

STATED MEETING - CITY COUNCIL – JUNE 10, 2014

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held on Tuesday, June 10, 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, Mr. Roschel, Ms. Sorace, Mr. Soto
Ms. Williams, President Graupera – 6

Excused – Ms. Wilson – 1

The minutes of the meeting of Council for May 27, 2014 were approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Jonathan P. Fox, Jean Bickmire and Todd Blankenstine presented a resolution to City Council that they would like Council to adopt. The program is called “Ban the Box” and is specifically asking employers to remove the box on employment application and judge the individual on his/her own merits. Ex-offenders have a difficult time finding employment after being released from incarceration and often cannot find meaningful employment. This adds to high rates of unemployment, recidivism, and increased crime. Mr. Tom Hassler, City resident stated his support of this resolution. City Council will discuss the resolution at the Committee meeting on July 7, 2014.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE – Chairman Reichenbach stated that he didn’t have a specific report but wanted to mention that over the last 24 hours, he was invited by Bob Shoemaker of the Lancaster City Alliance to take part in their working group for their economic development strategic plan.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE – Chairman Soto stated that there are two items on the agenda this evening and he will address them when they come up.

City Council considered the following application and (HARB recommendation) for improvements to properties within the Historic District:

1. Jerry Robledo requests replacement of wooden windows on the building’s façade with vinyl windows at 418½ Poplar Street (Denial)

Councilman Roschel made a motion to approve the recommendations of HARB and Councilman Reichenbach seconded.

Randy Patterson, Director of Economic Development and Neighborhood Revitalization, stated that at a prior committee meeting, Mr. Robledo was asked to engage one of the contractors

recommended by the City that could potentially repair his windows. He did do that and received a letter which has been distributed to all of you. You will notice that the Contractor did not give a price to repair the windows. He did recommend that they should be replaced with wood windows or aluminum clad wood windows. There would be three options for City Council. One is to accept the HARB recommendation which would send Mr. Robledo back to the HARB to work with them to see if they could come to a resolution. The second would be to reject the motion which would allow Mr. Robledo to install the vinyl windows. The third would be reject the recommendation and allow Mr. Robledo to go back to the HARB for resolution.

Both Mr. Roschel and Mr. Soto stated that after much consideration, they have made up their minds how to vote. Ms. Sorace stated that this particular property has already been significantly altered in terms of its façade as outlined in the letter from the contractor today and she would appreciate the opportunity to allow Mr. Robledo to put in the windows that he would like. It would be great if they are two over two to match the others on the street. She thinks this City taxpayer has gone through all the hoops and met all of the requests that were made of him. She is very supportive of the work of HARB, but in this particular case, she is not in favor of sending this back to HARB. Mr. Reichenbach disagreed, why wouldn't the next person be allowed. What would be the rationale be for the next person who comes in. He feels that the HARB was appointed for a reason, and they have a job to do and they made a recommendation. Ms. Williams stated that that Mr. Robledo showed due diligence in that he did get estimates on how to repair his windows, but she agrees with Mr. Reichenbach, that there is a procedure and she feels strongly that procedure should be followed.

Mr. Robledo addressed the Council and explained his position. After discussion between Council Members and Mr. Patterson the President called for a vote.

City Council voted 4 -2 to overturn the recommendation of the HARB. Aye - Roschel, Williams -2. No – Reichenbach, Sorace, Soto, Graupera – 4.

Administration Resolution No. 28- 2014, (the title) was read by the Clerk as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA APPROVING A WAIVER OF THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 232-3 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF A PARCEL LYING BETWEEN 208 AND 214 SOUTH CONESTOGA STREET, LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA to ALLEGHENY IRON AND METAL COMPANY, INC.

Councilman Roschel made the motion to approve and Councilman Soto seconded. Mr. Roschel stated that the City is seeking to sell the parcel of land between 208 and 214 Conestoga Street to the Allegheny Iron and Metal Company for \$10,000. The company plans to expand their business and the City will retain a portion which will be used to expand a future bicycle path.

City Council approved Administration Resolution No. 28-2014 by a unanimous roll call vote.

Administration Resolution No. 29-2014, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO AMEND THE 2014 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (YEAR THREE OF THE CITY'S FIVE-YEAR *CONSOLIDATED PLAN*) TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD). THE AMENDMENT ADDS \$126,693 OF EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) FUNDS AND THE USE OF THE FUNDS.

Councilman Roschel made the motion to approve and Councilman Reichenbach seconded. Mr. Patterson stated that this year the City is once again an entitlement applicant under the Emergency Solutions Grant Program. We use a review committee that is made up of agencies and organizations that address the homeless and are part of a continuum of care organization. This is their recommendation. It focuses primarily on rapid re-housing vs. emergency shelter, which has proven to be a more cost effective approach and a more family centered approach to deal with issues of homelessness. City Council approved Administration Resolution No. 29-2014 by a unanimous roll call vote.

Administration Resolution No. 30-2014, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

“A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SELLING A PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT OR NEAR 209 HAZEL STREET AND IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL ID. NO. 338-18759-0-0000 SO TO ALLOW THE PROPERTY TO BE TRANSFERRED TO JOSEPH V. HEIDLER, III, AND SUKJA HEIDLER, TRUSTEES OF THE SECOND RESTATEMENT TO REVOCABLE INTER VIVOS TRUST AGREEMENT OF JOSEPH V. HEIDLER, III.”

Councilman Roschel made the motion to approve and Councilman Soto seconded.

The City owns a strip of property neat 209 Hazel Street which was an unopened street which was removed from the City plan back in 1948. The interest of the Springhouse Brewery on the adjoining property would like to have legal claim to the property. They seek a quit-claim deed granting the property. The City seeks to grant that quit-claim deed with this resolution, but it will forever maintain and operate an 84 inch sewer main under the said property and adjoining property.

City Council approved Administration Resolution No. 30-2014 by a unanimous roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Bob Shenk, 220 East Grant Street, stated that he is just here to publicly thank Charlotte and her staff and the City Council for approving the resolution regarding the first step toward Complete Streets, which hopefully will lead to an ordinance and encourage

other municipalities in the County to follow suit.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilman Reichenbach, Councilman Soto, and Councilman Roschel commented on First Friday and how successful it was this past Friday. Mr. Roschel specifically noted the Art Gallery on the first floor of City Hall mentioning that there are more galleries than those on Prince Street. Councilwoman Williams commented on the North Museum has an exhibit on Race which the YWCA has brought in collaboration with the Museum. It is an excellent exhibit from the University of Minnesota. We are encouraging conversations about race.

President Graupera adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

John E. Graupera, President

Attest:

City Clerk