

STATED MEETING - CITY COUNCIL – APRIL 26, 2016

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 in Council Chambers, 120 North Duke Street, (Rear Annex) Lancaster, PA, at 7:30 p.m., with President Graupera presiding.

The Council led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Excused – Mr. Roschel - 1

The minutes of the meeting of Council for April 12, 2016 were approved by a roll-call vote. President Graupera abstained.

REPORTS REQUESTED BY COUNCIL

City Public Art Manager Heidi Leitzke updated City Council on the activities of the Public Art Advisory Board. She described the mission and role of the Public Art Advisory Board and various arts initiatives.

Specifically, she mentioned online maps of art sites in the City; formulation of a public art master plan, which began in April; the Litter Letter Project, which included a litter clean-up last weekend; Lancaster Sound Map, in which artist Stuart Hyatt recorded sounds, located them on a map and collaborated with musicians to produce a vinyl album of music; “Moving in the Right Direction” which will be a colorful steel fence around the Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School wading pool; the Central Market Visibility Project, which consists of wayfinding signs designed by local artists that will be installed beginning in June; sculptures recently installed in the Sixth Ward Park; the final Poetry Path Project will be installed in the Central Market quadrant of Penn Square in the fall; and the ongoing exhibition programs at the City Hall gallery and at the Amtrak station.

Ms. Sorace, a member of the Public Art Advisory Board, added that the “Moving in the Right Direction” fence will replace a chain-link fence around the wading pool. It will be visible from South Duke Street and the bright colors will help beautify the neighborhood. She praised the support for the project from the community, the involvement of MLK Elementary School art teacher Tiffany Wilson, and the connection with San Juan Batista church. The project has served as a nexus of positive activity on the South Duke Street corridor.

INTERIM REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE -
Mr. Reichenbach reported that his committee had met earlier in the evening to discuss Administration Resolution No. 21-2016, which authorizes the mayor and the administration to seek an exemption from Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board enforcement of noise regulations

outside establishments with liquor licenses. Mr. Reichenbach explained that with the exemption, the City would enforce its own noise ordinance.

The City had sought and received an exemption for the first time last year. It was a one-year exemption. This time, the City hopes to receive a three-year exemption. The focus of the exemption is narrow. It is really for outside music which crosses property lines.

Mr. Reichenbach asked for a motion to move Resolution No. 21-2016 onto the meeting agenda. Mr. Soto made that motion. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion.

Council approved the motion to place Resolution No. 21-2016 onto the agenda by a unanimous roll-call vote.

Administration Resolution No. 21-2016, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A resolution of City Council of the City of Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania authorizing and directing the City to file a petition of City of Lancaster for exemption from noise provisions under subsection 493(34) of the Liquor Control Code and to take any and all action necessary to process that application.

Mr. Reichenbach made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion.

Council approved Administration Resolution No. 21-2016 by a unanimous roll-call vote.

Mr. Reichenbach further stated that he is supporting a resolution which will come before Council at the May 2 committee meeting. He is unable to attend that meeting and wished to comment on the resolution in advance. The resolution encourages the U.S. Senate to appoint a justice to Supreme Court of the United States to fill the existing vacancy. Mr. Reichenbach noted that more than a dozen Supreme Court justices have been confirmed during election years. Five of those have been appointed in the last 100 years. The longest the country has gone without either nominating or rejecting a nominee to a Supreme Court vacancy has been 125 days. Without Senate action, the current vacancy will remain for more than 269 days. He called that unacceptable. At the local level, officials are held accountable to do their job. Senators should be held to the same standard.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Ms. Wilson reported that the mayor has submitted the names of two individuals for reappointment to the Downtown Investment District Authority board and one individual to the Higher Education Authority.

She moved to reappoint James Wagner and Pastor Timothy Mentzer to the Downtown Investment District, for terms from December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2020, and David Nice to the Higher Education Authority, for a term from January 1, 2016 to January 1, 2021.

Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

Council approved the reappointments by a unanimous roll-call vote.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

Administration Bill No. 4-2016, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania amending Chapter 262 of the Code of the City of Lancaster to provide for the expansion of the Streetscape District, authorizing the implementation of Green Infrastructure into certain streetscape standards for items such as sidewalks, traffic calming measures and planting within the Streetscape District, providing for the enforcement of the ordinance, establishing penalties for violations of the ordinance; repealing inconsistent ordinances; providing for the severability of the ordinance; and providing that the ordinance shall take effect in accordance with Pennsylvania law.

Ms. Wilson made a motion to approve Administration Bill No. 4-2016. Mr. Soto seconded the motion.

Ms. Sorace said the amendments to the Streetscape District ordinance will align the district with the “Building on Strength” economic development plan. The amendments expand the district from the downtown area to the corridors included in that plan, including North Queen Street to the train station, Manor Street, New Holland Avenue, Harrisburg Avenue, and the East and West Orange and King Street corridors, South Prince and South Queen street corridors, and South Duke Street to Schuylkill Street.

Mayor Gray commented that afternoon he was the keynote speaker and on several panels at a continuing legal education program for environmental law at Weidner Law School. The audience was evenly divided between lawyers and planners. Every speaker referred to programs and initiatives done in Lancaster. Streetscape, green infrastructure, park improvements were among the initiatives done in Lancaster to which the speakers referred.

Council approved Administration Bill No. 4-2016 by a unanimous roll-call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Indira Periyasamy, a resident of Delaware, but with a home and office at 154 East Lemon Street, said her company had purchased properties on Manor Street which were condemned and vacant. Yet, she said, the City was still charging for residential trash collection for those vacant properties. She noted that construction debris of the ongoing renovation could not be placed in the residential trash. She contended she was being charged for a service that was not being rendered and questioned the legality of the billing.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Gray read the following prepared statement:

The City's broadband fiber network initiative is on target for launching services by year's end. Construction of Remote Switching Stations (RSS) will begin next week, and completed by early summer. Each RSS building will be 12' x 12' x 10' and is designed to last 100 years. Our network has been built to make service available throughout the entire City and, thus far, more than 14.5 million feet of fiber has been installed City-wide. These RSS structures are needed to provide a secure space to terminate these fibers and to securely house the network electronics. Neighborhood residents are being notified of plans to construct Remote Switching Stations at these four locations:

- *Janice Stork Park*
- *Musser Park*
- *Conlin Field Park*
- *South Duke Street corridor*

After the RSS buildings are in operation, network testing will begin.

City Health Officer, Kim Wissler, has been working in partnership with Lancaster General Health Wellness Division, the School District of Lancaster and Lighten Up Lancaster to expand community gardens throughout the City. Gardens have been established at Arbor Place, Lancaster County Prison at the County Park and at the prison itself, and Arch Street Center with more non-profits to follow. Churches involved in the Feeding America Program will also have plants and seeds available for gardening at their churches. Most city schools have community gardens and two elementary schools have been licensed to sell their vegetables at Musser Park Market.

Increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables is a focus of this year's program, with outreach to corner stores and bodegas encouraging them to offer more choices of seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables at affordable prices.

In addition, in conjunction with City Restaurants, Lancaster General Hospital, Fulton Elementary School, Lighten Up Lancaster and First Reformed Church, we have been awarded a grant to conduct presentations on how to feed families on a tight budget with items commonly found in their pantries. Fulton Elementary School and First Reformed Church will host these food demonstrations on May 2 and May 19 respectively.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

President Graupera noted that signs had been erected at the former Northwest Linear Corridor Park with the park's new name of Mayor Janice C. Stork Corridor Park. Signs have been erected on the Lemon Street and Mulberry Street entrances to the park. He noted that interpretive historical signs will be forthcoming, funded by the National Railroad Historical Society. He thanked City Council members and the mayor for supporting the initiative and Public Works Director Charlotte Katzenmoyer and her Parks crew for the signage and installation.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Reichenbach asked EDNR Director Randy Patterson to brief Council members on developments regarding the City Revitalization & Improvement Zone Authority.

Mr. Patterson said the CRIZ Authority board met earlier in the day to review its 2015 audit, sign a judgement note for expenses covered by the City during 2015 for professional services, and to discuss the removal of properties from the CRIZ district. Mr. Patterson said that he and the mayor had met with the governor and his staff and discussed removing properties from the district in order to reduce the reporting burden on small businesses in areas of the district where there may not be a project in the near future. Plans call for reducing all of the areas in the scattered 130-acre district. Although the process for reducing the areas has not yet been established, he is hopeful it can be done simply and easily.

Penalty notices were recently issued by the state to 235 businesses for failure to report information for 2015. He noted the City goes through an extensive effort to attempt to inform business about the reporting requirements, including email, postcards, phone calls and sending representatives directly to the businesses.

Mr. Patterson said state representatives have said the CRIZ Authority will be able later to expand the district back to the full 130 acres when a project is ready.

President Graupera adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

John E. Graupera, President

Attest:

Bernard W. Harris Jr., City Clerk