A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 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, President Graupera – 7

The minutes of the meeting of Council for October 14, 2014 were approved by a 6 - 1 roll call vote, with Mr. Soto abstaining because he wasn’t present for the October 14 meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Councilwoman Sorace stated that the Financial Reports from September have been received and she encouraged Council to look them over. Also, she stated that she has the Quarterly Legislative Transfers, and she made a motion to accept them. Mr. Reichenbach seconded, and City Council approved the Transfers with a unanimous roll call vote.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Councilwoman Williams stated that Mayor Gray recommended Mr. William Hutson, Artist, to be appointed to the Public Art Advisory Board. She made the motion to accept the Mayor’s recommendation and Councilwoman Wilson seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Hutson addressed the Council and thanked them for the appointment. Mayor Gray stated that we are fortunate to have Mr. Hutson’s knowledge and talent on our Public Art Advisory Board and further stated that two of his paintings are currently on display in City Hall on the second floor.

City Council considered the following applications & (Historic Commission recommendations) for construction and demolition within the Heritage Conservation District:

1. Ely Ruiz, proposes renovation of a restaurant building, including construction of a new two-story addition at 120 North Franklin Street.

2. Tim & Liz Schwartz, proposes construction of a rear addition to a three-story brick rowhouse at 126 East Chestnut Street.

Councilman Reichenbach made the motion to approve the recommendation for No. 1 and Councilman Soto seconded. Councilwoman Wilson made the motion to approve the recommendation for No. 2 and Councilwoman Sorace seconded. City Council approved the recommendations by a unanimous roll call vote.

Administration Bill No. 15-2014, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING CHAPTER 22 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION; AUTHORIZING RESIDENCY AND MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION TO MAKE AND ALTER BY-LAWS; REPEALING INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING THAT THE ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PENNSYLVANIA LAW.

Councilman Roschel made the motion to approve and Councilman Reichenbach seconded.

Councilman Roschel stated that this ordinance expands the Commission from 3 members to 7. It also stipulates that the members are to be City Residents and the majority of the members have experience in tree-related industries such as forestry, horticulture, landscape architecture, planning, zoning, environmental science, arboriculture, or related fields. It also allows the Commission to make and alter its own bylaws and regulations to govern its procedures consistent with this article and the laws of the Commonwealth. City Council approved Administration Bill No. 15-2014 by a unanimous roll call vote and it shall hereinafter be known as Administration Ordinance No. 15-2014.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Ms. McGrann, West Chestnut Street, commented on the meeting planned for tomorrow with the Police, Administration and City Council. There have been some unfortunate problems in the neighborhood and she noted that she would like to see more police presence in the area.

Zoey Swartz, visitor, stated that she is representing GMO Free Lancaster County, stated that she met with the Mayor on the issue talking about passing a resolution to ban a certain pesticide in the City of Lancaster for the safety of our families. President Graupera invited the group to come to our next work session which will take place on November 3, at 6:00 p.m.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR – The report of the Mayor can be viewed on the City’s website www.cityoflancasterpa.com

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT – President Graupera reported that City Council conducted three executive sessions last week and will conduct another next Thursday.

He further stated that the Concord Shreiner Cemetery will conduct the annual Halloween Night on the 31st from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The neighbors and families gather and give out their candy to the children rather than at their homes. There are ghost tours and information about the folks buried in the cemetery.

Lancaster County Preservation Trust is conducting their awards dinner on November 11, 2014. Unfortunately that is a Council night, but he did want to mention that of the awards being presented, 7 of them are in the City. The Fulton Elementary School, Lancaster City Hall, the Train Station, the William Montgomery Mansion, Lancaster Iron Works, Steeple View Lofts and the
Steinman Lofts.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilman Reichenbach mentioned that he had the pleasure of taking the Walk and Talk tour by the Lancaster Preservation Trust and he was amazed at the historical buildings that are being re-used. He was unaware that there was so much historical property that has been preserved and still in use. He encouraged everyone to take the tour.

He further commented on the Thistlefinch Distillery, Lancaster City has a fully functioning whiskey distillery. In the basement is Wacker Brewery which closed its doors in 1956 and is also up and running again.

President Graupera adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

____________________________________
John E. Graupera, President

Attest:

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City Clerk