

STATED MEETING - CITY COUNCIL – JANUARY 12, 2016

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held on Tuesday, January 12, 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, Mr. Roschel, Ms. Sorace, Mr. Soto, Ms. Williams, Ms. Wilson and President Graupera – 7

The minutes of the special meeting of Council for January 4, 2016 and the Council committees meeting held the same evening were approved by a roll-call vote.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – No report.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION – Mr. Reichenbach said his committee met January 4, 2016 and discussed Resolution No. 5-2016 (later renumbered Resolution No. 3-2016), which amends building permit fees. That resolution is on this evening's agenda.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Ms. Sorace reported that her committee did not meet January 4. However, her committee previously reviewed Bill 21-2015, which is on this evening's agenda for a second reading.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE – Mr. Soto said his committee met January 4 and discussed Resolutions No. 1-2016 and No. 2-2016. Those resolutions are on this evening's agenda.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Ms. Wilson made a motion to reappoint Jon C. Lyons to the Planning Commission, Doug Byler and Susan Allen to the Historical Architectural Review Board, and Bruce Evans to the Historical Commission.

Mr. Reichenbach seconded the motion.

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

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

City Council considered the following applications and recommendations from the Historical Architectural Review Board and Historical Commission for improvements to properties within the Historic District and Heritage Conservation District:

1. 115 East King Street Associates, owner of 115 East King Street, requests reconstruction of the façade of a modern office building and replacement of windows

on the rear and side elevations. (Recommended for approval by the Historical Architectural Review Board.)

2. J.L. Clark, Inc., owner of 303 North Plum Street, proposes installation of a canvas canopy at a commercial entry door. (Recommended for approval by the Historical Commission.)
3. Danyell M. Shepler, owner of 751 Freemont Street, proposes installation of new vinyl siding over existing masonry formstone on a frame house. (Recommended for approval by the Historical Commission.)

Ms. Sorace moved to accept the recommendations. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion.

City Council voted to approve the applications by a unanimous roll-call vote.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

Administration Bill No. 21-2015, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

Ordinance authorizing incurring of lease rental debt of the City of Lancaster in an amount of \$19,530,000 by: guaranteeing payment of principal of and interest on the Parking Authority of the City of Lancaster (the “Authority”) Guaranteed Parking Revenue Bond, Series of 2016 (the “2016 Bond”), issued for the purpose of providing funds for the 2016 project which includes: (I) the advance refunding of the Authority’s outstanding Guaranteed Parking Revenue Bonds, Series A of 2007 (the “2007A Bonds”) (the “refunding project”); (II) construction of improvements to the Authority’s facilities (the “capital project”); and (III) the payment of the issuance costs of the 2016 bond (collectively, the “2016 Project”); authorizing execution and delivery of a guaranty agreement; fixing the amount of annual payments of principal of and interest on the 2016 bond guaranteed by the City; authorizing the filing of the debt statement, borrowing base certificate, transcript of proceedings and application for approval with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; authorizing the preparation and filing of an engineering or consultant’s report with respect to self-liquidating debt; and authorizing the execution and delivery of a reimbursement agreement.

Ms. Sorace made a motion to approve the bill. Mr. Reichenbach seconded the motion.

Ms. Sorace said the financing will pay for the costs related to refinancing 2007 Lancaster Parking Authority bonds. The estimated cost savings of the refinancing is greater than \$3 million over the life of the bond. The City is guaranteeing the new debt, however the repayment will come from revenue from the authority’s parking facilities and is not included in the City budget.

Mr. William McCarty, bond solicitor for the authority, clarified that although the amount of the borrowing decreased by \$400,000 between the first and second reading of the bills, no amendment is needed as long as the final version is read into the record.

City Council approved Bill No. 21-2015 by a unanimous roll-call vote.

RESOLUTIONS

Administration Resolution No. 1-2016, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A resolution of the Council of the City of Lancaster authorizing the director of Economic Development and Neighborhood Revitalization to be designated as certifying officer on behalf of the City of Lancaster for the purposes of the Federal Environmental Review Process as required for receiving assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

Mr. Soto said that applications for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grants, Emergency Shelter Grants and HOME Partnership Grants require that the City complete an environmental review process. This resolution names the City's Economic Development & Neighborhood Revitalization director as the signatory for those reviews.

City Council approved Resolution No. 1-2016 by a unanimous roll-call vote.

Administration Resolution No. 2-2016, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A resolution of the Council of the City of Lancaster approving and authorizing the filing of a twenty-seventh year Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant Application with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation, in the amount of \$18,000.00, to be used for various historic preservation purposes.

Mr. Roschel made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Reichenbach seconded the motion.

Randy Patterson, City Director of Economic Development & Neighborhood Revitalization, said the annual grant helps pay the salary of the City's historic preservation specialist and other staff costs associated with administering the Historical Architectural Review Board and Historical Commission. That represents the maximum \$12,000 allowed in the grant. The remaining funds will be used for a specific preservation project. This year's project will be the electronic documentation of properties within the City's historic districts.

City Council approved Resolution No. 2-2016 by a unanimous roll-call vote.

Administration Resolution No. 3-2016, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A resolution of the Council of the City of Lancaster amending the schedule of fees for residential one and two family dwelling construction and demolition, commercial, mixed-use and multi-family construction and demolition, and other miscellaneous construction related permits.

Mr. Reichenbach made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Soto seconded the motion.

Mr. Reichenbach stated that several changes are included in the permit fee amendments. This is the first update since 2013. Included in the changes are:

- a. Permits related to residential fire alarm detection systems will be issued by City code enforcement, rather than the Fire Bureau.
- b. Renovations and alterations by a single trade within the Historic District will not require a permit until the cost of work exceeds \$300. Currently, the threshold is \$200.
- c. Citywide, renovations and alterations by a single trade will not require a permit unless the work exceeds \$300. The current threshold is \$200. The minimum permit cost is being raised from \$65 to \$75.
- d. Sewer connection inspections will now be done by City inspectors, rather than third-party inspectors, so the third-party inspection fees are being eliminated.
- e. Painting, papering and floor covering costs have been removed from tabulation of the \$300 threshold for requiring a building permit.
- f. Code Administrators, an additional third-party inspection firm, was added to the list of inspection firms whose fees must be paid before a permit can be issued.

City Council approved Resolution No. 3-2016 by a unanimous roll-call vote.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Gray read the following prepared statement:

All haulers who provide weekly collection of solid waste and recycling at commercial and residential establishments must register with the City each year. This ensures that they are still operating with proper insurance and safe vehicles. A key part of this registration requirement is that each hauler provide the City with their customer lists.

As we begin our tenth year with a Single Hauler program, we now provide solid waste and recycling collection for nearly 18 thousand households or commercial establishments. Last year, we began entering customer data into our GIS system. This year, we will begin conducting site visits of non-residential establishments to boost compliance with commercial recycling requirements.

After nearly a year of design and field work, we have completed the first phase of our Fiber Backbone installation, covering approximately 60 % of the City. The current Fiber Network now spans over 137,000 feet or 26 miles within the City. We have installed 2,732 Strand miles of Aerial fiber and are attached to over 1000 utility poles throughout the City.

We have also completed the first phase of our downtown underground Fiber Network. This covers over 2,300 feet of the downtown and adds 41.8 Strand miles of fiber to the network. The remaining two phases of the underground Fiber Backbone network will be completed over the next 6 months.

The entire Safety Coalition network has been replaced with the new fiber backbone. We are in the process of migrating the Safety Coalition's 161 cameras to the new Fiber Backbone along with new camera sites that will be added as well. The migration process will be ongoing throughout the next 12 months.

Our next step is to begin deploying services. This will be done while we continue to expand the Fiber Backbone throughout the remaining sections of the City. We plan to roll out services in segments of the City soon after the first quarter, and will continue adding segments throughout the year. Our goal is to have Services available throughout the City before the end of 2016.

At the same time, we are working to expand our WIFI Network. This process is ongoing and will continue throughout the next 12 months. Our first priority is to continue to deploy WIFI services in the City Parks, and the rest of the City will follow in logical segments over the next 12 months.

The City's existing traffic network is ready to be migrated to the new fiber backbone. This network controls over 85 intersections throughout the City. The migration process has begun and will also continue over the next 12 months.

As mayor for more than a decade, I've met many people. Some stand out as unforgettable. One, Christopher Castaneda was about 10 years old when, soon after I was first elected, he visited my office. Christopher was concerned with the lack of progress being made at the renovations of the wading pool at Buchanan Park. He explained that though at his ripe age he was too old for a wading pool, he wanted to assure that the kids younger than him had an opportunity to enjoy the pool and Buchanan Park as much as he did. When I told him of our plans and the health reasons for the closure he accepted the explanation, but monitored our progress until the pool was reopened.

Christopher continued to grow. He was a Cub Scout, and he advanced to Boy Scout. I'm told that he followed our efforts in the City with great pride, hoping that someday he could contribute more. He was an honor student in school, and after graduation enlisted in the Army. Today, I received a call from Christopher's father advising me that, in November, while serving in Iraq Christopher died in a noncombat related accident. Christopher was 19.

As we accept all the daily blessings we have, let's pause and remember Christopher and all who have made the ultimate sacrifice for us. I am directing that a tree be planted in Buchanan Park with a plaque commemorating Christopher's life, his dedication to his community and country, and his love for that Park.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

President Graupera reported the following:

As many of you are already aware, the Zoning Hearing Board voted last week that the expansion of the East King Street Parking Garage was not appropriate as proposed.

Denying a "certificate of appropriateness" for the project essentially stops the expansion of the garage. The Lancaster Parking Authority cannot get a permit to build without it.

The Zoning Hearing Board vote is just a recommendation. The decision rests with City Council.

At our February 1st committee meeting, Council will hear from a representative of the Zoning board about their recommendation. We will also hear from the Lancaster Parking Authority and concerned neighbors.

The committee meeting will be the first time City Council has discussed the project. The meeting is open to the public. And everyone is invited to attend.

Mr. Patterson made a correction for the record. It was the Historical Architectural Review Board which had made the recommendation, not the Zoning Hearing Board.

President Graupera adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

John E. Graupera, President

Attest:

Bernard W. Harris Jr., City Clerk