

**MINUTES
LANGHORNE MANOR BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING OF MAY 22, 2006**

1. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting of Langhorne Manor Borough was called to order in the Langhorne Manor Borough Hall, 618 Hulmeville Avenue, Langhorne, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, May 22, 2006, at 8:04 P.M. Eastern Standard Time by William McTigue President.

PERSONS PRESENT – Maryann Barnes, Vice President; Donna Cianci; Sharon Gimpel; William McTigue, President; Nicholas Pizzola Vice President; Steven Yourtee; Francis Farmer, Mayor; Loretta M. Luff, Secretary/Treasurer and Thomas J. Profy III, Solicitor.

PERSON ABSENT- Stephen Galazin

Mr. McTigue read the notice that had been published in the Bucks County Courier Times on Friday May 19, 2006 advertising a special meeting to be held on Monday May 22, 2006.

At this point in the meeting Mayor Farmer led us in the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

Mr. McTigue explained that street signs had been ordered earlier this year and the order had consisted of a certain number of signs, certain size and the signs were to meet Department of Transportation specifications for high intensity reflectivity with the names of the streets throughout the Borough. When the signs were delivered the second week of April, they all said Langhorne Manor. During the month of April, Mr. McTigue had many conversations with the vendor who produced the signs to see if this issue could be resolved. The vendor stated that they could strip the reflective material from the signs also the overlay where it says Langhorne Manor at a cost of \$21.45 per sign, the total cost would be \$1866.00 including freight.

Mr. McTigue also stated that there were two problems with the signs, one being the scroll on top of the sign does not accept the standard bracket and also they could not guarantee a date for delivery of the new signs. That was when we decided to contract other vendors for a more standard shape street sign.

Mr. McTigue stated that the signs were returned to the vendor and they have not been paid for. The payment issue will have to be addressed at a future date.

Mr. McTigue stated the purpose for this meeting is to identify a possible vendor and whether the new signs can be ordered and installed by the end of June 2006.

Mr. McTigue thanked Mr. Yourtee for contacting a number of vendors to get quotes for new street signs. The low bidder was U.S. Municipal Supply. Their quote was for twenty-four inch and thirty inch signs with high intensity reflective material and will use the standard brackets. Color choices are green, red, blue, and black. Their quote is \$2089.00. The cost of the signs that we did not take delivery of was \$2521.25.

Mr. McTigue stated that some residents thought that the Langhorne Manor signs could be mounted on top of the street signs if the Borough has to pay and take delivery of the signs.

Mr. Yourtee stated that he had two quotes from U S Municipal Supply, one quote for engineering grade signs and one for high intensity grade signs. The returned signs were engineering grade; they did not have the reflective quality that the high intensity signs do. The engineering grade signs would cost \$1286.00; the high intensity signs would cost \$2086.00.

Mr. Mucklow asked Mr. McTigue to explain how eighty-seven signs with Langhorne Manor on them were delivered.

Mr. McTigue stated that Mr. Galazin ordered the signs and apparently there was a communication issue, and it has not been determined if the Borough will or will not pay for the signs. It has not been determined as to whose fault it is. Mr. McTigue stated that the order had been placed the first week in February 2006.

It was asked by a resident if the returned freight cost was included. Mr. McTigue stated that he does not know whether it is included or not.

Some of the residents who attended the meeting wanted to know who is going to take the responsibility for ordering the street signs that say Langhorne Manor, and how will it be handled with the person who made the mistake.

Mr. Vile stated that when a person makes a mistake they pay for their mistakes; politicians do not have to pay. This mistake included signs, advertising for this special meeting and possibly return freight for a total of \$2500.00.

Mr. McTigue told the residents that Council is here this evening to address the problem with the street signs and to find a resolution on how to solve this problem. Council is not here this evening to place the blame on anyone as Council does not have all the information that is needed to make a determination.

A resident asked why Mr. McTigue was addressing all the problems and not Mr. Galazin. Mr. McTigue replied that Mr. Galazin had a professional commitment that was already on his schedule, and as President of Borough Council he is presenting all the information he has available at the present time.

A resident inquired as to the number of signs needed for each street. It was stated that eighty-four is the total number of signs needed.

Ms. Linington asked who authorized the ordering of the signs. Mr. McTigue replied that Council authorized Mr. Galazin to order the signs at the January 3, 2006 Borough Council meeting.

A resident asked Mr. Profy to explain his legal view of the situation pertaining to the street signs.

Mr. Profy's advice to Council is not to pay the invoice for the original eighty-seven Langhorne Manor signs. There is an issue of communication as to the specifics of what the order was or if the order was anyway qualified after the original submission, but as of this time that has not been clarified and Council will not authorize any payment. As of the present the Borough has not sustained any loss as the Borough has not made any payments.

Mr. Profy stated that the purpose of this evening's meeting is not to act upon a request for payment for the original signs or to determine the responsibility or the lack of responsibility of the Borough. The issue this evening is to approve a contract with a new vendor so the signs suggested by Mr. Yourtee can be purchased and timely installed during the grant period.

A resident asked if any grant money is involved. Mr. Profy replied that grant money will be used for the purchase and installation of the signs.

Ms. Gimpel asked if the grant money is used for these particular signs, would we be able to submit this payment if we take the original eighty-seven signs. Would this be part of the grant money?

Mr. Profy stated that it would be a duplication and it would have to be clarified as a duplication.

Mr. Abbott asked if Council has a copy of the original order.

Mr. McTigue replied that he has a number of pages pertaining to the sign order, but he is not sure that it is the complete number of pages for the original order.

A resident stated that it is his understanding that the grant money will not apply to two sets of signs.

Mr. McTigue replied that there is grant money in the amount of \$5000.00 for the purchase and installation of street signs. If we take no action and do not install the street signs by June 30, 2006, then none of the grant money for street signs would be available. It is possible that the Borough could be liable for \$2500.00. If Council chooses to spend the \$2500.00 it would be paid out of the general fund.

It was asked as to the conversation with the vendor who produced the eighty-seven Langhorne Manor signs. Mr. McTigue replied that they obviously thought we wanted eighty-seven signs saying the same thing.

Mr. McTigue addressed the paper work the vendor received saying we wanted eighty-seven signs attached to that was a quotation that essentially said eighty-seven in quotes "Langhorne Manor" street name signs, with additional paper work indicating a street name list. There is a difference of opinion as to whether or not they actually received the paper work. The problem of the paper work will be addressed.

A resident stated the reason they are present this evening is find out who and how the mistake was made and how it is going to be resolved. Mr. McTigue replied that it is going to cost the Borough \$2500.00 plus the cost of advertising this evenings meeting and possibly return freight, it could be a liability of \$3000.00 or less.

It was asked if there will be an increase for the installation of the street signs due to the delay. Mr. McTigue replied no, not that he is aware of. The estimate for the installation of the street signs is \$5238.00.

Ms. Linington asked if the Councilperson is aware that he made a mistake. Mr. McTigue replied that the Councilperson is aware that there is a problem. He maintains that his communications were clear and the vendor is taking a different stand. Council has not evaluated where their position is on the matter.

Mr. Bravo stated that Mr. Galazin was originally in charge of ordering the signs and now Mr. Yourtee is in charge, obviously you have more confidence in Mr. Yourtee. Mr. McTigue replied that Mr. Yourtee had been involved from the very beginning as he is on the street committee.

Mr. Yourtee responded that the responsibility of the street sign issue consisted of two parts, Mr. Galazin obtained the sample sign and displayed it at the November 2005 election and he took on the responsibility of ordering the street signs. Mr. Yourtee was responsible for obtaining three quotes from contractor's to install the street signs and the low bid was awarded at the April Borough Council meeting. The Contractor was ready to install the signs and Mr. Yourtee tried to contact Mr. Galazin as to when the signs would be delivered as Mr. Galazin stated at the April Council meeting the signs would be delivered within the week. Mr. Yourtee never did get a response from Mr. Galazin so he went forward with obtaining the quotes from U S Municipal Supply and the cost for the original street signs was quite a bit higher. This is how Mr. Yourtee was put in the position for getting quotes for the new street signs.

Mr. Yourtee asked if we bought signs that do not meet municipal grade would grant money even be able to be used.

A resident asked in November 2005 was Council aware that the hardware would not fit the street signs. Mr. Yourtee replied that he was not aware of any problems.

Mrs. Barnes asked if the Borough could get an extension of time for using the grant. Mr. McTigue replied that they are in the process of trying to an answer for an extension.

Mr. Profy stated that the grants are usually granted on a fiscal year basis and the fiscal year ends on June 30.

Mr. Yourtee stated that we obtained a grant for street signs and gave indication to the residents that new street signs would be installed. He feels that Council has a responsibility to do that and use the grant money to purchase new street signs that fit municipal standards and reflects the list

he had provided requiring eighty-four street signs for a total cost of \$2089.20 based on the proposal from U S Municipal Supply. The poles and brackets had been purchased at a cost of \$1094.60 and \$5238.00 for the contractor to install the street signs for a combined total of \$6332.60.

Ms Gimpel asked if a portion of the signs get installed will the Borough be able to pay for that portion of the job with the grant money. Mr. McTigue replied anything we accomplish prior to June 30, 2006 the grant money can be used. Ms Gimpel asked if the job is not completed by June 30, 2006 we can spend the \$5000.00 grant for the work completed. Mr. McTigue replied yes.

Motion was made by Mrs. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Pizzola to order forty-eight twenty-four inch signs and thirty-six thirty inch signs, with four inch block style letters with high intensity reflective material to be ordered from U S Municipal Supply, Inc. at a cost of \$2089.20. Ms. Gimpel opposed. Motion carried.

Ms. Gimpel opposed because the total package as it is going to cost the residents \$5000.00 if the Borough has to pay for the eighty-seven Langhorne Manor Signs. She asked if the money is in the budget. Mrs. Barnes replied that it had not been determined.

A resident asked to see all the paper work for the eighty-seven signs that had been ordered.

Mr. Profy stated that is matter could become a legal matter.

Mr. McTigue stated that when the matter is resolved all documents will be made public.

There was a discussion on the color choice for the new street signs to be ordered.

Motion was made by Mr. Yourtee and seconded by Mrs. Barnes to order the signs in black. No objections were presented. Motion carried.

Mr. McTigue entertained a motion to adjourn this meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Pizzola and seconded by Mrs. Barnes. No objections were presented. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta M. Luff
Secretary/Treasurer
Langhorne Manor Borough