

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
JUNE 24, 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  
David Jones  
Russ Lipari  
Louis Starniri  
Ryan Woodring

Winnie Howey  
Joan Lilly-Kemmerer  
James McGowan  
David Williams

ABSENT:

None

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the June 10, 2013 Council Meeting was approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved the June 10, 2013 Minutes.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

1. Ms. Howey made a Motion to appoint Officers Meehan, Shull, Potope and Siegfried to the rank of Sergeant and Officer Crisafulli to Detective. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously voted to promote the four officers to Sergeant and Officer Crisafulli to Detective. Mayor Perruso swore in the new Sergeants.

2. Mayor Perruso stated that it was a privilege to swear in the Sergeants. It had been a long time since the Borough had rank in the department. Chief Parkansky had wanted rank since he's been with the department. The Police will also be working 12 hour shifts.

3. Judy Lerch of 2109 Ferry Street presented two picture books to Council of properties in her neighborhood that are in deplorable condition. The properties include: the former imaging center at the corner of 21<sup>st</sup> and Ferry Streets, the empty gas station that is owned by New Eastwood, the closed gas station at 22<sup>nd</sup> and Northampton Streets, and the former bank that is closed at 22<sup>nd</sup> and Northampton Streets. The gas station at 22<sup>nd</sup> and Northampton Street has been sold. Ms. Lerch also complained about a car that is always parking on the sidewalk. Chief Parkansky will look into the vehicle on the sidewalk. Council will respond to the complaints concerning the conditions of the properties at the next Council meeting.

4. John Lippincott of 2100 Hay Street complained about the potholes in the 2100 block of Hay Street. The potholes have been there for the last 2 years. They go from one side of the street to the other. There is also a major crack in the road.

Mr. Lippincott would like the Police to monitor the stop signs on S. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. There are two stop signs on the street from Freemansburg Avenue to Butler Street. The vehicles either do not stop at the signs or they coast through them. More Police are needed patrolling. Chief Parkansky will address the issue.

5. Rachel Bradford, Director of Envision Lehigh Valley, appeared before Council to discuss the Envision Lehigh Valley program. Envision Lehigh Valley is a collaboration of several public-sector and non-profit organizations to develop a sustainable community plan for the Lehigh Valley. Public meetings will be held in the future. It is important to have input from the municipalities. The grant funds expire in December, 2014. Mr. Woodring asked what the Borough could do to help. Ms. Bradford would like to have an open dialogue with the residents. Mr. Feinberg suggested attending the Borough wide yard sale on August 17, 2013. Mr. Woodring mentioned the band concerts in the park on Sunday evenings.

6. Mr. Lippincott reminded Council that there is a Borough wide problem with properties being abandoned and renters taking over. Council responded that the Borough had a rental program. There is a limit on the number of unrelated people that can live in a property.

7. Mark Rosenkrantz, Jr. of the 2400 block of Hay Street brought to Council's attention an incident that happened at the pool during a thunderstorm today. Patrons were brought under cover during the first storm, but at 4:30 p.m. another storm came up. Steve Hoernle, the Assistant Manager, at the pool, wanted to keep the pool open and left the patrons out in the weather. Mr. Hoernle stated that the Borough had insurance should there be a claim. Mr. Rosenkrantz stated that he had worked at the pool for years, but was not considered for the Assistant Manager position. The Pool committee would not recommend him

for the position to Council. Mr. Lipari explained that once the committee did not appoint him as the Assistant Manager, he forgot to add him to the lifeguard list that went to Council for hire. Mr. Rosenkrantz was hired as a Lifeguard at the next Council meeting. Mr. Lipari will discuss the weather issue with the managerial staff at the pool.

Mrs. Rosenkrantz asked if the Borough had a list of qualifications for the Assistant Manager position at the pool. Mr. Lipari stated that there was none. Mrs. Rosenkrantz inquired how the Borough could make a decision on hiring if there were not any list of qualifications or interviews performed. Mrs. Rosenkrantz added that three of the committee members have a problem with her last name. Mrs. Rosenkrantz will provide Mr. Lipari with the list of qualifications that other pools in the area use.

Mr. Rosenkrantz stated that Mr. Minotti had asked him to come back to Council for his response to the letter he had read at the June 10, 2013 Council meeting. Mr. Minotti stated that Council had discussed the letter with Council and he would not be responding to it. Mr. Minotti stated that many of the issues in the letter were taken out of context. Mr. Rosenkrantz would like to continue the discussion. He had witnesses present. Mr. Rosenkrantz stated that the letter contained facts.

Melissa Rosenkrantz wished to discuss her unlawful firing as a lifeguard at the pool two years ago. Mr. Feinberg responded that if the family felt the firing was unlawful, they should contact an attorney. The matters before Council this evening had been previously discussed with the Pool Committee, the Mayor and Borough Council.

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. A letter was received from St. Jane Frances de Chantal School requesting permission to close the alleyway between 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Street behind the school for the one-mile run, which is part of the President's Physical Fitness test. The ends of the course are marked by a cone with a parent volunteer to move the cone for local traffic. The dates requested are: August 27<sup>th</sup>, August 28<sup>th</sup>, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, September 4<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup> and September 11<sup>th</sup>. Motion to approve request with a reminder about making sure someone is present to move the cones for local traffic by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved the request to close Firmstone Street for the one-mile run.

2. A letter was received from The Lord's House of Prayer Universal Worldwide Holiness Church requesting permission to use the band shell on August 3, 2013 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Mr. Starniri responded that the church had already rented one of the pavilions and another party had rented the other pavilion. Mr. Starniri made a Motion to deny the request as the other pavilion was rented. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously denied the request to use the band shell on August 3, 2013.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso has received requests for two Handicapped parking spots. The first is from Donna Weidman of 2422 Birch Street and the second is from Dawn Kindrew of 820 Louis Street. Chief Parkansky has verified that all the proper criteria had been met. Motion to approve the requests from handicapped parking by Mr. Jones. Second by Mr. Williams. Council unanimously approve the two requested for Handicapped parking.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the Northampton County Open Space Initiative grants for the Fisk Field camera and the paving of the 24<sup>th</sup> Street bike path have been approved by Northampton County Council. A Notice to Proceed has been issued. Both grants are reimbursable. Motion to proceed with the projects by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously agreed to proceed with the two Open Space projects.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer made a Motion to move Lisa Guth from unpaid leave to termination. Second by Mr. Woodring. Council unanimously agreed to terminate the employment of Lisa Guth who had been on unpaid leave.

#### FIRE:

1. Mr. Starniri stated that Council had recently settled the contract with the Police Department and the contract with the Fire Department was coming up. Mr. Starniri would like the Fire Committee to meet with Chief Collins on July 8, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

#### POLICE:

1. Chief Parkansky thanked Council and the citizens of the Borough for allowing the Police Department to move to a full-time department.

2. Ms. Howey stated that she thought that Chris Meehan had done an awesome job as the Detective in the Police Department.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake informed Council that the list of things that Mr. Jones had given him was complete except for the roof at Jeffery Field.
2. Mr. Jones requested that Mr. Drake fix the pothole that Mr. Lippincott had mentioned in the 2100 block of Hay Street.
3. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer stated that when PennDot paved Freemansburg Avenue, they gorged the curbing. Mr. Drake had spoken to PennDot about the matter. Mr. Starniri added that at least six inches of tar was put on the seam between the road and the curb. It will get soft in this hot weather. Mr. Drake will contact them again about the curb since they still had not gotten back to him as if yet.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Lipari provided Council with attendance and income figures for the swimming pool. The figures are about the same as last year. The Borough has received approximately 10 residents from Nazareth at the pool.
2. Mr. Lipari had stopped by the pool on Friday. The swim team had beaten the Palmer swim team for the first time in over 20 years. He congratulated Mr. Rosenkrantz for the great job he was doing with the swim team.

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti informed Council that he is working on a new franchise agreement with Service Electric. He hopes to have the agreement prepared for the next Council meeting.

MECAB:

None

COG:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$84,408.83 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A.LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY