

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
FEBRUARY 14, 2011

The First 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  
David Jones  
Russ Lipari  
David Williams

Edwinna Howey  
Joan Lilly-Kemmerer  
James McGowan

ABSENT:

Bob Reiss, Louis Starniri

Also present were: Solicitor Louis S. Minotti, Jr., Chief Michael Collins, Superintendent Greg Drake

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the January 24, 2011 Council Meeting were approved by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

None

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Senator Bob Mensch sent an invitation to Northampton County municipal officials to join him for a meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District on Thursday, March 17, 2011 in the Council Chambers of the West Easton Municipal Building at 237 Seventh Street, West Easton from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

2. The Trustees and the Board of Directors of PSAB have recognized the Borough of Wilson as its 2011 Most Valuable Participant in PSAB programs. The Borough will be recognized at the annual banquet during PSAB's 2011 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Conference on April 12, 2011 at the Hershey Lodge. A wall plaque will be awarded along with a traveling trophy with Wilson's name inscribed on it. The trophy will be displayed in Borough Hall until next year.

3. A letter was received from Easton Hospital COO Nate Howell confirming receipt of Ms. Lohrman's letter concerning snow removal. The hospital will work to keep noise levels from snow removal to a minimum and will stop from louder snow removal activities as described in the Borough's noise ordinance effective immediately.

4. Ms. Lohrman reminded the Police Pension Board that there was a conference call on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

None

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

FIRE:

1. Chief Collins informed Council that the joint grant application with the City of Easton Fire Department to replace the 2 ½ inch hose with standard couplings has been approved. The grant is in the amount of \$23,350.00.

POLICE:

None

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that the Public Works Department had begun replacing the kitchen floor at the community center.
2. Mr. Drake informed Council that the department had plenty of salt.
3. Several comments were made about the condition of the alleys during the recent storms.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Williams requested permission to advertise for the position of Manager and Assistant Manager at the swimming pool. Motion by Mr. Williams to advertise. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti has informed Attorney Yetter that he has not found anything in the Borough Code that provides Wilson the corporate power to allow the Borough to enter into an agreement to board up properties after a fire or other incident. Under the Uniform Construction Code, which the Borough has adopted, a municipality can contract to do emergency work at a fire scene. The Borough would be responsible for the bill and could then place a lien on the property. The Borough could not accept a retainer and have someone on call to do the work. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer responded that she spoke to several a few fire personnel and it would not be the Borough's responsibility to secure the property. Chief Collins stated that the Fire Code allows for the property to be secured and there may be some liability if someone went into the property and was hurt because it was not secured. Insurance companies generally have a list of contractors who will board up properties. Mr. Feinberg clarified the matter by stating that the Borough would not be entering into an agreement for a contractor to board up properties. It will be the homeowner's responsibility. If the property has been foreclosed on or the property is owned by an absentee landlord, Chief Collins may have to take action to secure the property.
2. Mr. Minotti has received a revised agreement for Fisk Field restroom and concession stand construction. Mr. Minotti has not had the opportunity to review the entire contract. Several of the items that Mr. Minotti had concerns over, have been changed. Mr. Minotti still has several questions regarding the agreement. Ms. Lohrman will have the architect contact Mr. Minotti tomorrow afternoon.
3. Mr. Minotti has been working on the recycling ordinance issue. Correspondence has been distributed to Council in their packets. Both Mr. Minotti and Mr. DeEsch have reviewed the ordinance and found them to be in compliance except for two items in a recent letter from the DEP. Ms. Lohrman believes that the newsletter would be an acceptable mechanism to be used for education. The DEP had allowed the Borough to use the newsletter to disperse information about the yard waste program. Mr. Minotti will work with Ms. Lohrman to update the ordinance. Mr. Minotti will also try again to contact Mr. Vottero from the DEP.
4. Chief Parkansky has provided Mr. Minotti with the City of Easton's handicapped parking ordinance. The City has reserved handicapped parking. In Easton, a hearing would be set up to review the pertinent information about the reasons why the reserved spot is needed. A medical report would be required. Mr. Feinberg inquired whether Mr. Minotti had spoken to the ADA. Mr. Minotti responded that he had not. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer felt that every person would have to go through these procedures. After a short discussion, Council felt that it was not necessary to change the present handicapped ordinance.
5. Mr. Minotti requested a Caucus on a personnel matter.

MECAB:

1. The MECAB meeting that had been scheduled for January 26, 2011 was cancelled due to inclement weather. It has been rescheduled for February 23, 2011 in Northampton at 7:00 p.m.

COG:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$72,722.50 were paid on a Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Williams.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer made a Motion to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Second by Mr. Jones and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY