

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
JANUARY 24, 2011

The Second Meeting of the Council of The Borough of Wilson was held in the Guy B. Tomaino Public Safety Building at 2040 Hay Terrace, Easton, PA. President Feinberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

Leonard Feinberg	Edwinna Howey
David Jones	Joan Lilly-Kemmerer
James McGowan	Bob Reiss
Louis Starniri	David Williams

ABSENT:

Russ Lipari

Also present were: Mayor David S. Perruso, Solicitor Louis S. Minotti, Jr., Chief Steven Parkansky, Chief Michael Collins, Superintendent Greg Drake, Code Enforcement Officer Paul Corriere

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the January 10, 2011 Council Meeting were approved by Mr. McGowan. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer requested that an addition be made to the Minutes. She requested that Ms. Howey's response to being asked how she found out that there was an opening on Council was that "word got out". Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Attorney Richard Yetter, a representative of Stellar Construction, Co. and resident of 2404 Butler Street, appeared before Council to offer Stellar Construction's services to Wilson Borough for board ups after fires. Stellar Construction would pay the Borough \$5,000.00 a year to perform the service. Both Allentown and Bethlehem use Stellar Construction for board up services. Release time for Police and Fire could be quicker if the services were used. The service could be used by absentee landlords and those people without insurance. Someone would be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to answer the phones and have the work completed. Chief Collins stated that many homeowners have no idea what to do when they have a fire. They frequently call their homeowners insurance company and have them take care of it. Mr. Jones stated that Stellar Construction could also do the restoration, but he would not like to see other contractors get cut out. Mr. Jones felt it would be alright if the homeowners could have the right to choose someone else. Some insurance companies only use certain contractors. Council would like to see a homeowner's option in the contract. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer would like to discuss renewal terms. Mr. Yetter will send Mr. Minotti as contract to review for the new Council meeting. Council would like Mr. Yetter in attendance at the meeting to answer questions.

2. Dave Dahms of Fourth Street appeared before Council about several issues. Mr. Dahms felt that is was confusing to people to have more than one ward vote in the same place. He would like to have the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward vote in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward. The armory can not be used as the utilities have been turned off. Mr. Feinberg responded that the County Election Board decides where the polling places are. Mayor Perruso added that Beryl Grucela has been in contact with the county to see what could be done on the matter.

Mr. Dahms felt that Council was doing a good job. He offered a suggestion that maybe the certificate of deposit that was coming due could be used to lower taxes. People do not have the money to pay higher taxes. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer responded that nothing could be done about the budget now, but suggested that Mr. Dahms attend the budget meetings in the fall of this year.

Mr. Dahms inquired what was going on with the railroad cut behind his home. Mayor Perruso stated that the original plan was to put a bike path in the culvert, but West Easton did not have the money to deal with the bridges. The box culvert bridge will be put in sometime this year.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that there will be a Police Pension Board conference call on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. Ms. Lohrman will provide the committee with the call information.

2. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that Christine Dixon from PSAB will be at the office on Thursday, January 27, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. to meeting with and answer questions that Council and the Mayor may have. Mr. McGowan stated that Ms. Dixon will be the guest speaker at the MECAB meeting on Wednesday night.

3. Council has received a request from Sharon and Wayne DeLuca of 1908 Butler Street requesting

reimbursement for bills received from Mr. Rooter for a recent sewer backup. Mr. Drake verified that the Borough's sewer line was clogged. Mr. Drake added that residents should contact the Borough prior to contacting a plumber to make sure that there is not a problem in the main. Mr. Starniri will put a notice in the newsletter about home owners acquiring insurance for sewer backups. Mr. Drake stated that floor drains in the basement continue to be a problem. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer stated that the Borough has refunded residents costs incurred for sewer backups previously. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to refund the DeLuca's the invoices for Mr. Rooter. Second by Mr. Starniri. Refunds for sewer backups will continue to be dealt with on a case by case basis.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso has received a Handicapped Parking permit application from Dian Taylor at 1603 Ferry Street. Chief Parkansky has approved the request. Only one Handicapped Parking spot is in the block. Motion by Mr. Reiss to approve request. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received the following rates from local banks for the certificate of deposit that comes due at Lafayette Ambassador Bank on January 29, 2011:

Merchants Bank of Bangor – 12 Months – 0.85% APY  
18 Months – 0.95% APY  
24 Months – 1.10% APY  
Lafayette Ambassador Bank – 12 Months – 0.75% APY  
24 Months – 1.00 APY  
KNBT – 12 Months – 0.20% APY  
24 Months – 0.30% APY  
Money Market – 0.10%  
Sovereign Bank – No Quote

Motion by Mr. McGowan to transfer the funds to a 24 Month CD at Merchants Bank of Bangor. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

2. Ms. Lohrman inquired as to who the Borough would like to have represent them as the Official Voting Delegate at the 100<sup>th</sup> Annual PSAB conference. Mr. Feinberg appointed Mr. McGowan as the Voting Delegate and Mr. Reiss as the Alternate Delegate.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. Mr. Feinberg appointed Mr. Reiss as Chairman of the General Government committee with the resignation of Mr. Schug. Ms. Howey was appointed to fill the committee vacancies left by Mr. Schug. Ms. Howey will be the new library liaison.

#### FIRE:

1. Chief Collins has lost two part-time firefighters. Motion by Mr. Starniri to appoint Matthew Goodchild to the Fire Department as a part-time firefighter. Second by Mr. Williams.

#### POLICE:

1. Chief Parkansky stated that the Public Works Department had done a good job with the streets during the last storm. Mr. Drake responded that it has been a challenge. Mr. Jones asked if there was a snow emergency that the plow be turned toward the island on Washington Blvd. Mr. Drake stated that they do try to do that. A question arose if snow could be placed on the island. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer stated that Council had not discussed the matter at the last meeting. Mr. Reiss responded that years ago Council had said that snow could not be put on the island, because the plows were breaking the curbs. Yet St. Jane's, the school district and the funeral home continue to do so. Mr. Drake stated that he did not have a problem with St. Jane's as they use a back hoe and lift the snow onto the island. Mr. Drake's problem is with those people who plow snow across the road and leave snow on the street. Mr. Drake added that there is not any more room for snow to be put on the island.

#### PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Reiss acknowledged the recent letter to the editor in the paper about the snow removal on Lehigh Street. The work was done at 2:45 a.m. by the hospital. Mr. Reiss stated that the Borough has a noise ordinance. Motion by Mr. Reiss to notify the hospital that the work done over night was a violation of the noise ordinance. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Ms. Lohrman will notify the hospital.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

None

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the draft contract between Wilson Borough and the contractor for the Fisk Field concession stand and restrooms. Mr. Minotti has a few questions regarding the contract. He will put them in writing for the next Council meeting. Ms. Lohrman will put agreement on the agenda for the meeting.

2. Mr. Minotti has been talking to the attorney for the fire fighters regarding the health insurance coverage for one of the fire fighters. Mr. Minotti stated that it would be going to arbitration. Ms. Lohrman responded that the firefighters never filed an appeal to Chief Collin's decision on the grievance. The matter should be over.

3. Mr. Starniri inquired whether the Family and Medical Leave Act was ready for Council to take action. Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adopt the document as a policy. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

4. Mr. Starniri inquired about the status of the Civil Service Rules and Regulations. Ms. Lohrman responded that all the members of the commission had the information for review. Mr. Minotti has received information about a seminar concerning new Civil Services regulations. Mr. Minotti felt that someone from Council should attend.

5. Mr. Starniri asked about the changes to the recycling ordinance. Mr. Minotti replied that he and Mr. DeEsch felt that the ordinance was fine the way it was. Mr. DeEsch had sent a letter to the DEP and they never responded to the correspondence or phone calls. The DEP are the same people that decide whether or not grants are awarded. Mr. Minotti was directed to contact the DEP. Ms. Lohrman was directed to remind Mr. Minotti to call the DEP.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that the MECAB meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 26, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Northampton. Christine Dixon from PSAB will be the guest speaker.

COG:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1175 – Filing a Council Vacancy. Motion to approve Resolution 1175 by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Reiss. Affirmative votes were cast by Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Jones, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Starniri and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Ms. Howey abstained from voting. Resolution 1175 was passed by a six to one vote with one abstention.

2. Resolution 1176 – Adopting Written Procedures in how Professional Services are Chosen for its Pension Plan in Order to Comply with Act 44. Motion by Mr. Starniri to approve Resolution 1176. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$365,279.65 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Starniri.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer made a Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY