough Office asking for the requirements to solicit in Langhorne Manor. The current ordinance applies to Solicitors, Surveyors, Vendors and Peddlers, some conditions apply. Council Members had several questions about legal options. Mr. Profy will contact the Pennsylvania State Boroughs Association to determine who and what conditions can and cannot be prevented from soliciting.

13.REPORTS –

- a. **Jim Niwinski** – No Report but had two comments: Regarding payments made on behalf of the Zoning Hearing Board and who was approving them? And a second comment about the emergency response team, this was headed by Dawn Seader when she was on Council and who is heading that now?
- b. **Cheryl Oessenich** – Advised that a post card was sent to everyone in the Borough regarding the Whitetail Disposal who also sent a tri-fold announcement to the residents. Also, the Recycle Rebate has been applied for and is usually issued later in the year. One other thing about Whitetail Disposal, they have a live website for our borough only, which is linked to our www.langhornemanor.org website and is very informative.
- c. **Nicholas Pizzola** – we have had a long-time leak at Elm & North Aves which causes a hazardous condition in wintertime. Our Engineer looked at it, Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority originally denied responsibility. After some follow up with BCWSA they have agreed that it their responsibility and they will be making a repair this month.

Mr. Pizzola contacted Wood School about their annual contribution. Their prior contribution was \$7500, this year, they are raising it to \$12,000 which will arrive this month.

Mr. Pizzola advised that he applied for 3 grants with the RDA that have been approved.

d. Bob McBeth – no report

e. Sam Jennings – there is a water leak on Fairview, Mr. Jennings called BCWSA, and they came out to repair it. Also, Feeney’s Nursery is closing, the Shade Tree commission has worked with them in the past and we will be looking for a new nursery to work with in the future.

f. Phil Gillies – Mr. Gillies said he attended the liquid fuels seminar last week. He will be finalizing the reporting by the end of this month.

g. Devin Keating – Ms. Keating reached out to RVE regarding our recertification for MS4. RVE has submitted the renewal paperwork and there is no concern about its approval.

14.MAYORS REPORT – no report

15.BOROUGH MANAGERS REPORT – no report

16.SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Mr. Profy advised, Cairn University did appeal the Zoning Hearing Board decision. It is now with the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County. Because it is a matter of litigation it can only be discussed in an executive session which will be held at the conclusion of this meeting to discuss various options.

17.CORRESPONDENCE - None

18.APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT - Council President stated that the unpaid bills report for January were submitted for council approval and asked if there were any questions or concerns.

Council President called for a motion to approve the General unpaid bills report for January 2025. Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Mr. Jennings seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Council President called for a motion to approve the Sewer unpaid bills report for January 2025. Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Mr. Gillies seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

19. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT Council President stated that the treasurer's reports for December 2024 were submitted for council approval and asked if there were any questions or concerns.

Council President called for a motion to approve the General Treasurer's report for December 2024. Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Mr. Gillies seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Council President called for a motion to approve the Sewer Treasurer's report for December 2024. Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Mr. Gillies seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Council President called for a motion to approve the Highway Aid Treasurer's report for December 2024. Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Mr. McBeth seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

20. COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS AND VISITORS –

Steven Krywonos 204 W. Park Ave. Asked if Feeney's Nursery was also closing or just the store. Mr. Jennings stated the nursery was also closing.

Jim Keba 604 Hill Ave. commented regarding the solicitation ordinance, could we put up no soliciting signs which could be attached to the same signposts denying trucks.

Bob Grupp, 305 Hill Ave asked if residents would be apprised of the Cairn University hearing. Mr. Profy stated that it would depend on whether the resident had obtained Party Status during the Zoning Hearing Board meeting. Mr. Grupp then asked, would residents who know about the hearing, be allowed to attend? Mr. Pizzola said he would assume they would.

Dan Nicastro 403 Station asked how residents would be notified about the Cairn University Hearing? Mr. Profy said he did not know, that was up to the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Nicastro also commented that within the budget and raises for

Bonnie, it was stated that she worked about 30 hours a week, but the math does not work out.

21.NEXT MEETING: January 28, 2025

22.ADJOURNMENT - Council President advised that the meeting will now move to an executive session to discuss the Cairn University appeal. Executive sessions are for council only.

Council President called for a motion to adjourn the executive session. Mr. Niwinski made the motion as called for. Mr. Gillies seconded. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Bonnie McGoldrick

Secretary/Treasurer