

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
July 25, 2016

The Second Meeting of July 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:

James McGowan
Leonard Feinberg
Tony Verenna

Louis Starniri
Scott Palinkas
Russell Lipari

ABSENT:

Pamela Taylor
Daniel Schaffer

David Jones

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. McGowan to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2016 Council meeting as presented. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved the minutes.

GUEST:

Mr. David Seiple, Executive Director of the Wilson Area LINCS Center addressed Council. The LINCS Center provides assistance with food and clothing to needy families, as well as referral services. It also offers a low cost/no cost Fitness Center, an Art Gallery and various after school programs. The LINCS center is not funded by the Wilson Area School District. It does receive donations and works to obtain grants.

Mr. Seiple requested Council's input on how to improve communications between Borough Residents and the LINCS Center. He asked about being included on the Borough's website as well as any newsletter that may be issued. He also requested at least one member of Council join the LINCS board as a liaison. Lastly, Mr. Seiple asked that Council consider making a commitment of financial support to the LINCS Center.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Mr. Charlie McGarvey, Physical Education Teacher at St. Jane's School was present to request Council's permission to use the alley behind the school for the National Youth Physical Fitness Awareness Program. This is the 31st year the school will be participating. The alley will be used for the one mile run. Kids will stop running when they hear "freeze" and will stand still until vehicles have cleared the alley. Mr. McGarvey accepted responsibility for the children running while cars were moving last time. He gave his assurance that it would not happen again. The dates requested are August 30th & 31st and September 6th & 7th (rain dates September 13th & 14th). Times are from 8 am to 11 am and 12:15 pm to 1:45 pm each day. Solicitor Margle said that if the Borough Council gives permission for the event, the Borough as well as Borough Council could be held liable if there were an accident. He suggested Mr. McGarvey purchase event insurance for at least \$1,000,000 naming Wilson Borough and the Borough Council as additional insureds. Motion by Mr. Lipari to approve the event if St. Jane's provides proof of event insurance, blocks the alley entrances and has garbage pickup changed. Second by Mr. McGowan. Yes votes cast by Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Verenna. No vote cast by Mr. Feinberg. Motion carried by a 5-1 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

Chief Parkansky reported that the Civil Service exam had been given. Eight applicants were given the physical fitness portion and seven moved on to the written exam. Those are currently being graded.

Chief Parkansky told Council that a meth lab had been shut down at 2328 Forest Street with the help of the PA State Police and Forks Township Police. One person was arrested and the investigation is ongoing. The home is unfit for habitation and has been padlocked. The State Police have removed all hazardous materials.

FIRE:

The Wilson Fire Department aided nine fire companies in fighting a fire in Williams Township today. The landscaping business was a total loss.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Drake addressed the complaints he has heard regarding the tree trimming by Public Works. Borough ordinance allows the Borough to trim trees that hang into the streets so that emergency vehicles, the street sweeper and plows can pass safely. Some people were unhappy, however others were pleased. Public works will continue trimming trees on snow emergency routes first, and then the remaining streets.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Motion by Mr. Starniri to have Solicitor Margle draw up an ordinance which will allow Wilson Police to enforce all signs in the Borough's Parks. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Lipari reported income to date for the pool as \$40,801.00.

Mayor Perruso asked if complaints had been addressed. Ms. Garcia and Mr. Drake visited the pool and had discussions with the managers to address the problems. There have been no further complaints. Mr. Drake added that there are times when the pool had to be closed because the guards cannot see the bottom of the pool.

Mr. Seiple asked if the playground program supplies from the past are still stored and if the LINCS center could have them. Mr. Drake said the only item he is aware of is a ping pong table at the Hay Terrace building. Mr. Seiple can have the table.

Mr. Lipari asked that the sign at Jeffrey Field in memory of Eddie Sheddler be replaced. Mr. Drake will look into this.

ATTORNEY:

None

COG:

None

MECAB:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Starniri asked about the demolition of the houses destroyed by fire at 1820 and 1822 Ferry Street. Demolition will begin August 1st and Mr. Margle is looking into placing a lien on the properties for the demolition costs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Palinkas gave Council a copy of a letter sent by the Recreation Board to the Northampton County Gaming authority. The letter lends support to West Easton's application for a grant to improve sidewalks and ramps along West Easton's Community Park.

Motion by Mr. Starniri to have Mr. Margle look into what can be done about the Wilson Area School Board cutting funds to the Wilson Recreation Board. Second by Mr. Palinkas. Council concurred.

Mr. Verenna appointed Ms. Taylor, Mr. Palinkas and Mr. Feinberg to a Salaries and Budget committee.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$191,360.61 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Palinkas. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 7:51 pm. Second by Mr. Palinkas and Council concurred.

JILL A. GARCIA
BOROUGH MANAGER