

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
APRIL 14, 2014

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
Joan Lilly-Kemmerer
Louis Starniri

Winnie Howey
Matthew Larimer
James McGowan

ABSENT:

Russ Lipari, Pamela Taylor

Also present were: Mayor David 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 March 24, 2014 Council Meeting was approved with one correction on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Mr. Starniri was present at the March 24, 2014 meeting. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved Minutes of the March 24, 2014 meeting with the correction.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

1. Dave Adamski who owns property on Rose Street appeared before Council to ask for assistance concerning the kids that play basketball in the alley who are damaging his building with a basketball. The kids play basketball in the alley in the afternoons after school and on weekends. They do not move for the traffic in the road. Chief Parkansky will direct his officers to increase patrols in the area and take the names of the offenders. They can be cited for criminal mischief.

2. Richard Groff, owner of Groff Realty, appeared before Council concerning a property at 2210 Fairview Avenue that he had purchased a Sheriff's Sale. The property has no water service because of an outstanding sewer bill from the previous owner. The Borough's policy of not turning on the water until the bill is paid in full is in conflict with the Tax Lien Act. Mr. Groff had paid the Sheriff for the outstanding bill and liens. Mr. Minotti inquired if Mr. Groff had a Schedule of Distribution. Mr. Groff responded that he had not, but he did have a deed. After a discussion, Mr. Minotti stated that he would contact the Sheriff's Department and see what the status of distribution was on the property.

3. Don Meadows and Jim Smith appeared before Council to request permission to have Vacation Bible School the week of June 23, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Meuser Park. The church had Bible School at the park last year. Motion to approve request by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Jones. Council unanimously approved the request to hold Bible School at Meuser Park.

4. Carmel Juste requested permission use a pavilion and the band shell by a gospel group in July. It is not a public event. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to allow the event with the date to be determined. Second by Mr. Jones. Council unanimously approved the request. Ms. Juste was requested to contact the Borough Office in order to schedule the event.

5. Richard Volkert of 1941 Fairview Avenue appeared before Council to complain about dog droppings in the 1900 and 2000 blocks of Fairview Avenue. The neighbors have been keeping an eye on the situation. The dog walker comes as early as 5:00 a.m. There are over a dozen droppings in the 2000 block right now. Mr. Volkert is concerned about the children in the neighborhood playing on the grass. Mr. Corriere will talk to some of the neighbors to get additional information.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. A Letter of Resignation from the Wilson Borough Police Department was received from Scott Miller effective April 1, 2014. Motion to approve the resignation was made by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Starniri. Ms. Lohrman was instructed to send a letter of appreciation.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso reported that the new Police car is in service.
2. Chief Parkansky suggested the Borough put the 1999 Crown Victoria out for bid. Ms. Lohrman will take care of the matter.
3. Mayor Perruso has received a request for a handicapped meter at 21st and Fairview Avenue with

the meter placed on 21st Street. Bell Apothecary would still like to have a handicapped meter on Fairview Avenue. The parking lot at the pharmacy is too steep for a handicapped spot. There are two meters in the area on blue poles, but there are not any handicapped markings on the street or handicapped signs at the meter. Motion by Mr. Starniri to allow a 30 minute handicapped parking spot on Fairview Avenue. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved the handicapped parking spot. Chief Parkansky and Mr. Drake will look into the other handicapped parking request.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received information concerning the 2014 CDBG program. Applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on May 23, 2014. Ms. Lohrman will provide the information to Council for the next meeting and will need a decision on what the project the Borough would like to apply for.

2. Ms. Lohrman reminded Council that when the garbage collection had been bid and awarded, Council had awarded Waste Management the five year contact and the two one year extensions. 2014 is the final year in the 5 year base contract. The Borough would not have to bid the garbage out for another two years. Ms. Lohrman reviewed the information on the special recycling program Waste Management would like to offer to the Borough residents. Various household chemicals, paints, automotive materials and electronics will be pickup by Waste Management at no charge to the Borough or the residents. People would have to call a toll-free phone number and they will be given a date when the pick-up is scheduled for the Borough. A packet will be mailed to the residents with instructions and plastic bags for the chemicals. Televisions will also be included for pick-up. Mr. McGowan stated that the COG also has household waste program at NCACC once or twice a year. Wilson Borough will be the first municipality in eastern PA to have the program. Waste Management hopes to have the program rolled out in July, 2014.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

1. Mr. Starniri requested a Caucus on a personnel matter prior to adjournment.

2. Chief Parkansky informed Council that additional signage had been put up by the Public Works Department at 18th and Butler Streets. No right or left turns will be allowed onto Hay Terrace except for those from 18th Street or from the mini market.

3. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that he had been looking into acquiring a system that will allow the Borough to notify the residents through a phone system about snow emergencies, garbage changes and other informational items. In order to use the system, the residents would have to complete a form giving the Borough contact information. The cost would be about 10 cents per call. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer inquired about using the NIXLE system. There is no cost. Mr. Feinberg requested Council to consider the idea of using the system.

FIRE:

None

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake informed Council that Mr. Clowers had retired on Friday, April 11, 2014.

2. Mr. Larsen has completed his first 6 months of employment. Mr. Drake has discussed his work performance with the Borough Manager and he will be brought up to the next skill level.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer made a Motion to hire Samuel Gaardsmoe as the Assistant Manager at the swimming pool. Second by Mr. Jones. Council unanimously hired Mr. Gaardsmoe as the Assistant Manager.

2. Mr. Larimer made a Motion to allow the Nutty Bavarian to be the food vendor at the swimming pool. Second by Mr. Jones. Council unanimously approved the Nutty Bavarian as the food vendor at the pool.

3. Mr. McGowan made a Motion to hire the following people as Lifeguards at the Meuser Pool this summer: Marc Azar, Kaitlyn Casciole, Sarina Daul, David DeMarco, Annabelle Gaardsmoe, Brooke Sales, Joseph Wapinski, Thomas Wapinski and Michael Whilden. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously hired the aforementioned Lifeguards.

ATTORNEY:

None

COG:

None

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan reported that the MECAB meeting at the end of the month will be in Lehighton.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg requested Council to consider waiving the land development plan for the Wilson Elementary School driveway on the west side of the building as it had been part of the original plan. Mr. Feinberg made a formal Motion as such. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved the land development waiver for the school district.

2. An unidentified woman in the audience made several comments about the handicapped parking process. Mr. Lippencott responded that it had been previously discussed by Council about having a Handicapped Parking spot assigned to a specific person. Chief Parkansky replied that he had several questions concerning that very same thing. There was some question as to whether having an assigned spot on the street was legal. Chief Parkansky will get a copy of Easton's ordinance for Mr. Minotti to review.

3. Mr. Feinberg appointed Mr. Jones to the Rehab Committee in the place of Mr. Williams.

4. After a short Caucus, Mr. Starniri made a Motion to hire a Labor consultant. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved the Motion.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1205 – Termination of Water Service to Rental Properties. Motion to approve Resolution 1205 by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved Resolution 1205.

ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 770 – Amendment to the PMRS Fire Pension Plan. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mr. Larimer, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer, Mr. McGowan and Mr. Starniri. No Negative votes were cast. Ordinance 770 was unanimously approved by Council.

2. Ordinance 771 – Amendment to the PMRS Non-Uniform Pension Plan. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mr. Larimer, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer, Mr. McGowan and Mr. Starniri. No Negative votes were cast. Ordinance 771 was unanimously approved by Council.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$230,140.39 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY