

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
APRIL 28, 2014

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
Matthew Larimer
Russell Lipari
Louis Starniri

Winnie Howey
Joan Lilly-Kemmerer
James McGowan

ABSENT:

David Jones, Pamela Taylor

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the April 14, 2014 Council Meeting was approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved Minutes of the April 14, 2014 meeting.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

1. Steve Weber of 306 Front Street in West Easton appeared before Council to discuss work the Wilson Baseball Association would like to do at Jeffrey and Fisk Fields. The Borough made a donation of \$2,900.00 last year toward field improvements and there is money left over from the allocation. Mr. Weber would like to purchase 50 bags of field conditioner with some of the remaining funds. The Public Works Department does not do the field conditioning. Ms. Lohrman stated that the funds for the field improvements were allocated in last year's budget. She had never received one of the invoices for \$700.00 and the money was taken out of this year's budget to pay for the invoice. The proposed purchase of conditioner is another \$500.00 that was not budgeted in this year's budget. The Baseball Association will do the work, but would like the Borough to purchase the material. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to purchase the field conditioner and store it at Jeffrey Field. The invoice is to be provided to Ms. Lohrman for payment in a timely manner. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council unanimously approved the purchase of the field conditioner. A question arose as to why Wilson Recreation Board was not paying for the conditioner. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer responded that the Baseball Association had already received it's donation from Rec Board.

Mr. Weber stated that the metal container used to storage that is scheduled to be moved to Fisk Field is rusty and an eyesore. It will look terrible sitting along the 3rd base side of the softball field. As the storage shed at Jeffrey Field is in very bad condition, Mr. Weber suggested putting the metal storage container at Jeffrey Field and build dugouts at Fisk Field. Ms. Lohrman responded that after the archeological study was done at Fisk Field, it was determined that the Borough would not be allowed to dig more than six inches down or put any permanent structure on the baseball area of the field. Dugouts cannot be built in area of the baseball field and that is why they were not put in when the field was built. Mr. Drake will be meeting on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, about moving the pod down to Fisk Field. Mr. Drake added that the pod can be moved away from the 3rd base area at a later time, but at present as the field is too wet to move any further. Mr. Lipari made a Motion to authorize up to \$150.00 for the purchase of paint for the pod. The Baseball Association will paint the pod. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved the purchase of paint or the pod.

2. Michele Hunsicker of 1547 Ferry Street appeared before Council to request a copy of the ordinance that states one cannot play basketball in alleyways. Ms. Hunsicker has a hoop on her property that her three children, who are in 3rd grade, 6th grade and 8th grade, play in the alley off Rose Street. A gentleman who is her neighbor came to the last Council meeting to complain about her children damaging his property when they play basketball. He also stated that the kids block traffic and will not move while they are playing. A Police Officer came to the house the other day while the children were playing and said that they must stop and the hoop be removed or they are breaking the law. Ms. Hunsicker stated that there had never been a problem before and the ball is bouncing off a cider block wall that cannot be damaged. The children also move for traffic. Mr. Lipari inquired whether there was visual evidence that damage was being done to the property. No pictures were produced at the last Council meeting. Mr. Lipari would like to see proof that the kids are causing damage. Mr. Minotti requested the matter be tabled. Mayor Perruso will ask Sgt. Meehan for a copy of the ordinance. Ms. Lohrman will contact Ms. Hunsicker when she receives a copy of the ordinance.

3. Richard Volkert of the 1900 block of Fairview Avenue presented a letter from the block requesting permission to close the street on August 2, 2014 for a Block Party. Motion to allow the closure of the block for the Block Party by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Larimer. Council unanimously approved the street closure for the Block Party.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. An email was received from Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church requesting permission to put a banner advertising the Greek Fest on the lawn at Meuser Park. Ms. Lohrman stated that Mr. Drake had checked the utility poles along Northampton Street and there is not a place where the Borough would be allowed to hang a banner across the street. The church was requesting another place to put up the banner. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer felt that there may be a problem with kids playing in the park if the banner were allowed on the grassy area. The Borough could an advertisement on the bulletin board in the park. Mr. Starniri suggested putting up the banner along the tennis court fence. Motion by Mr. Starniri to see if the church is willing to have the banner put along the tennis court fence. Second by Mr. Feinberg. Council unanimously approved the Motion.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mr. Minotti reviewed information he had obtained concerning handicapped parking in PA. The law allows reserved, residential parking for handicapped individuals. The law improves the chances of parking for handicapped persons, but does not guarantee parking or exclusive rights to parking. Mr. Minotti also reviewed Easton's ordinance. It is more restrictive than the Borough's ordinance. Easton's process is much more involved. The Board of Health acts on handicapped parking requests. Neighbors are interviewed and there is an actual hearing held on the request prior to the approval. A short discussion was held on the matter. No action was taken.

2. Mayor Perruso has received three handicapped parking requests for: 1501 Liberty Street, 1825 Freemansburg Avenue and 1806 Washington Blvd. All requirements have been met. Mr. Starniri made a Motion to approve the handicapped parking requests. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council unanimously approved the handicapped parking spots.

3. Mayor Perruso informed Council that a name has been received concerning the dog dirt complaint received at the last Council meeting. The Police Department has the matter under investigation.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman presented the 2014 CDBG information to Council. She inquired as to any projects Council may wish to pursue. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer inquired about during handicapped curb cuts. Ms. Lohrman responded that she did not know if the Borough would have to do an income qualification on each property owner where the curb cuts would be put in. Council should also be mindful of possible PennDot permits and requirements. Ms. Lohrman with check with the County DCED office about doing curb cuts.

Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer suggested putting in sidewalks along 25th Street near Arby's and the bike path entrance. Mr. Corriere will check to see who owns the property along 25th Street. It may be in Palmer Township and in PennDot's right-of-way.

2. Ms. Lohrman asked Council if they still wished to have a Council meeting on May 26, 2014 as it Memorial Day. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to cancel the May 26, 2014 Council meeting and authorize Ms. Lohrman to pay the bills. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council unanimously agreed to cancel the May 26, 2014 Council meeting and allow Ms. Lohrman to pay the bills.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

None

FIRE:

None

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake mentioned that a relative of his had attempted to adopt two cats from the SPCA and was turned down because she occasionally allows one of her cats outside.

2. Ms. Howey thanked Mr. Drake for assisting with the Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer inquired how the Egg Hunt went using plastic eggs filled with candy instead of hard boiled eggs. Mr. Lipari and Mayor Perruso responded that they had a few comments that people

preferred having real eggs used for the egg hunt. Ms. Howey stated that she wished that the people who complained had spoken to her directly in a timely manner or spoken to someone else on the committee.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Lipari made a Motion to approve the following rates for the 2014 pool season:

Daily Admission: Adult - \$6.00 (13 – 59 years of age)
Children -\$5.00 (3 – 12 years of age)
Senior Citizen - \$3.00 (60 years of age or older)

Season Pool Passes:

Resident

Single - \$80.00
Family - \$110.00
Senior - \$35.00

Non-Resident

Single - \$125.00
Family - \$155.00
Senior - \$65.00

Mr. Starniri inquired where the rates that were printed in the newspaper had come from. Mr. Lipari and Ms. Lohrman stated that neither of them has spoken to the press in regards to the 2014 pool rates. Second by Mr. McGowan. Council unanimously approved the 2014 pool rates.

2. Mr. Lipari made a Motion to hire John Whilden and Jodi Brunstetter to work at the Ticket Window at the pool. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Both candidates were of good moral character and the committee felt that were both of age to do the job.

3. Mr. Drake informed Council that the plastic drain caps at the pool with have to replaced as they were all installed over five years ago. There are six drains in the large pool that will be replaced.

4. Mr. Drake will be putting up a white board at the pool entrance over the ticket window where informational notices can be posted.

5. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer inquired if the sign that will be posted at the pool concerning no outside food and beverages allowed on pool ground included the food the swim team sells during swim meets. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer will notify the swim team they will no longer be allowed to sell food during the meets. Mr. Lipari felt it was a good way for the swim team to raise money. The refreshment stand makes most of their money from noon to 5:00 p.m. Several Council members felt that if it was agreed to allow the Nutty Bavarian to use the refreshment stand to sell food, they should be allowed to sell it during swim meets also. Mr. Lipari inquired about the \$53,000.00 that Rec Board had in its checking and savings accounts. Possibly more of those funds could be used to help the associations rather than sit in bank accounts.

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti presented the draft ordinance and agreement on foreclosed and abandoned real property. The ordinance is similar to what Palmer Township adopted several weeks ago. Mr. Minotti will prepare the final form of the ordinance and the advertisement either the next Council meeting or the June 9, 2014 Council Meeting. The purpose of the ordinance is to take the burden of vacant, uncared for properties off the Borough. The property owner will be held responsible.

COG:

None

MECAB:

1. The next MECAB meeting will be held at Freemansburg on May 28, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. It will be a buffet meal. Cost will be \$20.00 per person. Mayor Perruso felt it would be nice if the Borough picked up some of the expense of the meal. Becky Bradley from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission will be the guest speaker.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$567,551.70 were paid on a Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Lipari. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer made a Motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A.LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY