

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
April 11, 2016

The First Meeting of April 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
James McGowan	Russell Lipari
Scott Palinkas	Daniel Schaffer
Louis Starniri	David Jones
Leonard Feinberg	

ABSENT:

None

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. McGowan to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2016 Council meeting. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved the minutes.

GUEST:

None

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Ms. Jennifer Dutko-Miller thanked Council for use of the Community Center for her MS Dinner and Vendor Fair. The event raised \$850.00 to fight MS. She also thanked some of the Council for attending the dinner.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia told Council about a request from Dell's Kitchen to host a basketball tournament at Meuser Park in July. Council asked Ms. Garcia to have the event coordinator attend the next Council meeting with more details. It is possible the event sponsor may need to provide extra liability insurance.

Ms. Garcia read a letter from Robbie Verenna Figueroa requesting closure of Dixie Alley, between Forest and Birch and 23rd and 24th Streets on June 25, 2016. She will be having an open house for her son's graduation party. Motion by Mr. Schaffer to allow the closure. Second by Mr. Jones. Council concurred with Mr. Verenna abstaining from the vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Perruso asked Mr. Drake to address a parking issue on Wright Street. At one time Wright Street residents were allowed to angle park to create additional spaces. Most homes now have parking pads and garages. Angle parking has become hazardous to drivers passing through Wright Street. Mr. Drake requested permission to return to parallel parking. He will notify residents with a letter and temporary signs.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia read a letter of resignation from Officer Stephen A. Homoki, a Wilson part-time patrolman. He expressed his regrets, praised the department and offered his assistance if ever needed. Motion by Mr. Starniri to accept the resignation with regrets. Second by Mr. Schaffer. Council unanimously agreed and requested Ms. Garcia to send a letter thanking Officer Homoki for his service.

Ms. Garcia asked Council to review the estimates for bullet proof glass and decide if the glass should be purchased. Cost will be \$7,920.00 for the Police Department and \$8,875.00 for the Business Office. These prices include electronic speakers. Motion by Mr. Starniri to have bullet proof safety windows installed in the Police Department and Business Office. Second by Mr. Feinberg. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Starniri, Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Jones and Mr. Schaffer. No vote cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion passed by a vote of 8 to 1.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

None

FIRE:

Chief Collins reported that the mess in the Dixie Warehouse parking area has been cleaned up.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Drake informed Council that ordinance #453 from 1969 had been located which makes left turns by trucks illegal, from Avona Avenue onto Freemansburg Avenue. He will be placing signs in the area.

Mr. Drake discussed the requests made by Mr. Slingerland at the last meeting regarding cross walks. Northampton Street is a State highway and will require the State's approval for any changes. Most likely this would also require flashing lights at the cross walks. Ms. Taylor noted that very clearly marked cross walks will draw pedestrians. Mr. Jones added that a cross walk at Pints and Pies is a good idea.

Mr. Drake informed Council that he and Ms. Garcia had met with Easton, Palmer Township and West Easton regarding the conditions on Lehigh Drive. The 4 municipalities will be working together to fix Lehigh Drive. Mr. McGowan asked who will be paying. Mr. Drake said Easton will be doing most of the labor and the other three Municipalities will be sharing costs. Wilson's cost will be \$8,000.00. If Wilson were to do their portion alone it would cost the Borough over \$20,000.00 Mr. McGowan voiced his displeasure that Council was not consulted prior to this point. Mr. Drake asked why he needed to ask permission to do road work that is in his budget. Mr. Margle added that if Mr. Drake's project falls within his budgeted work, he is within his rights to proceed without specific Council authorization. Mr. Starniri said he didn't feel that widening the road and joining in with other Municipalities is normal. Mr. Lipari said it's restoring and repairing the road to its previous condition. Motion by Mr. Jones to move forward with the road work. Second by Ms. Taylor and Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Lipari praised the new drop down stop signs that were used during the last power outage.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Mr. Lipari noted the Committee had met and established rates for the summer pool season. They are as follows:

<u>Resident:</u>		<u>Non Resident:</u>	
Single	\$ 90.00	Single	\$150.00
Family	\$120.00	Family	\$185.00
Senior	\$ 35.00	Senior	\$ 65.00
Retired Military	\$ 35.00	Retired Military	\$ 65.00
Daily:		Daily:	
Adult	\$ 6.00	Adult	\$ 7.00
Child	\$ 5.00	Child	\$ 6.00
Senior	\$ 3.00	Senior	\$ 4.00

Senior rates apply to patrons over 60 years of age. A family pass will include all members of a family living in the home.

Motion by Mr. Lipari to accept the above rates for the 2016 Season. Second by Mr. Schaffer. Council concurred.

There will be another meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee on April 25, 2016 at 6:00 pm. The committee will interview applicants for the manager's position at this time. They will also be working on a ticket pre sale date, publication of the free open house day and ideas for the refreshment stand.

Motion by Mr. Schaffer to hire the following: Paige Dreyer, Jodi Brunstetter and John Whilden – Front Gate; Kaitlyn Casciole -Assistant Manager; Michael Whilden, KayLynn Weikel and Meghan Hoskins – Lifeguards. Second by Mr. Jones and Council concurred. All pool employees must see Ms. Garcia before they can begin work.

Mr. Schaffer advised Council that the Recreation Board had recently advertised a special reorganization meeting and the only attendees were three board members. Motion by Mr. Palinkas to have Solicitor Margle draft a resolution to amend the bylaws of the Recreation Board, changing the membership from nine to five. Second by Mr. Schaffer. Council agreed unanimously.

ATTORNEY:

Attorney Margle spoke regarding the last Planning Commission meeting held on April 5, 2016. Lidl's representatives were concerned that they were not notified of the meeting. Mr. Feinberg said there was no meeting and no action taken. Mr. Margle will notify Lidl of the next meeting to be held on May 3, 2016.

COG:

None

MECAB:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

Ms. Garcia advised Council that the Borough's new insurance Broker, National Penn, has found an insurance carrier to cover the Borough for Workers' Compensation Insurance. The Borough will no longer have to be covered by the State Workers Insurance Fund. This will save \$125,000.00 of the budgeted amount.

Motion by Mr. Lipari to approve Resolution #1215 A Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Municipal Risk Management Workers; Compensation Pooled Trust. Second by Mr. Taylor. Council unanimously concurred.

Motion by Mr. Starniri to approve Resolution #1216 Designation of Agent Resolution. This will allow Ms. Garcia to sign all paperwork on behalf of the Borough in an attempt to recover monies spent on Winter Storm Jonas. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council agreed.

CAUCUS:

Council held a Caucus to discuss personnel matters.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$137,288.82 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Starniri. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 8:02 pm. Second by Ms. Taylor and Council concurred.

JILL A. GARCIA
BOROUGH MANAGER