

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
JUNE 9, 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	Winnie Howey
David Jones	Matthew Larimer
Joan Lilly-Kemmerer	Russell Lipari
James McGowan	Louis Starniri
Pamela Taylor	

ABSENT:

None

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the May 12, 2014 Council Meeting was approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved Minutes of the May 12, 2014 meeting.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

1. Dan Redington, Director of Mary Meuser Library, presented and reviewed the annual report for the library. Total borrower transactions were 67,000; an all time high. The library has 7 aging computers that will need to be replaced soon. Mr. Redington has been talking to area businesses to see if they would be willing to donate towards the new computers.

Mr. Redington has an issue with mold in the Children's Department. A pipe broke several months ago and the Children's Department has developed mold. Air Care & Restoration performed air quality testing and advised that the Children's Department be closed. The remainder of the building is clear of mold. Air Care & Restoration has also prepared a scope of work. Mr. Redington has received several quotes of between \$10,000 and \$12,000.00 for the remediation work, but has been told that it was unacceptable to approve Air Care & Restoration perform the work since they did the testing. Mr. Redington suggested contacting the Borough Engineer. Ms. Lohrman responded that the Borough Engineer did not get involved in mold remediation. When the Borough building had a problem with mold, Air Care & Restoration did the testing and RAPCO did the mold remediation work. Air Care & Restoration returned after the work was completed and redid the mold testing to make sure it was gone. Mr. Corriere also stated that in Housing Rehab projects, they never used Engineers for remediation. The contractors did the remediation. Council did not see a problem if Air Care & Restoration did the work. The insurance company can also assist with the process of mold remediation. No work should be done prior to the insurance company inspector looking at the problem. Mr. Lipari voiced his concern about the time frame as the busiest part of the year for the Children's Library was during the summer months. Mr. Redington stated that Air Care and Restoration indicated that it would take seven to 10 business days for the work would be completed. Ms. Lohrman was instructed to contact the insurance company and have an adjustor go to the library as soon as possible. The library board will make the final decision about the work to be completed. The Borough, however, owns the building. Mr. Redington invited Council members to attend the Board Meeting tomorrow evening. Mr. Lipari is the Liaison to the library.

Mr. Redington informed Council that the summer concerts are underway.

2. Joe Murgia, owner of Shruty's Pub, has purchased land on N. 19th Street that he would like to make into a formal parking lot for his employees and patrons. The project has already been approved by the Wilson Planning Commission. Mr. Murgia has offered parking to the garage across the street from the lot. Mr. Murgia submitted a parking sketch for Council's review. The plans have been drawn up by his engineer. Mr. Drake did not see a problem with the runoff going to the existing stormwater basin. There will be 14 to 16 parking spots in the lot. There will be enough turning radius in the lot for cars to turn around to use the driveway. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to waive the land development and stormwater requirements. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council unanimously approved the waiver for the parking lot.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. A letter was received from Matthew Chartrand, PE from Bohler Engineering, requesting Borough Council to waive the Wilson Borough Stormwater Management Ordinance (Chapter 149) and the Bushkill Creek Watershed (Act 167) Storm Water Management Plan requirements for the demolition of the existing buildings and the installation of additional parking on Lots 14 and 15 at the intersection of 25th Street and Forest Street. Plans for the proposed parking facility have been filed with Borough and agreed to by the Borough Engineer. Motion to approve the waiver from the Stormwater Management Plans by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved the waiver.

2. Council received one bid for the 1994 Ford Cargo 7000, aka street sweeper, in the amount of \$2,603.00 from Mike Veneziano from Bellefonte, PA. Motion to award the bid for the street sweeper to Mike Veneziano. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously awarded the bid to Mr. Veneziano. Mr. Drake questioned whether he could use the fund to have the plow fixed.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

None

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Two bids were received for the municipal building roof replacement project. Eastern Consultants, Inc. has reviewed the bid packets. JLK Contracting submitted a bid of \$335,000.00 and Jemar Contracting submitted a bid of \$369,649.00. When Mr. Parsons prepared the preliminary estimate of \$299,000.00, it did not include replacing the skylights and the cost of metal on the parapet walls. Mr. Parsons' final estimated cost with these items included was \$325,000.00. Based on the lowest bid and all required documents were included in the bid package, Mr. Parsons recommended awarding the project to JLK Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$335,000.00. A discussion ensued concerning the original specifications and the people who attended the pre-bid meeting. Mr. Feinberg clarified that not all the suppliers who had attended the meeting were able to meet the bid requirements. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to award the roof replacement project to JLK Contracting in the amount of \$335,000.00. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved the bid award to JLK Contracting.

2. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that 4 CDs were maturing on June 29, 2014. She will supply Council members with CD rates from local financial institutions at the next Council meeting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

1. Chief Parkansky informed Council that the Wilson Police Department will be participating in a training exercise on June 16, 2014 with Easton Police and Fire, 911 and the Palmer Police Department. The drill will be held at the Easton Academy. There will be 75 to 100 people playing roles in the drill.

2. Chief Parkansky had several Handicapped Parking renewals he wished to discuss with Council. In one instance the resident lives alone and does not drive. Another resident has a garage where the car is kept and no longer drives. The third resident does not have a doctor's statement saying that they qualify for a handicapped spot. Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer to deny handicapped spots to these residents who no longer qualify under the current guidelines. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council unanimously denied the handicapped parking spots to these residents.

3. Garbage is once again accumulating on N. 16th Street on property owned by the synagogue. The area had been cleaned up. Mr. Drake added that the Public Works Department had just cleaned up the Borough's property on Lehigh Drive where people had been dumping. Mr. Corriere will work on helping get the area cleaned up again.

4. Mr. Starniri informed Council that he had received a complaint about the yellow lines around the hospital. He suggested repainting the lines the 20 feet from the intersections. Mr. Drake responded that if his department repainted all the curbs at the intersections, the Borough would lose about 150 parking spots. Drivers should know where they can park even without the yellow lines. Chief Parkansky stated that if the curbs were painted yellow, then the officers would be obligated to give out tickets rather than use their discretion. Ms. Howey stated that people are also parking around fire hydrants.

FIRE:

1. Chief Collins requested permission to have an ad put on the website about hiring part-time firefighters. Chief Collins will prepare the advertisement.

2. Chief Collins requested Council to consider replacing the 1989 Grumann fire truck. The Borough could do up to 15 years of financing. The total cost of the truck would be \$430,000.00. Ms. Lohrman stated that she had attended a meeting this afternoon about the 2014 Uncommitted Funds Municipal Gaming Grants. The Borough could apply up to \$50,000.00 for Public Emergency Services. The funds

must be used within a one year time frame. The Borough had applied for a grant last year and was approved. However, there were so many applications that the applicants all received a percentage of the amount requested. Mr. Starniri made a Motion to apply for a grant for \$50,000.00 for the fire truck. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously voted to proceed with the grant application. Ms. Lohrman added that she would be attending a meeting in East Stroudsburg on Wednesday concerning the Monroe County Gaming Funds.

3. Chief Collins requested a Caucus on a personnel matter.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Jones informed Council that Council had hired to people to work in the Public Works Department this summer. One of the people hired, Dennis Corrado, did not respond to Mr. Drake's phone call to begin working. Two other applicants that had not been hired initially have found other employment. Anthony Rodriquez recently submitted an application. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer stated that other people had contacted the office about employment and were told that there were no more vacancies in the department. Motion by Mr. Jones to hire Anthony Rodriquez as Summer Help in the Public Works Department. Second by Mr. Larimer. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mr. Larimer, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Starniri and Ms. Taylor. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer cast a Negative vote. Motion to hire Mr. Rodriquez was passed by a eight to one vote.

2. Mr. Drake requested permission to advertise for bids to pave N. 18th Street and Wright Street from Northampton Street to Spring Garden Street and S. 18th Street from Washington Blvd. to Butler Street. Ms. Lohrman inquired about the condition of S. 17th St. Mr. Drake responded that UGI will have to repave S. 17th Street once they are finished putting in the new services. The work on Wright Street, N. 18th Street and S. 18th Street will include milling. Mr. Drake has already met with PennDot concerning the work. Motion to proceed with the paving of N. 18th Street, S. 18th Street and Wright Street by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms. Howey. Council unanimously approved the repaving project.

3. Mr. Drake would like Council to consider putting permanent stop signs at the traffic signs. The stop signs would be a folding type put on poles that would be used when the electric goes out. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer inquired about the price of the signs. Chief Parkansky questioned whether or not the signs would have to be added to the ordinance. Mr. Drake did not think so as the stop signs are put up normally when the power goes out. Mr. Starniri felt the folding signs were an emergency traffic control device.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Lipari informed Council that four Lifeguard applications had been filed since the last Council meeting. Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer requested that the applicants be brought up separately before Council. Motion by Mr. Lipari to hire Daniel Weekes as a Lifeguard. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Motion by Mr. Lipari to hire Tara Stahlecker and Craig Sthalecker as Lifeguards. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Mr. Lipari made a Motion to hire Madeline Blair as a Lifeguard. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. All four candidates for Lifeguards were hired unanimously by Borough Council.

2. John and Brenda Rich, who run the refreshment stand at the swimming pool, have offered to clean the pool. Council seemed interest in coming to an agreement for cleaning services with the Rich family.

Mr. Lipari thanked Mr. Drake and the Public Works Department for the great job they did in getting the pool ready for the summer.

Mr. Drake informed Council that they had found the major leak at the pool that had caused the loss of 2000 gallons of water each day. There are still a few small leaks remaining.

ATTORNEY:

None

COG:

None

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that there were over 30 people present at the last MECAB meeting in Freemansburg. There will be no MECAB meetings over the summer months.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ms. Taylor has been trying to get the Shade Tree Commission up and running again. She has several residents who are willing to serve on the commission with her. Motion by Ms. Taylor to appoint Scott Comfort, Maryann Leslie, Daniel Schaffer and Jennifer Rush to the Shade Tree Commission. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously appointed the residents to the Shade Tree Commission.
2. After a Caucus, Mr. Starniri made a Motion to hire Scott Blissman as a Labor Consultant. Second by Mr. Larimer. Council unanimously voted to hire Scott Blissman as a Labor Consultant.
3. A question arose about where the new benches at the swimming pool had come from. Mr. Drake responded that they had been a donation from Bimbo Bakeries.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1206 – Naming Individuals Who Are Authorized to Sign the Shared Use Path Crossing Agreement. Mr. Lipari made a Motion to approve Resolution 1206. Second by M. Starniri. Council unanimously approved Resolution 1206.
2. Resolution 1207 – Supporting the Local Use of Radar Speed Control Equipment. Mr. McGowan questioned why the resolution was before Council when the matter had not been discussed. Mr. Starniri replied that it had been discussed before and PSAB had been discussing the matter for years. Chief Parkansky is supporting what PSAB has been pursuing along with the Mayor's Association and the PA Chief's Association. Pennsylvania is the only state in the US that does not allow radar. Mr. McGowan stated that radar has been proven to be a money making instrument to the local municipalities and it is not proven effective. Chief Parkansky responded that the municipality only receives 50% of the fine portion of the actual cost of a citation. The Borough is currently using VASCAR. Motion to approve Resolution 1207 by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Larimer. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mr. Larimer, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Starniri and Ms. Taylor. Mr. McGowan cast a Negative vote. Resolution 1207 passed by an eight to one vote.

ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 772 – Foreclosed and Abandoned Real Property. Mr. Minotti began this portion of the meeting as a Public Hearing in order to discuss a new chapter of the Borough Code on Foreclosed and Abandoned Real Property. The Borough has had a problem with vacant, abandoned or foreclosed properties that may not have local managers handling maintenance issues at the properties. It is time consuming to attempt to locate the actual owners of the properties. The registration process in the Ordinance will proactively contact the people who are responsible for the properties and make sure they are brought up to code and are not a problem in the community. Property maintenance concerns will be enforced. Palmer Township and the City of Easton have already enacted the ordinance. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mr. Larimer, Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Starniri, and Ms. Taylor. Ordinance 772 was enacted by a nine to zero vote.
Mr. Lipari made a Motion to authorize the agreement with Federal Property Registration Corporation be executed by the proper Borough officials. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved the execution of the agreement.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$81,031.04 were ratified for payment and bills of \$82,519.42 paid on a Motion by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Starniri. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY