

The Special meeting of the Lansford Borough Council for General and Executive purposes was held at the above date and place at 5:45pm. The meeting was called to order by President Martin Ditsky and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There was 1 reporter.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Treasurer Mary Fittos took roll call. Those present were: Martin Ditsky, Rose Mary Cannon, Matthew Walsh, Joe Butrie, Jared Soto, Colin Jones, John Turcmanovich and Solicitor Michael Greek. Mayor James Romankow was absent.

PUBLIC COURTESY

There was no public

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Street Scape- Meters ---Mr. Ditsky said the street scape will be starting Monday, April 11th, 2016. Ms. Cannon said she wanted to know for sure that we were keeping the meters on one side and permits on the other side of the street. Mr. Jones asked if we decide not to put the meters in, where will we hang the flags from. Ms. Cannon said that is part of the installation, getting the holders for them. Ms. Cannon believes this was already approved, but just wants to make sure since the street scape will be starting.

Mr. Soto said he feels council spoke about it so much that unless they feel there is a good reason to not do it, they should move forward with it. Mr. Jones asked if the prior motion was to have the meters on one side and permit parking on the other. Ms. Cannon said installing the meters were definitely put to a motion. She said council did speak about the other side where people have apartments; they can obtain a monthly permit.

Mr. Ditsky said the meters would just be on the South side, where all the stores are. On the North side you have the banks etc. and they would get parking permits.

Mr. Butrie inquired about the revenue received for having the meters, if it warrants the maintenance to keep them going. Mr. Turcmanovich said most blocks to the east and west of the work zone are dead and have no guts in them. He said they are just a shell.

Ms. Cannon said with this project all the meters will have to be addressed and fixed.

There was some conversation on this for a few minutes.

Mr. Walsh asked if the meters were covered by the grant and Ms. Cannon confirmed they are not covered by the grant. She clarified by saying they are putting holes in with poles and putting the old meters on the new poles.

Jared Soto makes the motion to put meters in the South side, between tunnel and Coal Street and leave the North side open for permit parking. Seconded: John Turcmanovich vote. Opposed: Joe Butrie and Matthew Walsh. Motion passes.

- Exit Audit for Secretary Treasurer – Additional cost of \$850- \$1,000 to extend regular audit to cover Treasurer Resignation.

Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion that we give permission to Hutchinson, Gillahan & Freeh to perform the exit audit at the same time with the regular audit. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. Discussion: Mr. Walsh asked when this audit has to be done. Ms. Cannon said now as it's already late, but they always get an extension since they have taxes to finish up. Mrs. Fittos explained that the Auditors will conduct the DCED audit sometime late April to May and then this additional exit audit will be included with the extra cost. Mr. Walsh would like to have the audit as soon as possible before this position is filled. **Opposed: Matthew Walsh. Motion passes.**

Ms. Cannon mentioned that Jill Seigendall is bonded and can keep all the financials up to date until the position is filled. Mr. Greek said she can operate in the Treasurer capacity in the interim.

Ms. Cannon spoke about the pool meeting she had the night before. She said the grant application is due April 8th, which is a DCNR grant. She also said it requires 50% match. She said CDBG funds can be used also since it's for recreation. She said she spoke with Mr. Bodner and O'Gurek and they are unsure on the amount of funds they can provide. Ms. Cannon spoke to the gentlemen from Wade Associates to find out how much the project could be reduced to and he said no lower than \$800,000 which means the Borough would have to come up with \$400,000 to match. She said there would have to be resolution stating that the Borough is applying for these funds and committed to making the match. She said she has to let Wade Associates know if they will be able to do it. Mr. Ditsky said he believes the application deadline is April 18th. Mr. Jones asked if can be discussed next week.

Mr. Walsh mentioned that some people have a go fund me account collecting money for the pool and wanted to make sure that someone is making sure that the money actually comes to the Borough for the pool. Attorney Greek said we have nothing to do with it. Mr. Walsh said we may not, but it could become a legal matter of defrauding. Mr. Greek said that is why we have nothing to do with it as a Borough. He said if someone wants to donate to the Borough and we can earmark it for the Pool, but we are not involved with fundraising or partaking in it.

Ms. Cannon said there is a group that will be involved with fundraising but she told them, the Borough cannot get involved with it in any way, shape or form. She said she will allow them to meet at the Borough Office but that's it. Ms. Cannon said she is hoping that whoever is running the go fund me account would open a bank account.

Mr. Greek also said if we appoint people to the recreation commission, they cannot be involved either with fundraising. He said nowhere in the Borough code does it authorize a municipality to do fundraising.

Mr. Jones asked if decided to donate his time musically could he do that. Mr. Greek said yes because he's doing it on his own, not on behalf of Borough council.

There was some conversation on this for a few minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council entered into executive session at 6:00pm for litigation and personnel purposes and exited at 6:47pm.

With much regret Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to accept the resignation of our Secretary Treasurer, Mary Fittos. Seconded: Matthew Walsh vote. All in favor, motion passes.

Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to advertise for the Secretary/ Treasurer position as soon as possible with a deadline of April 30th, 2016. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion passes. Ms. Cannon said lets not act hastily and ensure we have a qualified candidate. Ms. Cannon said, before Mrs. Fittos we had problems that led into a mess.

Mr. Walsh asked if we can extend the advertisement to the Morning Call. Ms. Cannon said it's very expensive to advertise with them.

Matthew Walsh makes the motion to advertise the position in the Morning Call to obtain some highly qualified candidates for this position. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion passes.

ADJOURNMENT

Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to adjourn at 6:52pm. Seconded: Matthew Walsh vote. All in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Fittos

Secretary/Treasurer

DRAFT