

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
NOVEMBER 11, 2013

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

Winnie Howey
Joan Lilly-Kemmerer
James McGowan

ABSENT:

Louis Starniri, Ryan Woodring, David Williams

Also present were: Mayor David S. Perruso, Solicitor Louis S. Minotti, Jr., Chief Michael, Collins, Director of Public Works Greg Drake

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the October 28, 2013 Council Meeting was approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved the October 28, 2013 Minutes.

The Meeting began with a Public Hearing on the renewal agreement with Service Electric. The meeting was properly advertised in order for Council to consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 768. Mr. Minotti introduced Tim Himmelwright from Service Electric. The Ordinance and Agreement were part of the packet for this evening's meeting. Mr. Himmelwright stated that it was a standard proposal. The only major change was that payments will come on a quarterly basis instead of one payment in February. Due to the timeframe of the Ordinance, the Borough would receive the 2013 annual payment in February, 2014 and then quarterly payments in 2014 thereafter. Mr. Himmelwright reviewed what types of services were included in the payment and the system upgrades that were occurring in the Borough. The Agreement complies with all federal guidelines. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer inquired as to old lines that were hanging down would be removed. Mr. Himmelwright replied that they would be removed. Mr. John Lippencott inquired if old hook-ups that were no longer in service would be removed. Mr. Himmelwright responded that they would be removed after the upgrades in the Borough were completed. A Roll Call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 768. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer, Mr. Lipari and Mr. McGowan. No Negative votes were cast. Ordinance No. 768 was enacted by a six to zero vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

1. Wayne Vandervere of 1906 Ferry Street appeared before Council concerning his request for a Handicapped Parking spot that had been discussed at the last Council Meeting. Mr. Vandervere stated that there was a garage behind the property, but it was rented out to another party and he did not have access to it. Mayor Perruso explained that another handicapped parking spot on the block had been denied because of the availability of parking in a garage. Mr. Vandervere stated that he had spoken to Chief Parkansky since the last meeting and he was aware that he did not have access to the garage. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to approve the request for handicapped parking. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council approved the request unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Ms. Lohrman had received an email from April Niver from Congressman Matt Cartwright's office. Ms. Niver extended an invitation to Borough Council and Mayor Perruso to attend the Congressman's Town Hall meeting on Monday, November 25, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at the Strausser Community Center.

2. A letter from Larry Kleinhans of 145 Browns Drive was received requesting reappointment to the Mary Meuser Memorial Library Board. Mr. Kleinhans has served as Vice President of the Board for 5 years and has been active in many of the activities at the library. Motion to reappoint Mr. Kleinhans to the library board by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council reappointed Mr. Kleinhans to the Board unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso thanked Ms. Howey for her help at the Veteran's Day parade. Mayor Perruso

asked Mr. Drake to take a look at the bricks at the memorials. Some of the names on the bricks are wearing away. The bricks at the monument in the 2000 block of Washington Blvd. are caving in.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received a letter from Lawrence Brisman, actuary from Beyer-Barber Company concerning the granting of COLA's to Richard Nace and David Rogers. The COLAs could be granted to Richard Nace in the amount of \$55.17 and to David Rogers in the amount of \$13.50 without any adverse effect to the funding of the pension plan. The COLAs would begin on January 1, 2014. Motion by Mr. Lipari to grant the COLA's. Second by Mr. Jones. Motion to approve the COLAs was approved unanimously.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer inquired about the status of the roof specifications. Mr. Feinberg responded that Council should have a proposal at the next meeting.

FIRE:

1. Chief Collins has been approached by the Easton Fire Department to see if the Borough would be interested in participating in a regional grant to replace breathing equipment. The annual maintenance currently is \$1,600.00 per year. The equipment should be replaced every 10 years. The current equipment is 8 years old. The Borough could participate in the grant application and receive 90% of the funds to replace all the equipment. The Borough would have to pay 10% of the cost of the equipment or \$17,340.00. The testing equipment would be included in the package along with the training for 3 technicians. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer suggested waiting until the next budget meeting to see if the matching funds could be budgeted. Mr. Feinberg responded that other funding was available including the LST funds and Uncommitted Gaming Grant funding. Motion to approve the application for the breathing equipment by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council approved the application unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake informed Council that the street sweeper will be in within the next 2 weeks. If the agreement is found to be in order by Mr. Minotti, Mr. Drake would like to execute the document. Council already had approved the purchase. The document can be executed if it is approved by Mr. Minotti.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

None

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti informed Council that the Borough would be \$2,600.00 richer. The Borough had filed four judgments against the gas station at 22nd and Northampton Streets for grass cutting. The bank had originally objected to paying the liens since they were filed before the foreclosure had occurred. The objections have been withdrawn and the funds will be released to the Borough. Mr. Corriere had attempted to contact the bank about the property, but they would not return his calls. Mr. Minotti would like to be notified in those cases.

COG:

None

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that the next MECAB meeting would be held in January, 2014.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg mentioned that there are not any blue meters in the 2000 block of Fairview Avenue. Mr. Drake stated that the new meters will not fit in the casings, so they were removed. Mr. Drake will paint the meters blue and there will be handicapped meters in the block again.

2. Ms. Lohrman was asked to contact Che Mechanical in regards to the suppression system at Fisk

Field. She had sent them the information weeks ago.

3. Mr. Feinberg inquired about the status of the General Government Committees search for a grant writer. Mr. Jones responded that he had found a candidate, but she was hired by another municipality. He thought maybe the Borough could advertise for one.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mike Loureiro of 1844 Washington Blvd. appeared before Council to discuss a parking problem at his residence. He lives across from St. Jane's and there is not any parking on the street due to school activities and the teachers parking on there. Mr. Loureiro and his fiancé have a small child and his fiancé watches another small child during the day and if she leaves home, there is no parking when she returns. The school has several parking lots and one of them is not used. Mr. Loureiro suggested having the school use their lot or put permit parking on the street. Chief Parkansky will be asked to talk to the school about using the parking lots for parking.

2. Mr. Feinberg inquired if the Borough could enact a separate Library Tax. He would like to see if the library expenses could be removed from the budget. Mr. Minotti would have to look into the matter as it might conflict the state aid the library receives.

3. Mr. Lipari requested Council rewrite the residency requirement in order to rent the community center. Mr. Lipari made a Motion to allow the residents of West Easton, Glendon and Williams Township be allowed to rent the center at the same rate as the residents of Wilson Borough pay. The change would be effective immediately. Second by Mr. Jones. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer and Mr. Lipari. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a five to one vote.

4. Mr. Lipari made a Motion to allow the residents of West Easton, Glendon and Williams Township be allowed to pay the same rates at Meuser Pool as do the residents of Wilson Borough pay. Second by Mr. Jones. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer and Mr. Lipari. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a five to one vote.

5. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to remove Dave Williams from opening and closing the community center and authorized Tim Jones and Dave Jones to open and close the center effective immediately. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Mayor Perruso has received information from Hough Associates offering assistance with increasing the Borough's performance grant awards with zero out-of-pocket fees. Council would like to have a representative attend a Council meeting to review their program.

ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 768 was passed during the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$53,120.11 were paid on a Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Lipari.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer made a Motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY