

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
May 11, 2015

The First Meeting of March 2015 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	Louis Starniri
James McGowan	Russell Lipari
Matthew Larimer	
David Jones	

ABSENT:

Pamela Taylor

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. McGowan to approve the minutes from the April 13, 2015 Council meeting. Seconded by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously approved the minutes.

GUEST:

Mr. Maron Koorie owns five parcels of land on Spring Garden Street. These parcels back up to the Rail Road Right of Way that is owned by the Borough. Mr. Koorie was present to ask Council if Wilson would be willing to sell their parcel to him. Solicitor Minotti said the property may not be able to be sold. It was acquired by a quit claim deed and it is possible there are restrictions on the sale. The property was acquired by Wilson to be turned into a bike path. If it could be sold, there would need to be appraisals, advertising and bids. Mr. Koorie said he hadn't made a decision for use, but would either be for a home or would be developed for commercial use. Mr. Lipari commented that this property would then become a taxable property for the Borough. Mr. David Scomp of Bean Inc was present and explained that Bean has leased a portion of that land since 1943. He has an option to purchase if the land is remediated. Due to its former use as a rail line, the land is highly contaminated. Mr. Minotti told Mr. Koorie to investigate the properties more and return to Council.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Mr. Norman Shaffer of the local AARP was present to ask for permission for AARP to purchase a cart for the Community Center. The old one has gone missing. Motion by Mr. Starniri to allow AARP to purchase a new cart. Seconded by Mr. Lipari and Council unanimously agreed.

Dan Meadows of Calvary Baptist Church asked permission to use Meuser Park Pavilions for their yearly Vacation Bible School. Children from Wilson Borough Elementary School attend the week long program. It will run June 22nd through the 26th from 9 am to 12 pm. Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to allow Calvary Baptist to use the Meuser Pavilions. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Horninger of 1547 Lehigh Street addressed Council regarding the garage at 16th and Spruce Streets. The garage has cars all over the area. They work on cars in the street, park on sidewalks, have cars on the street for weeks with no engines in them and cars with no license plates. There is hardly any parking left for residents in an already crowded area. Mr. Corriere said he has been to the business and it is legal. He corrects violations that he sees. The Horningers were advised to call police with parking issues. Chief Parkansky said the Police will mark tires, check plates and watch for illegal parking. Mr. Horninger also asked if heating the garage with a wood stove is ok. Chief Collins said the Fire Department does not regulate them as there is nothing in the code about wood stoves.

Gloria Grant of 1421 Butler Street would like to have a fundraiser in the park on August 29, 2015. She would like to have a DJ. She was advised that in order to have a DJ she will need to rent both pavilions. Ms. Grant agreed to do so.

Jermaine of 1609 Ferry Street was also interested in having a DJ at a community awareness event he would like to hold at Meuser Park. He was informed as well that he would need to rent both pavilions. He will come into the office to check on available dates.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia read a letter from Avona Volunteer Fire Co. requesting the closure of Balata Street from the intersection of Front and Balata back to the alleyway on September 19, 2015 from 11 am to 5 pm. They will be holding their annual Picnic. Motion by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to allow the closure. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council unanimously agreed.

Ms. Garcia passed a request on to Council from Mark Cooke, president of the Wilson Baseball Association. He asked that Baseball be allowed to hang vinyl banners on the fence at Fisk Field. Upon a motion by Mr. Starniri, seconded by Ms. Howey, Council unanimously agreed to allow the Baseball Association to work with Mr. Drake, at his discretion, to put up banners. These must be removed at the end of the season.

Ms. Garcia read an email to Council written by Dr. and Mrs. Michael Bulette. The email was regarding the Wilson Recreation Board and requested Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer to resign citing failed leadership.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

Mayor Perruso asked Council to approve two Handicap Parking Spaces. They will be located at 1557 Ferry Street and 2333 Forest Street. Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Lilly-Kemmerer to approve placement of the two spaces. Council unanimously concurred.

The Mayor told Council that he's had requests for the Borough to return to publishing a newsletter. Mr. Starniri explained that he and Ms. Garcia have been talking about putting the newsletter on the Borough web site and also having hard copies in the office for those who would prefer that option.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia noted that the next Council meeting will fall on Memorial Day. Upon a motion of Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer, seconded by Mr. Starniri, Council voted unanimously to cancel the May 25, 2015 meeting. Ms. Garcia will place an advertisement in the newspaper.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

Chief Parkansky spoke about complaints regarding the intersection of Miller and Hay Streets. He requested permission from Council to make the intersection an all way stop. There will be a 30 day trial with a temporary sign and if successful, the ordinance will be changed. Motion by Mr. Starniri to proceed with the trial all way stop. Second by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council unanimously agreed.

Chief Parkansky addressed Council about the need for a Borough kennel. The Police are obligated by law to handle situations with dogs. They currently have one crate in the police garage and it's getting harder to find anywhere to go with strays. He requested a 2 or 3 run kennel to be placed at the public works garage. Phil Bell has agreed to care for the animals housed there. Mr. Drake will work with the Chief on placement and details and will present to Council at the next meeting.

Mr. Jones explained that his wife works for Victaulic in Forks. They are having Take Our Kids to Work Day and Health Fair on June 25, 2015. He asked if possible if the Fire Department could take a truck for a few hours and the Police could do a K-9 demonstration. Both Chiefs will speak with Fork's chiefs. Motion by Mr. Jones to allow Fire and Police to attend. Seconded by Mr. Starniri. Council concurred.

FIRE:

Chief Collins requested permission to re-hire fire fighter Michael Smith. Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer. Council concurred.

Chief Collins presented three bids to replace the rescue truck body. Campbell Supply \$20,029, Merkin \$15,319 and Versalift \$10,949. Motion by Mr. Starniri to accept the bid from Versalift for \$10,949. Second by Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer and council unanimously agreed. Funds will come from the LST account.

Chief Collins noted that the Committee which will award the Monroe County Gaming Grant will be meeting this week.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Drake informed Council that Ron Behler's last day will be May 30, 2105. The committee has recommended hiring Eric Flowers to replace Mr. Behler. His title will be Foreman. His start date will be June 1, 2015 and he will receive a \$2.39/hour raise. His salary will be evaluated in one year.

An advertisement to hire a new Public Works employee will be placed in the next few days. All applications will be due by May 27, 2015. A recommendation will be made at the Council meeting on June 8, 2015.

Mr. Drake asked Council to rehire Trevor Jones and Anthony Rodriguez as summer help.

Motion by Mr. Jones to promote Mr. Flowers, hire Mr. Jones and Mr. Rodriguez and to advertise new position. Second by Ms. Lilly Kemmerer. Council concurred.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Mr. Lipari thanked Mr. Drake for doing an excellent job preparing the pool for summer.

Motion by Mr. Lipari to hire Craig Stahlecker, Brooke Sales and Lindsay Sales as lifeguards. Second by Ms. Howey. Council unanimously agreed.

ATTORNEY:

None

COG:

None

MECAB:

Mr. McGowan said MECAB is working on a tour of the PPL Center. No date has been set.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$447,107.62 (April 27, 2015) were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms.Lilly-Kemmerer. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

Bills of \$106,648.65 (May 11, 2105) were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms.Lilly-Kemmerer. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

Ms. Lilly-Kemmerer asked if the sidewalks at Patient First could be done soon as the weather has turned nice and the Borough has received the funds. Mr. Drake will work on this.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

CAUCUS

Council went into a Caucus regarding personnel matters at 8:27 pm and exited at 8:42 pm.

RESOLUTIONS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. Second by Mr. Jones and Council concurred.

JILL A GARCIA
BOROUGH MANAGER/SECRETARY