

STATED MEETING - CITY COUNCIL –MARCH 9, 2010

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 in Council Chambers, Southern Market Center, 100 South Queen Street, Lancaster, PA, at 7:30 p.m., with President Williams presiding.

City Council led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present – Ms. Coller, Mr. Morales, Mr. Polite, Mr. Roschel
Mr. Urdaneta, President Williams – 6

Excused – Mr. Smith - 1

City Council approved the minutes of February 23, 2010 by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Chairman Roschel stated that the Committee met last Monday, March 1, 2010 and we discussed Administration Bill No. 5-2010 and he will go into detail when it appears on the agenda tonight.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE – Chairman Urdaneta stated that the Economic Development Committee met during his absence on March 1, 2010. There was a report from Mr. Drogaris, from the Lancaster Press Partners on the progress of the project. Also Bill No. 6-2010 was discussed, which is also on the agenda tonight. This Bill will modify Chapter 186, Licensing of Businesses. It will be known as Chapter 186, Vendors and Peddlers Licensing. The police will issue the licenses because they can do a more extensive background checks.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Chairman Polite stated that the Committee recommended approving the Resolution No. 21-2010 designating March as Women’s History Month in the City of Lancaster.

He also read the memo from the Mayor re-appointing Ben Bamford to the Lancaster Industrial Development Authority and made a motion to approve. Councilman Urdaneta seconded. City Council approved the re-appointment by a unanimous roll call vote.

Administration Bill No. 5-2010, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA ESTABLISHING THE CITY OF LANCASTER PUBLIC ART ADVISORY BOARD AND PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PENNSYLVANIA LAW.

Councilman Roschel stated that Public Works Director, Ms. Katzenmoyer and Public Art Manager, Leslie Fordham presented this ordinance at the Public Works Committee meeting. Essentially this ordinance would establish a 7 member Public Arts Advisory Board. The purpose of the Board is stated in Section 6 of the Bill. He read the major points that would be the commission of the Board.

Administration Bill No. 6-2010, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA MODIFYING CHAPTER 186 – LICENSING OF BUSINESSES – AND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER TO REVISE THIS CHAPTER OF THE CITY CODE TO BE KNOWN AS VENDOR AND PEDDLER LICENSING ORDINANCE, ELIMINATING THE BOARD OF APPEALS AND DESIGNATING THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER BUREAU OF POLICE TO HEAR ANY AND ALL APPEALS AS DEFINED IN THIS CHAPTER, DESIGNATING THE BUREAU OF POLICE AS THE BODY TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHAPTER INCLUDING ISSUING LICENSES THEREUNDER, MODIFYING THE FEES SET FORTH IN THE CHAPTER FOR THE ISSUANCE OF VARIOUS LICENSES AND ALLOWING SUCH FEES TO BE MODIFIED FROM TIME TO TIME BY RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL AND MAKING OTHER MODIFICATIONS CONSISTENT WITH THOSE CHANGES; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE LANGUAGE; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING THAT THE ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT AS PROVIDED BY PENNSYLVANIA LAW.

Councilman Urdaneta stated the Administration is looking to make this process more efficient in guaranteeing the safety and security of our citizens when they are approached by vendors and peddlers. In giving this person a license to do business within the City, the Police Department is the one who has the ability to do extensive background checks.

Council Resolution No. 21-2010 was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER DESIGNATING MARCH 2010 AS “WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH” IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

WHEREAS, Women of every race, class and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, Women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of life of this City by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

WHEREAS, Women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural institutions across our nation; and

WHEREAS, Women of every race, class and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement; and

WHEREAS, Women have been leaders not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, the peace movement and other movements which create a more fair and just society for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Lancaster designates the month of March as “Women’s History Month” and encourage the citizens of this City to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Councilman Polite made the motion to approve and Councilman Morales seconded.

Councilman Roschel stated that it was 30 years ago yesterday President Jimmy Carter issued a Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as the first National Women’s History Week and then in 1987 Congress extended it to include a month. There is a group called the “National Women’s History Project” that advocates for this resolution and they advocate for greater inclusion of Women’s History. This year the theme is Writing Women Back into History, celebrating the accomplishments they have made and looking forward to improving on that. In the early 80’s the topic of women’s history was limited to mostly college curricula and at that time less than 3% of the content of teacher training textbooks mentioned the contribution of women and when they were included they were often written in as footnotes. Women of color, women in such fields as math, science and the arts were almost completely omitted. This limited inclusion of women’s accomplishments deprived students of viable female role models. Today when you search the internet with the words: women plus history plus month you will find more than 40,500,000 citations.

Councilwoman Collier stated that she was listening to NPR a few weeks ago and they were talking about the death of an African American woman poet by the name Lucille Clifton and she went to the computer and searched her and found all this information. She said she was sad because she had never read her poems before, and she wanted to mention her. She was very prolific and widely respected. She wrote most of her poetry while she was raising her 6 children. She wrote about African American urban life, and she said a lot in a few words. She recited one of her short poems.

City Council approved Council Resolution No. 21-2010 by a unanimous roll call vote.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR – The report of the Mayor can be seen in its entirety on the City’s website: www.cityoflancasterpa.com

President Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Louise B. Williams, President

Attest:

City Clerk