

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

ABSENT:

None

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the June 23, 2014 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mrs. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved Minutes of the June 23, 2014 Council meeting.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

1. Ms. Stephanie Smith of Allentown's Muscular Dystrophy Association requested Council's approval to have the Borough Firemen conduct a coin drive in August. Firemen will be on duty and there will be two four-hour shifts. MDA provides insurance for the event. The firemen will be able to leave to respond to fire calls if necessary. Fireman Mark Cooke also spoke of the relationship the department has had with MDA in previous years. Funds that are collected will benefit local residents with MD. Motion by Mr. Lipari to approve the MDA coin drive with on-duty firemen. Second by Ms. Taylor. Council unanimously approved the MDA coin drive with on-duty firemen.
2. Dan Redington, Mary Meuser Library Director was present to inform Council on the mold remediation project in the Children's Department. They received three estimates ranging from \$12,000 to \$21,000. Plasterboard will be removed and replaced as well as carpet. Books and shelves will be removed and replaced also. There will be a special meeting of the Library Board on July 15, 2014 to discuss the estimates. Mr. Redington asked Mr. Lipari to attend the meeting as liaison. The insurance company has paid \$7,700 to date and the claim has been reopened for more extensive damage. There was discussion as to who is responsible for decisions concerning the library structure, Borough Council or the Library Board. A few residents were also present to voice their concerns about the children's section being closed for months.
3. Mr. Dave Seiple of 1611 Liberty Street spoke about the B'Nai Synagogue property on N. 16th Street. There are mattresses, garbage bags, computers and a sofa littering the property. Weeds are overgrown. Council discussed various ways to handle the problem. Chief Parkansky said he has a meeting with the Synagogue next week and he will address this. Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer asked Borough Clerk Jill Garcia to contact Borough Health Officer Ted Veresink to visit the site.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. An email was received from Mary Wendland of the 1900 block of Fairview Avenue. She requested permission to close the block on August 2, 2014 for a block party and also for permission to park residents' cars at meter parking. Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to allow closure of the block but deny parking at meters. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved the request to close the block and deny parking.
2. A letter was received from Jen Klass, 2123 Hay Street requesting permission to close off the 2100 Block of Hay Street on August 16, 2014 from 11:00am until 10:00pm. Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to allow the block closure. Second by Mr. Starniri. Request unanimously approved by Council.

3. St. Jane Frances de Chantal School has requested permission to use Filbert Street between 19th and 20th for their annual Fitnessgram. Volunteers will be present to move cones for local traffic to pass through. Requested dates are Tuesday August 26th, September 2nd and September 9th (rain date) and Wednesday August 27th, September 3rd and September 10th (rain date). Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to allow use of the alley for the Fitnessgram. Second by Mr. Lipari. Affirmative votes cast by: Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Ms. Taylor, Mr. McGowan and Mr. Larimer. Mr. Feinberg and Mr. Starniri cast negative votes. Motion to allow St. Jane's to use Filbert Street was passed by a seven to two vote.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia advised that there will be a Police Pension Conference Call on August 18, 2014 @ 3:30 pm.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

1. Chief Parkansky read a memo from District Attorney Morganelli regarding the City of Easton. The City is in favor of giving government ID cards to illegal aliens. Mr. Morganelli is requesting all elected officials to say no. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to support Mr. Morganelli's request that illegal aliens should not get government IDs. Second by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously accepted supporting Mr. Morganelli.
2. Chief Parkansky reported that Officer James Fritts has recently received the Top Gun award through the House of Representatives and DUI Task Force among other awards.
3. The Wilson Borough Police Department received a letter of thanks from the Palmer Township Police Department for their assistance with a recent event involving a suicidal man with a gun.
4. The subject of background checks was brought up by Chief Parkansky. Any person working with children should have child abuse and background checks. Discussion followed. Motion by Mr. Feinberg that all full-time and part-time, current and future Borough employees must have child abuse and background checks completed in a timely manner. Second by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously accepted the motion for child abuse and background checks. Wilson Borough will pay the \$10 cost for these checks. After the vote, there was more discussion over the checks. Motion by Mr. Lipari to rescind the previous motion and investigate the issue further. There was no second. Motion failed.
5. Ms. Howey thanked the Wilson Borough Police for their involvement in the recent Cops and Kids outing to Coca-Cola Stadium for an Iron Pigs game.

FIRE:

None

PUBLIC WORKS:

None

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. A request by John and Brenda Rich who run the refreshment stand at the pool was discussed. They would like to clean at the pool. This will be for 10 hours a week and will include mopping at least two times a week. They are asking for \$8 an hour and to be paid as contractors. Motion by Mr. Lipari to hire John and Brenda Rich to clean the pool. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Howey, Mr. Jones, Mr. Larimer, Ms. Lilly Kemmerer, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Starniri and Ms. Taylor. Mr. McGowan cast a negative vote. Motion passed by a vote of eight to one.
2. Pool Manager Charles Marsteller requested permission to hire two lifeguards on an as needed basis. They are both currently employed at other public pools but are looking for more hours. They are Kevin McCann and Micah Rich. Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to hire McCann

- and Rich as lifeguards. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously accepted the motion to hire two lifeguards.
3. Mr. Lipari shared the pool's financial statistics with the Council and also mentioned that the Dip and Dance's have been successful.
 4. Ms. Howey told Mr. Marstellar it had been brought to her attention that there are little children in the baby pool during swim practice with no guards present. He said their parents were watching them. Council responded that this could be a potential liability. Motion by Mr. Lipari to allow Mr. Marstellar to put a guard at the pool during swim practice. There was no second. Motion failed. Mr. Marstellar asked if he should hang sign that say no guard/no use. Council said yes.
 5. Mr. Drake spoke about the wasps in the sand at the volleyball court. The sand is also full of garbage and no one seems to use the court. It will cost \$3000-\$4000 to fix. Mr. Drake asked for permission to eliminate the court. Mayor Perruso commented that he sees residents using it on weekends. Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to eliminate the volleyball sand court and replace with grass. Second by Mr. Starniri. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTORNEY:

None

COG:

None

MECAB:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer discussed the many properties in the Borough that have weeds growing where the curb/street meet. She asked what could be done about this situation. It is making the Borough look bad. Public works had sprayed in the past. Mr. Corriere said the Property Maintenance Code does not cover that area of the property. He asked for a lap-top so he can keep a database of these problems while he is traveling around. Mr. Drake said he would try to weed wack and Mr. Corriere said he would take care of the problem.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #1208 Authorizing Tax Collector to Collect and Retain Fees For Tax Certifications was submitted for Council's approval. Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer commented that Ms. Klass is open very few hours and they are not convenient for working people. She is sometimes not there during her posted hours or her husband is working for her. This is not allowed since he has not been deputized. Mr. Starniri added that she is an elected official and Council cannot control her hours. The Borough does not have to provide her with office space. Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to deny Resolution #1208. Seconded by Mr. Jones. Motion to deny Resolution #1208 (to give tax collector an increase for certifications, memo bills and duplicate bills) passed unanimously.

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance #773 – An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 587, as amended, of the Borough of Wilson, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, as set forth in Chapter 110 of the Code of the Borough of Wilson entitled Floodplain Management, requiring all persons, partnerships, businesses and corporations to obtain a building permit for any construction or development: providing for the issuance of such building permits: setting forth certain minimum requirements for new construction and development within areas of the Borough of Wilson which are subject to flooding: and establishing penalties for any persons who fail or refuse to comply with the requirements of provisions of this ordinance and Chapter 110 of the Borough of Wilson code or ordinances. 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 #773 was enacted by a nine to zero vote.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$312,748.67 were paid on a Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer. Second by Mr. Starniri. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

JILL A GARCIA, BOROUGH CLERK