

STATED MEETING - CITY COUNCIL – JANUARY 23, 2018

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 in Council Chambers, 120 North Duke Street, (Rear Annex) Lancaster, PA, at 7:31 p.m., with President Reichenbach presiding.

The Council led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present – Chris Ballentine, Faith Craig, Janet Diaz, John Graupera, Ismail Smith-Wade-El, Pete Soto and President James Reichenbach – 7

The minutes of the meeting of Council for January 9, 2018 were approved by a unanimous roll-call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Weisser, 310 East Orange Street, expressed to Council members his belief that MAW Communications, the City's partner in the municipal broadband project, has seriously jeopardized the broadband project and placed nearly \$5 million of taxpayer money at risk through its actions. MAW continued to make unauthorized attachments to PPL poles after the utility company denied MAW's application to attach its fiber optic cable. MAW's actions have prompted PPL to file a lawsuit. Mr. Weisser called for the City and Council to reconsider its broadband deployment strategy and legal action in defense of MAW.

INTERIM REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Mr. Graupera made a motion to amend Administration Bill No. 02-2018. The amendments in paragraph four of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Lancaster Township were consistent with discussions between the City and Township regarding access to the 12.14-acre property on the east side of Riverside Avenue.

Mr. Soto seconded the motion and it was approved by a unanimous roll-call vote of Council.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

HISTORIC DISTRICT

Consider the following applications and recommendations from the Historical Commission for improvements to properties within the Heritage Conservation District:

1. Heart to Heart Ministries, owner of 502 South Christian Street, proposes construction of a new, one-story rear addition and entry porch on a modern church structure.
2. Phillip & Donna Kuntz, owners of 4 East Frederick Street, propose construction of a one-story, concrete block garage.

The Historical Commission recommended for approval of both applications.

Mr. Smith-Wade-El made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Historical Commission. Mr. Graupera seconded the motion and it was approved by a unanimous roll-call vote of Council.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

Administration Bill No. 01-2018, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

An ordinance of the Council of the City of Lancaster authorizing and directing the proper officers of the City of Lancaster to exercise the City's powers of eminent domain as set forth in Sections 2801, 3501.1 and 3540.1 of the Third Class City Code (11 P.A.C.S. Section 12801 and 11 P.A.C.S. 13501.1) and Section 303 of the Optional Third Class City Charter Law (53 P.S. §41303) to appropriate and take portions of that property known as 301 Centerville Road, East Hempfield Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; providing for the severability of the ordinance; and providing that the ordinance shall take effect in accordance with Pennsylvania law.

Mr. Graupera made a motion to approve the bill. Mr. Soto seconded the motion.

Mr. Graupera said the City plans to construct a redundant water main from the City's Susquehanna Water Treatment Plant near Columbia to the City. The single, existing water main serves about two-thirds of the City's 125,000 water customers. The redundant main would be available in the event of catastrophic failure. The City has been designing the water main and acquiring easements along the path of construction for five years. For two years, the City has been unable to come to an agreement with Union Community Bank, the owner of 301 Centerville Road, in West Hempfield Township. Acquisition of the easement through eminent domain for that property will complete the easements needed for the water main.

City Council approved Administration Bill No. 01-2018 by a unanimous roll-call vote. It will hereafter be known as Administration Ordinance No. 02-2018.

Administration Bill No. 02-2018, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

An ordinance of the Council of the City of Lancaster authorizing the City to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Lancaster Township regarding the development of a parcel of property located on the east side of Riverside Avenue; providing information regarding the agreement as required by Section 7 of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; providing for the severability of the ordinance; providing for the repeal of inconsistent ordinances; and providing that the ordinance shall take effect in accordance with Pennsylvania law.

Mr. Graupera made a motion to approve the bill. Mr. Soto seconded the motion.

Mr. Graupera said the agreement which is the subject of this bill concerns the development of the planned Public Works Operations Center. The center will be built on City-owned property within Lancaster Township. The Operations Center will combine the City's Parks and Streets bureaus. The agreement includes provisions negotiated between the City and Township under the Township's land development process. Under state law, the agreement must be adopted by the City and the Township.

City Council approved Administration Bill No. 02-2018 by a unanimous roll-call vote. It will hereafter be known as Administration Ordinance No. 03-2018.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

President Reichenbach, in recognition of the Philadelphia Eagles playoff win and upcoming Super Bowl appearance, recited the Eagles fight song:

“Fly Eagles fly, on the road to victory; fight Eagles fight, score a touchdown, one-two-three; hit ‘em low, hit ‘em high, and watch our Eagles fly; fly Eagles fly, on the road to victory; E-A-G-L-E-S, Eagles”


President Reichenbach also stated that he met with Mayor Sorace earlier in the week, for what should be the first of many regular meetings. Additionally, he asked Economic Development & Neighborhood Revitalization Director Randy Patterson to report on the meeting of the City Revitalization & Improvement Zone Authority, which occurred earlier in the day.

Mr. Patterson stated that authority members voted to enter into a grant agreement with Q.S. Zamagias, which is the developer of 101 North Queen Street, to provide funding assistance for the demolition of the walkways around the structure. The agreement is related to the Council’s approval of Ordinance 01-2018, at the last meeting.

Authority members also discussed the work of a task force that will establish guidelines for funding of small businesses under the CRIZ program.

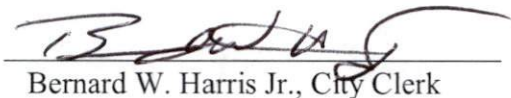
Further, he stated that it had been decided to pause the work of the design architect for the proposed Lancaster Square garage. Phase two of the conceptual design is being delayed 90-120 days while a Request for Proposal is developed for potential use of the air-rights for the space above the garage.

President Reichenbach adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.



James D. Reichenbach, President

Attest:



Bernard W. Harris Jr., City Clerk

Approved by Council: 2/13/2018