

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
February 22, 2016

The Second Meeting of February 2016 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 Verenna called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

Tony Verenna	Pamela Taylor
Louis Starniri	Russell Lipari
Leonard Feinberg	Scott Palinkas
David Jones	Daniel Schaffer
James McGowan	

ABSENT:

None

Also present were: Police Chief Steven Parkansky, Fire Chief Michael Collins, Solicitor Stanley Margle, Director of Public Works Gregory Drake and Code Officer Paul Corriere.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. Starniri to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2016 Council meeting. Second by Mr. Schaffer. Council unanimously approved the minutes.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing was held regarding a conditional use approval for a Lidl grocery store to be built at 1120 S. 25th Street. A stenographic record was made.

Motion by Mr. Starniri to approve conditional use for Lidl with the nine conditions as listed by Solicitor Margle. Second by Mr. Feinberg and Council unanimously agreed.

GUEST:

None

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

A large crowd was present to express concerns regarding the Recreation Board and Council's recent discussions to make some changes. Representatives from various sports associations spoke and presented Council with letters expressing disapproval on cutting the recreation board membership from nine to seven. Mr. Jones explained that it was discussed to help the Board obtain a quorum at meetings. Quite often there isn't one. They also asked that association funds be kept with each association and not in one pool to be handed out by the Rec Board. Another issue presented was that association board members would like to be able to sit on Rec Board at the same time as their respective associations.

Charles Marstellar asked Council to decide what will be done with the swim team equipment and funds since the group has left Wilson Borough. Council advised that this is a Rec Board matter.

Motion by Mr. Lipari to leave the Wilson Borough Recreation Board member count at nine members. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council concurred.

Motion by Mr. Lipari to appoint Ms. Dawn Culver to the open seat on the Recreation Board. Second by Mr. Schaffer. Council unanimously agreed.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Mrs. Jennifer Dutko Miller presented a request to use the Strausser Community Center for a Spaghetti Dinner/Vendor Fair to benefit Walk MS. Her husband is afflicted with MS. She requested the fee be waived. The event will take place Saturday, April 9, 2016.

Motion by Ms. Taylor to allow use of the Community Center on April 9, 2016 fee free for Mrs. Miller's MS event. Second by Mr. Schaffer and Council concurred.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

None

FIRE:

Chief Collins spoke of the fire over the weekend that damaged four homes on Ferry Street. Various area fire departments including Easton, West Easton, Bethlehem Township, Palmer and Forks came out to help while Williams Township covered the rest of the Borough. Borough Police and Public Works also assisted. One residence, 1820 Ferry Street was not covered by homeowner's insurance. Solicitor Margle advised Council to have the residence boarded up. Motion by Mr. Starniri to have Code Officer Paul Corriere hire a company to secure the home. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council agreed.

Mr. Starniri asked if the Borough could lien or file an action to recoup funds. Solicitor Margle will look into this.

PUBLIC WORKS:

None

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Mr. Lipari advised Council that an advertisement has been placed for a new pool manager. He recommended adding Memorial Day as a free admission day for residents to see what the pool has to offer. The Borough will also be going forward with adding a new slide.

ATTORNEY:

None

COG:

None

MECAB:

Mr. McGowan said the next meeting will be held on February 24, 2016 at Catasauqua.

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Lipari asked Council to consider a tuition reimbursement policy for the Borough's office staff. Ms. Jones, Borough Clerk will be going to school to obtain her associates in public administration. This policy decision was tabled until the next meeting.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

CAUCUS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$177,609.28 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms. Taylor. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 8:47 pm. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

JILL A. GARCIA
BOROUGH MANAGER