

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
FEBRUARY 27, 2012

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
David Jones
Russ Lipari
Louis Starniri

Winnie Howey
Joan Lilly-Kemmerer
James McGowan
David Williams

ABSENT:

Bob Reiss

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the February 13, 2012 Council Meeting were approved by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Lipari.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Jim Tindall of 2117 Hay Street angrily yelled at Council about his living next to dog crap. Mr. Corriere has done nothing about the neighbor not cleaning up after his dog. The Animal Control Officer has not had feces cleaned up either. Michael Long was to have had a new fence put up between the properties, but still has not done so. Mr. Corriere had asked Mr. Long to clean up the yard on Friday. Mr. Corriere gave Mr. Long the weekend to clean up the mess. Mr. Corriere was in court this morning and had not had the chance to check to see if the yard was cleaned up. Mr. Corriere was requested by Council to get the Animal Control Officer and the Health Officer involved in getting the yard cleaned up. Mr. Corriere will check on the matter tomorrow and will cite Mr. Long if the yard is not clear of dog feces.

2. Amanda Powell of 122 S. 18th Street appeared before Council to request permission to rent the Community Center for a fund raiser for the American Heart Association. Ms. Powell would like to have the event in May for a period of 4 to 6 hours. Mr. Feinberg stated that Ms. Powell would have to purchase event insurance for the day. Ms. Powell's father is willing to pay the fee to rent the center. Ms. Powell plans on running an ad in the newspaper, hand out flyers to the school children and contact WLEV. The American Heart Association will also help with advertising. Mr. Feinberg inquired about if May was too soon to have the event. Ms. Powell was looking at having the event on May 12, 2012 or May 19, 2012. Ms. Powell responded that she thought that she may have 30 vendors at the event. Motion by Mr. Lipari to allow the event if the date was available. Second by Mr. Jones.

3. Mike Assise appeared before Council to discuss being reimbursed for a \$1,040.00 for legal counsel he recently incurred. Mr. Assise was subpoenaed by the Grand Jury for an incident that occurred in December 2009. Mr. Assise was not involved in the incident and did not know why he was subpoenaed. Mayor Perruso brought the matter up previously, but he was not notified that the matter was going to be discussed. Mr. Assise would like to Council to reconsider reimbursing him the money for the attorney. Chief Parkansky responded that he and other Police Officers were subpoenaed and testified without legal counsel. Mr. Assise was not directed to take an attorney with him. Mr. Assise did not receive assistance from the FOP. Mr. Assise's brother-in-law is an attorney and he advised him to take representation to the Grand Jury hearing. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer stated that Mr. Assise chose to take an attorney. The taxpayers should not have to pay the bill. Mr. Minotti stated that there is no provision in the contract and it is not a grievable matter. Mr. Hacker, President of the FOP, says that it is grievable. Chief Parkansky added that 8 officers were subpoenaed and four of the officers took representation to the hearing. Three of the other officers paid for their counsel themselves. Mr. Minotti suggested that if Mr. Assise felt the matter was grievable, then he should file a grievance.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso has received an application for Handicapped Parking Sign by Epifania Smull of

711 S. 23rd Street. Chief Parkansky has reviewed the application and approved it. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to approve the request. Second by Mr. Starniri.

2. Mayor Perruso informed Council that Wilson High School is 100 years old. The school district would like to put up flags along Warrior Lane. The flags would not go across the street. Motion to allow the flags along Warrior Lane by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Starniri.

3. Mayor Perruso requested to have the Handicapped Parking spot at 1939 Ferry Street removed. Chief Parkansky approved that request and Mr. Drake will take care of the matter.

4. Chief Parkansky requested a Caucus at the end of the Council meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman presented rates from three financial institutions for a certificate of deposit for \$800,000.00 that matures on March 2, 2012. The rates offered at Merchants Bank of Bangor could change on February 28, 2012. Ms. Lohrman suggested not renewing the certificate for a long period of time. Mr. McGowan disagreed and wished to renew the certificate for a 2 year term. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to renew the certificate at Merchants of Bangor for a term of 1 year. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer and Mr. Starniri. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan and Mr. Williams. Motion carried by a five to three vote.

2. Ms. Lohrman reminded Council that they had to appoint a Voting Delegate and an Alternate Delegate to the annual PSAB conference. Mr. McGowan was appointed the Voting Delegate and Mayor Perruso was appointed the Alternate Delegate.

3. Ms. Lohrman explained to Council that employee's health insurance was now modified self-insurance. Benecon is requesting that each municipality or authority have a written Leave of Absence policy regarding health insurance. The reinsurance carrier has been questioning some of the larger claims on persons who have been out of leave and are not considered active employees. Some of the claims have been turned down. Ms. Lohrman requested permission to discuss the matter with the General Government committee and come back to Council with some guidelines. A questionnaire has been completed and the legal department of Benecon can prepare policies for the Borough at no charge. Mr. Minotti requested to be part of the discussion as the Borough has contract obligations. Ms. Lohrman and Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer will get the committee together to discuss the matter.

4. Ms. Lohrman has received the Agreement of Use of Polling Place for voting in the Second Ward at the community center. The Third Ward will be voting at the new LINC center at the Wilson Intermediate School. Motion to execute the Agreement for the use of the community center for voting by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer and the General Government Committee will be meeting with Ms. Lohrman concerning the Leave of Absence policies.

FIRE:

1. Chief Collins informed Council that the new compressor is up and running. Someone is interested in purchasing the old compressor. Chief Collins inquired whether Council would like to put the item out for bid. Council did not think the compressor was worth any money and wished to have it hauled away.

2. Chief Collins has the old hose fittings. The threads are in bad shape and cannot be used. Mr. Drake offered to scrap it. Mr. Drake will also take the old compressor for scrap. Council agreed to use the scrap funds to offset the cost of building the room in the garage for the Fire Department.

3. Chief Collins suggested putting a Knox box at Fisk Field. Motion by Mr. Starniri to put a key at Fisk Field in a Knox box. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

POLICE:

1. Chief Parkansky thanked Mr. Drake for putting together a trauma bag for use at the range.

2. Chief Parkansky has a lot of bikes in various states of disrepair. He contacted Genesis Bike and they told him about Community Bike Works in Allentown. The group helps kids develop skills and will accept bikes no matter what their condition. Motion to take the bikes to Community Bike Works by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Williams.

3. Chief Parkansky requested a short Caucus at the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake informed Council that snow would be coming on Wednesday.

2. Mr. Drake stated that parts had been ordered for the sweeper. It should be up and running in a week. Mr. Drake will be getting a container from Waste Management to put the sweeper debris in.

3. Mr. Feinberg requested that Mr. Jones and the Public Works committee start contract negotiations

with the department. Ms. Lohrman added that Mr. Flowers and Mr. Wolfe will be handling the negotiations.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Lipari reported that the committee will be meeting on March 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti stated that the matter he wished to discuss tonight had been resolved.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan had nothing to report.

COG:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Jones informed Council that the Wilson Recreation Board has approved the funds for the purchase of equipment for the refreshment stand at Fisk Field. All the appliances including the hot dog roller, deep fryer, ice machine and griddle will be electric. The appliances will require a fire suppression system. A stamped drawing will be needed. Engineering fees will also be incurred. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to research the costs involved in the engineering study the drawings that are required. Second by Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones added that they are looking at purchasing a sound system at Pat Wirick.

2. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer informed Council that the school district has chosen to split the class up for dances. The fifth and sixth graders will have one dance from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and the seventh and eighth graders will have another dance from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. There was a large turnout for the first dance and after that only 40 kids attended. The last few dances have been cancelled because of the lack of attendance. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer asked Council to consider having the dances at the community center beginning in September. Policies would have to be drawn up if the dances were at the center. There have been 25 to 30 dances on Friday evenings in the past. The associations would be cleaning up after the event. Only children from the Wilson School District would be allowed. No more than 200 people would be allowed to attend. The associations were paying \$175.00 for the janitor at the school. Mr. Feinberg felt that the Borough should still have the center cleaned on weekends for a charge of \$50.00. Ms. Lohrman will check with our insurance agent to make sure there is not a problem having the dances. Rec Board also has insurance. Motion by Mr. Lipari to waive fees for the dances except for the cleaning fees. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

3. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that he had spoken to the county regarding acceptable activities allowed for the use of CDBG funds. Non-profit organizations that are 501(c)(3) organizations are eligible to receive funds. The Borough can apply for funding for these organizations. Mr. Feinberg asked to check with the organizations and see if they might be eligible.

ORDINANCES

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$171,369.85 were paid on a Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Jones.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer made a Motion to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. Second by Mr. Jones and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A.LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY