

**Lansford Borough Council
Special Meeting
December 29, 2021**

Call to Order

A special meeting of Lansford Borough Council for the purpose of adopting the 2022 budget at 2:00 p.m. December 29, 2021, at borough hall, 1 W. Ridge Street, Lansford, PA. The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Markovich and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The following council members were present: Martin Ditsky, John Turcmanovich, William Chuma, President Bruce Markovich, Gwyneth Collevecchio, Bob Silver. Mayor Michele Bartek and Marie Ondrus were absent from the meeting.

Public Courtesy

Chris Ondrus, 10 Edgemont Rd. was looking at the budget at the Borough Secretary/Treasurer Salary at \$70,000.00 which was inaccurate it was not broken down. In the past it was always broken down. Borough Secretary / Asst. Sec. I see now that it is broken down is this correct. Can anyone tell me why it was listed that way?

Bruce Markovich responded that is the way the bookkeeper did it.

Chris Ondrus asked so no one on Council questioned it? Do we know how much was spent preparing this budget?

Bruce Markovich mentioned not till we, get her bill.

Chris Ondrus asked if we are going to continue to use her service after the new year?

Bruce mentioned that she will be training our current secretaries.

Rose Mary Cannon, 242 W. Ridge St. I am aware that my attendance at the meetings when I ask questions and interrupt things has not been appreciated by the Council. As a taxpayer I have strong interests in the current matters of the Borough. I never came here to attack, criticize, or belittle members of Council. Advertising the proposed budget gives the residents the opportunity to view the budget and come in and ask questions which was what she was doing that night. Rose Mary also talked about comments that were made towards her and her family. A person comes in and asks questions at a meeting that is really a shame.

Joe Genits, 232 W. Front St. I was going to speak about professionalism by members of Council and what you say when other people are around. Joe asked why the agendas were not put on the website.

Bruce mentioned that we send them off to Mr. O'Gurek and its up to him to get them online.

Joe Genits said the responsibility lies with the Borough Secretary I do not see her out here at the meeting taking minutes. The section of the Borough Code states that the Borough Secretary shall attend all meetings. You have a recorder there if that is what you are going by to give to your Borough Secretary or whoever is going to transcribe your minutes. The responsibility of the Borough Secretary is to attend every meeting and if she cannot be here then the Assistant should be. I think there is a need for ordinances to be updated. What is the status on Codification?

Bruce mentioned that the Mayor was in charge of it. The last he knew of there were approx. 17 ordinances that needed to be changed or have clarification on it.

Joe Genits asked if anyone has seen any of this? And who will continue?

Martin Ditsky stated that the Mayor wants to continue when she is no longer in office. Martin told her she could not that she had to give everything back that she had.

Joe Genits mentioned that as far as Wendy being trained PSAB has a lot of training sessions online that you log in and pay the fee. I would say that after all the years that Jill was here that Wendy should know what Jill was doing. Now if it was Jill's fault, I will place the blame on her the outgoing Secretary. The Asst. Secretary should always know what is going on. Also, the appointment of the Asst. Secretary should be by Resolution.

William Chuma asked Joe Genits do you think everyone here has time to read that whole ordinance book and retain it?

Joe Genits responded with yes, I did.

Bruce mentioned it is not up to a Councilman to interpret an ordinance it is not up to a Borough Secretary to interpret an ordinance. I would not want any Council Member giving out legal advice on a Borough ordinance.

Joe Genits responded look straight up Tunnel St. you will see a structure sticking out on Tunnel St. Where is the Zoning Officer and the books? Who is going to look at that and finally say that should not be there?

Bruce mentioned that from what he understands the Police Chief was up there before he was off and told him he must remove it.

New Business:

Motion to adopt Resolution #2021-07 adopting the 2022 budget as outlined in 2022 budget documents with no changes to the current tax millage rates.

Roll call vote was taken on the motion to accept the budget: voting yes- Gwyneth Collevecchio, William Chuma, John Turcmanovich, Bruce Markovich. Voting no – Bob Silver, Martin Ditsky. Motion passed; 4 yes 2 no.

Adjournment – was at 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy Butrie

Secretary Treasurer

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