

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
January 18, 2017

A Special Meeting of January 2017 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	Scott Palinkas
Leonard Feinberg	David Jones
Louis Starniri	Pamela Taylor
Daniel Schaffer	Tony Verenna

ABSENT:

Russell Lipari

Also present were: Fire Chief Joseph Sipel, Police Chief Steven Parkansky, Solicitor Stanley Margle, and Director of Public Works Gregory Drake

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Mr. Donald Barrett of 725 S. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street read a prepared statement. Among complaints of Council not taking taxpayers concerns into consideration, he also claimed that his research led him to believe that Ms. Garcia's pay raises since being appointed as Borough Manager were illegal, violating Pennsylvania law.

Ms. Mary Ann Sofronie of 2415 Sycamore Street also read a prepared statement with her complaints regarding borough staff and recommendations of how to fix what she sees as problems in the Borough.

2017 BUDGET

Motion by Mr. Feinberg to approve the 2017 budget as advertised. Second by Mr. Schaffer. Yes votes cast by Mr. Verenna, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Jones and Mr. Schaffer. No votes cast by Mr. McGowan and Mr. Palinkas. Motion carried by a 6-2 vote.

Mr. Jones noted that although he voted against the 2017 salary resolution, he was voting for the budget since the salaries did not impact the millage rate.

ORDINANCE #781 – SETTING THE 2017 MILLAGE AT 17.5

Motion by Mr. Schaffer to approve ordinance #781. Second by Mr. Feinberg . Yes votes cast by Mr. Verenna, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Jones and Mr. Schaffer. No votes cast by Mr. McGowan and Mr. Palinkas. Motion carried by a 6-2 vote.

ORDINANCE #782 – INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

Solicitor Margle spoke to say that the installment payment ordinance has no relation to the tax millage ordinance and that voting yes for it would not mean agreement with the millage ordinance. Ordinance #782 is solely to allow tax payers to make installment payments.

Motion by Mr. Schaffer to approve ordinance #782. Second by Mr. Feinberg . Yes votes cast by Mr. Verenna, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Jones and Mr. Schaffer. No votes cast by Mr. McGowan and Mr. Palinkas. Motion carried by a 6-2 vote.

CAUCUS:

Council entered into a Caucus at 7:32 pm and exited at 7:48 pm. The Caucus was to discuss a personnel matter as permitted by the Sunshine Law.

Mr. Margle advised the audience that the Borough Manager or anyone who is invited may join in a Caucus. This does not result in the Caucus information becoming public information.

Mr. Margle also addressed Mr. Barrett's concerns that Ms. Garcia's raises were a violation of law. He advised Mr. Barrett that he would look into the matter, but since Mr. Garcia is not covered by an employment contract he believes this information is incorrect.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Schaffer made a Motion to adjourn at 7:54 pm. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council unanimously agreed.

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JILL A. GARCIA  
BOROUGH MANAGER