

STATED MEETING - CITY COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 26, 2008

1

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2008, 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. Collier, Mr. Morales, Mr. Polite, Mr. Roschel, Ms. Saunders,
Mr. Urdaneta, & President Williams -7

City Council approved the minutes of February 12, 2008 by a unanimous roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE - Councilman Roschel stated that the Mayor is putting together a team that is looking into a City Urban Park Recreation and Open Space Plan. Ms. Katzenmoyer is leading that effort. He stated that he is representing Council on that team. There is about 10 or 12 on the team, School District, the County, County Planning, Lancaster Rec Commission and others. He stated that they met on December 6, for an initial meeting. Then a group got together on January 9th and did a tour of the City and stopped at all the parks. This is going to be an ongoing process until we get to a report. The reason for this is; when you apply for money to the State, it is extremely helpful if you have a plan. The Mayor has been meeting with the public and distributing a parks questionnaire to the residents of the City, so we can better identify what the needs are. The questionnaire will be on the City's website in Spanish and English.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE - Chairman Urdaneta stated that his committee met earlier today to discuss the introduction of a resolution recognizing both the contribution of the Vietnamese American community and the Heritage Flag as a symbol of that contribution to our country. He made a motion to add to the agenda, Resolution No. 3-2008, which recognizes the contributions of the Vietnamese American community without recognizing the flag. Councilman Polite seconded. City Council approved adding Resolution No. 3-2008 to the agenda by a unanimous roll vote.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Chairwoman Saunders stated that she has the quarterly legislative transfers and she made the motion to approve and Councilman Roschel seconded. City Council approved the Quarterly Legislative Transfers by a unanimous roll call vote.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE - Chairwoman Collier stated that her committee met this evening and she announced a zoning amendment application by the James Street Housing and Franklin & Marshall College for a zoning change. The next step it will go the Planning Commission. The other items discussed were Resolutions 1&2.

PERSONNEL - Chairman Polite stated that Mayor Gray has submitted the name of J. Glenn Ebersole, to be reappointed to the Lancaster Industrial Development Authority for a 5 year term. He

made the motion to reappoint Mr. Ebersole and it was seconded by Mr. Roschel. City Council approved the appointment by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Polite stated that Mayor Gray has also submitted the name of Ted Darcus for reappointment to the Lancaster County Convention Center Authority for a four-year term. Councilman Polite made the motion and Councilman Urdaneta seconded. City Council approved Mr. Darcus's reappointment by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Polite stated that Mayor Gray has also submitted the name of Julianne Dickson to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Joe Morales ending September 14, 2009. He made the motion to approve and Councilman Urdaneta seconded. City Council approved the appointment of Ms. Dickson by a unanimous roll call vote.

The City Council considered the following applications & (HARB recommendation(s) for improvements to properties within the Historic District:

1. Milagro House, proposes replacement of the front entry door and installation of a new handrail on the front steps at 510 Howard Avenue.

Councilman Roschel made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Collier seconded. City Council approved the recommendation of the HARB by a unanimous roll call vote.

Administration Bill No. 1-2008, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF A 1.348 TRACT OF LAND LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF SEYMOUR STREET AND THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF FAIRVIEW AVENUE IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA, FROM CM DISTRICT TO R3 DISTRICT AND TO CHANGE THE ZONING ATLAS ACCORDINGLY.

Councilman Roschel made the motion to approve and Councilman Urdaneta seconded. Councilman Roschel stated that this came through Committee and we held a Public Hearing to remind people that this doesn't endorse 19 unit housing project along Fairview Avenue, but it paves a way for that to happen. It would help to hide the storage facilities that will be behind it, plus the R-3 designation is consistent with the surrounding neighborhood.

City Council approved Administration Bill No. 1-2008 and shall hereinafter be known as Administration Ordinance No. 1-2008.

Administration Resolution No. 1-2008, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DCED). THE SUBMISSION IS A REQUEST FOR FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$112,500 UNDER THE EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT

(ESG) PROGRAM.

Councilman Urdaneta made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Collier seconded. Randy Patterson, Director of Economic Development & Neighborhood Revitalization, stated that the Emergency Shelter Grant Program is a program that is available to the City of Lancaster through the DCED. At one time the City was an entitlement community under the Emergency Shelter Grant program, but the budget to the program gradually decreased over time and with it, so did the formula, so the City was no longer an entitlement. It now needs to apply through the State and it acts on behalf of the four shelters that are included in the application. Last year, the City received \$87,000. We are applying for slightly more than that this year. Two of the programs, Crispus Attucks and Clare House have asked for possible increase in their grant. That is up to the DCED to make that decision. Council acts tonight to approve the submission of that application. City Council approved Administration Resolution No. 1-2008 by a unanimous roll call vote.

Administration Resolution No. 2-2008, (the title) was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER REVISING THE OFFICIAL SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN FOR THE CITY OF LANCASTER TO INCLUDE THE PARCEL OF LAND IDENTIFIED AS 401 ICE AVENUE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER.

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

Mr. Patterson stated that this is more of a formality to the process of land development in the City. When the land development plan is submitted for a particular parcel and it includes sub-division of that parcel, the City is required to amend its Official Sewage Facilities Plan to accommodate those additional dwelling units or commercial units to the plan. It doesn't actually approve the sub-division of the property, it simply amends the plan to state that it can, in fact, handle those additional units. City Council approved Administration Resolution No. 1-2008 by a unanimous roll call vote.

Council Resolution No. 3-2008, was read by the City Clerk as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER RECOGNIZING LANCASTER'S VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND ITS HERITAGE.

WHEREAS, a significant number of Vietnamese-Americans make their home in the City of Lancaster; and

WHEREAS, members of Lancaster's Vietnamese-American Community have made substantial contributions to the cultural, religious and business life of our City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lancaster hereby recognizes the substantial contributions to the cultural, religious and business

life of the City of Lancaster made by the Vietnamese-American Community.

Councilman Polite made the motion to approve and Councilman Urdaneta seconded. City Council approved Council Resolution 3-2008 by a unanimous roll call vote.

Councilman Urdaneta stated that he will be presenting this resolution to the Vietnamese-American Community on February 2, 2008 Celebration of the Chinese New Year at McCaskey East starting at 10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Eli Williams, 604 South Marshall Street, stated that Mr. Shell, who owns the junkyard down in his neighborhood, is totally out of control. Last year he made several calls to the City and always got the runaround. Something must be done about this place. There is stuff that is not in containers. Unless the Zoning redid their zoning laws, that should be in containers, it should be packaged up. There is stuff everywhere. He has seen rats this summer, and infestation of cats this summer. He is making a mockery out of this government. He is supposed to be done at 5:00 p.m., but he is working past that time. He stated that he is the second generation fighting this man. He stated that the City should not let him get away with this.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR - Before the Mayor gave his report to Council, he addressed Mr. Williams and stated that you are the second neighbor on Marshall Street that he has heard from today. He has talked to some people in the City Government and they are going down and looking at it. Mr. Shell pled guilty last week to 5 or 6 violations. One of the conditions is that he is comply with all conditions of the Solid Waste Ordinance and the Zoning provisions that have been given down there. He assured Mr. Williams that that is going to be looked into. Mayor Gray gave his report to Council. It can be reviewed on the City's website. www.cityoflanasterpa.com

COUNCIL COMMENTS - Councilman Roschel stated that the Lancaster County Planning commission met on January 14. The Commission is adding a functional element to the County Comprehensive Plan, which is Economic Development. We voted on a thirty member Economic Development Steering Committee. Mayor Gray is representing the City on that Committee.

Councilman Morales stated that he thoroughly enjoyed serving on the Convention Center Board. He publicly thanked past Chairman Ted Darcus and Chairman Art Morris for their leadership. He knows that the folks that now sit on that board will continue to do a tremendous job. He learned a great deal while serving.

President Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Louise B. Williams, President

Attest:

City Clerk
