

## STATED MEETING - CITY COUNCIL – JANUARY 28, 2014

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 in Council Chambers, Southern Market Center, 100 South Queen Street, Lancaster, PA, at 7:30 p.m., with President Graupera presiding.

Council led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present – Mr. Reichenbach, Ms. Sorace, Mr. Soto,  
Ms. Williams, Ms. Wilson, President Graupera – 6

Excused – Mr. Roschel - 1

The minutes of the meetings of Council for January 14, 2014 were approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

READING OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND MEMORIALS – Randy Patterson, Director of Economic Development and Neighborhood Revitalization, presented commendations to the members of the Bureau of Housing and the Housing inspectors. He stated that he received notice from the International Code Council which is the Property Maintenance Code that the City uses for its property maintenance enforcement in the City, that we have been recognized for having 100% of our housing staff certified in that property maintenance code. That is quite an achievement. There is quite a lot of work and study to go into that testing procedure. They do have to pass a test to be certified. He recognized the following inspectors: Mike Byerly, Sean Glass, Corey Lloyd, Will Perez, Nelson Peters and Edwin Santiago. He recognized the support staff, Linda Syder and Maria Guzman. Lori Saloman and Sandy Baker could not be here tonight. Jesus “Butch” Vega is the supervisor of the Housing Inspectors and is also certified in the Property Maintenance Code, and he also introduced Karen Bousquet who is the Deputy Director and oversees the entire division. He introduced John LeFever, who is certified in the International Code on the instruction side, and he is the City’s only master codes official, which means he is certified in 26 different areas of the International Code Council.

Mr. Patterson stated that these inspectors are much like the Post Office, they are in the field, in sun, rain, snow, and much like today, extremely cold temperatures. They are in places most of us would not want to go. The work they do has had a significant impact on the quality of life of Lancaster City residents and of their neighbors, and we are proud that they serve for us.

Mayor Gray stated that any time someone says to you, that we don’t do anything in the neighborhoods and all that happens is downtown. These guys are in the neighborhood every day. What they do is keep things from happening. He thanked them for what they do and for improving the quality of life in the City, and thanked them for all those things they don’t get credit for, because nothing happened, because they were there to keep it from happening.

President Graupera also thanked them for all they do for the City of Lancaster, for the health

and wellbeing of our residents.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Chairwoman Sorace made a motion to add Resolution No. 6-2014 to the agenda and Councilman Soto seconded. City Council approved adding Administration Resolution No. 6-2014 to the agenda by a unanimous roll call vote.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE – Chairman Soto stated that the Committee met on January 7, and Mr. Patterson reported on the HARB recommendation. He also discussed an ordinance to register vacant properties in the City. This proposed ordinance will protect the public health, safety and welfare, monitor the amount of vacant buildings and structures within the City, assess the effects of the conditions of those buildings on nearby businesses, buildings, structures, properties in neighborhoods in which they are located, particularly in light of the fire safety hazards, and unlawful temporary occupancies of transients, including illicit drug users and traffickers. Requiring the owners of such vacant properties to pay release fees and show efforts to rehabilitate vacant buildings. We will discuss this ordinance at the February 3, committee meeting.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Councilwoman Williams made a motion to re-appointment to the Municipal Authority and to appoint Jean K. Weglarz and Ben Bamford to the Municipal Authority and Councilman Reichenbach seconded. City Council approved the re-appointment and appointments by a unanimous roll call vote.

City Council considered the following applications & (Historical Commission recommendations for construction and demolition in the Heritage Conservation District:

1. Amalfi Properties proposes demolition of a three story commercial building at 26 East King Street.
2. Amalfi Properties proposes construction of a new three-story commercial building at 26 East King Street.

Councilwoman Wilson made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Williams seconded. City Council approved the recommendations of the Historical Commission by a unanimous vote.

Administration Resolution No. 6-2014, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER EXONERATING 2013 WATER CHARGES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,895.53 AND SEWER CHARGES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$31,766.23 FOR CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES AT 29 LOCATIONS.**

Councilwoman Sorace made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Wilson seconded. City Council approved Administration Resolution No. 6-2014 by a unanimous roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Joshua Funk stated that he and his brother own Annie Bailey’s which is right next door to the building that that will be torn down and rebuilt. He was concerned because of the work being done, that it might cause problems for his building, especially his open deck which is very profitable in the summer months.

Randy Patterson stated that in the building planning process and the building permitting process, because of tight neighborhoods and neighbors, we do take care in sequencing construction and making sure that neighboring properties are not negatively impacted. There is always going to be a little bit of impact, but we work closely with the neighboring properties as well as we will also with the developers. There will be oversight.

Mike Ridgeway, 248 East Ross Street, stated that he is the lone nationally certified Cycling Instructor in the City, and he invited City Council to attend the new bicycle education program that is being offered through the Lancaster Recreation Commission starting next week.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR - Mayor Gray made his report to City Council and it can be seen on the City’s website. [www.cityoflanasterpa.com](http://www.cityoflanasterpa.com)

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilman Reichenbach stated that he was in attendance at the 2<sup>nd</sup> CRIZ Board meeting this afternoon. He expressed how exciting it is to see that group up and running.

Councilwoman Wilson publicly thanked the churches, agencies and businesses who have worked tirelessly throughout this bad weather helping the homeless find shelter and food.

President Graupera adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

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John E. Graupera, President

Attest:

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City Clerk