

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
JANUARY 28, 2013

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	Winnie Howey
Joan Lilly-Kemmerer	Russ Lipari
James McGowan	Louis Starniri
Ryan Woodring	

ABSENT:

David Jones, David Williams

Also present were: Mayor David S. Perruso, Solicitor Louis S. Minotti, Jr., Chief Steven Parkansky, Director of Public Works Greg Drake, Code Enforcement Officer Paul Corriere

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the January 14, 2013 Council Meeting was approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Woodring.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso has received a request to close Filbert Street between S. 19th and S. 20th Streets on April 19, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the students St. Jane's to run a marathon. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Lipari.
2. Mayor Perruso received a complaint from Shaun Gable concerning a problem with parking near the intersection of Sycamore Street and Balata Streets. The Police have there several times in the last two weeks about the space not being open. Ms. Gable stated that there was an agreement signed in 1997 keeping a space open on the street. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer responded that she would like to see the actual agreement. Someone is driving over the curb to park in their yard and one of the neighbors is parking in the space and blocking them in so they cannot get out. Mr. Corriere stated that no one has even approached him about removing curbing and opening up a driveway anywhere in the Borough. Mr. Corriere and Mr. Drake will look into the matter.
3. Chief Parkansky requested permission to exchange the car used by the Detective for a 1999 Lumina formerly used by Lehigh University. The detective car has 100,000 miles on it and it needs a lot of work. The Lumina has only 60,000 miles on. Covington would like the Crown Victoria for parts. No cash is involved. Motion to approve proposal by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Starniri.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman reviewed the CD rates she obtained from several area banks. Mr. Starniri stated that Merchants Bank had the highest rates. Ms. Lohrman stated that she had spoken to a representative from Merchants and they had suggested breaking the CD into different terms or setting the CD up for interest checks in order to help with the Borough's cash flow. Motion by Mr. Starniri to renew the base amount of the CD for 24 months with an annual check for the interest. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Mr. McGowan verified that Merchants will supply a letter allowing a partial withdraw of money if the Borough needs additional funds.
2. Ms. Lohrman has been approached by FirstEnergy Solutions, a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corporation, with a proposal to supply energy to the Borough for a fixed rate of 6.95 cents per kWh for two years. The current rate is 9.12 cents per kWh. Ms. Lohrman has received a sample contract for Mr. Minotti to review. The agreement does include a penalty to rescind the agreement before the two years. Mr. Feinberg felt that it was not a bad deal. It would allow the electric company to improve infrastructure. Mr. McGowan added that buying the electric in bulk keeps the price low. Mr. Minotti had

not had an opportunity to review the agreement. Mr. Minotti stated that he would review it for the next meeting. Ms. Lohrman responded the rate would change twice before the next meeting. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to conditionally approve the agreement pending the solicitor's approval. Second by Mr. Woodring.

3. Ms. Lohrman presented the 2013-2016 Police contract. The Police have signed off the agreement. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer requested a Caucus to discuss the contract. Mr. McGowan would like to table the discussion for additional time to review the document. Motion by Mr. McGowan to table the discussion. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer, Mr. Lipari and Mr. McGowan. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Starniri and Mr. Woodring. Motion was defeated by a four to three vote. The matter was not be tabled and a Caucus would be held prior to the end of the meeting.

4. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that she and Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer had met with Doug Wagner, Superintendent of the Wilson Area School District, to review the contract for the use of school district fields by the Rec Board athletic associations. Ms. Lohrman stated that the contract was almost the same as the previous one that had been signed in 2005. Two additional fields were added to the agreement. One of the fields was in use presently and the other field may be ready in the Fall of 2014. The amendment also includes the dates the use of fields must be completed. Mr. Minotti responded that he did not like the default portion of the contract and would not have wanted the Borough to sign the original agreement. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer stated that she thought it was in the agreement. Ms. Lohrman will forward Mr. Minotti a copy of the 2005 agreement.

5. Ms. Lohrman has received the Agreement for the Use of Polling Place from the County for the use of the community center for the Primary and the General Elections. Motion to approve the agreement by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. McGowan.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer requested that any fee or license fee changes be reviewed by the General Government Committee prior to being passed by Council.

FIRE:

None

POLICE:

1. Chief Parkansky informed Council that he is in the process of establishing protocol with the local police departments and school officials from the Easton and Wilson Area School districts for command and control and response in case of an emergency.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake would like to have a letter sent to Bimbo Bakery for the donation of eight benches and 12 trash cans that were installed along the bike path. Motion to have the letter sent by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

2. Mr. Drake has had several problems with Borough streets being torn up by utility companies and trenches being covered by steel plates for an extended period of time. Mr. Drake would like Council to amend Ordinance 704 setting stricter guidelines for the roads to be completed. Motion by Mr. Starniri to have Mr. Drake and Ms. Lohrman supply Mr. Minotti the appropriate information to amend the ordinance. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

3. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer stated that a manhole off S. 21st Street between Hay Street and Birch Street. There is a real dip in the manhole cover. Mr. Drake will look into it.

4. Mr. Lipari discussed an issue with a problem with people pulling out of an alley when you are heading west in the 2400 block of Hay Street. There is two way traffic between Sycamore and Hay Streets in the alley. It is hazardous. Chief Parkansky stated that traffic pulling out of alleys must yield to the traffic on a street. Chief Parkansky will look into the matter.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

None

ATTORNEY:

None

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that there would not be a January MECAB meeting. He expects there will be a meeting in February.

2. Mr. Starniri reminded Council that the deadline to submit resolution to PSAB for the annual

conference was March 8, 2013. Council would have to pass a resolution before it would be submitted to PSAB.

COG:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Ms. Lohrman had contacted the County concerning the Northampton County Open Space Initiative. The County will be putting aside \$5 Million in Open Space Grants. However, they will only be giving out \$1M per year for 5 years. Application rounds occur in March, September and December. Once the funds are used up each year, the applications will be held over to the following year. The program is for shovel ready projects only. Ms. Lohrman stated that she had discussed several projects with the County. They did not believe a parking lot next to Fisk Field would be funded. The camera at Fisk Field was borderline. Mr. Drake was reminded to get prices to repair the bocce courts and prices to change the bocce courts into a tot lot. A walking trail at Fisk Field was discussed. Mr. Feinberg stated that the Borough had discussed the putting a bridge over the stream and the County had issues with it. Mr. Woodring suggested purchasing blighted properties. Mr. Corriere could write a list of properties. Mr. Feinberg stated that the Borough already had ½ the funds for the camera and the Borough should apply for the difference. The Borough could apply for funds to pave the bike path that runs underneath the 24th Street bridge. The cost of the labor could be the Borough's match. Motion to apply for Open Space funds for the camera and the bike path by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Starniri.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. After a Caucus, Mr. Starniri made a Motion to execute the agreement with the Police. Second by Mr. Woodring. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Starniri and Mr. Woodring. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a six to one vote.

Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer felt the Manager should be included in contract negotiations. Mr. Feinberg responded that the Manager should only be involved in the Public Works contract as those are the only employees that she supervises. Mr. McGowan stated that the Manager has enough to do and did not have to be involved. Ms. Lohrman responded that she would do what ever Council wished, but she could assist in any contract negotiation if certain benefits were being discussed. The Mayor also was not involved in the Police Contract negotiations.

2. Mr. McGowan made a Motion not to enter into discussions with West Easton for Police services. Second by Mr. Starniri.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1198- Setting Health License Fees. Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$332,661.62 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Lipari.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A.LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY