

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
JULY 23, 2007

The Second Meeting 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, President	James Klass
Joan Lilly	James McGowan
Bob Reiss	David Schug
Louis Starniri	David Williams

ABSENT:

Ronald Nixon

Also present were: Mayor David Perruso, Attorney Louis Minotti, Chief Michael Collins, Chief Richard Nace, Superintendent Greg Drake, Code Enforcement Officer Paul R. Corriere

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the July 9, 2007 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Schug.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Margaret Long of 2115 Hay Street appeared before Council to express her concerns about some problems at the swimming pool. Pool employees, including her son, were frequently unable to work their full shifts because the pool was closing early. The schedules are not been completed in a timely manner. The schedule for tomorrow is still not completed. Ms. Long suggested hiring less people at the pool and allowing them more hours. At times there are not sufficient food items for sale. Mr. Klass responded that normally the pool is closed because of inclement weather or lack of attendance. Ms. Lohrman is generally not notified if the pool is closed early. The pool manager has been given over the years the authority to give hours to some employees over others. Mr. Reiss added that kids have been opening the pool in the event of the Manager or Assistant Manager's absence. The Head Lifeguard does have permission to open the pool for swim team practice only. Mr. Klass was unaware of most of the concerns, but will check into the matter with the Borough Manager.

2. Peg Shafer of 1809 Lehigh Street is concerned about the condition of the tree in front of her home. The tree has been damaged by the weather over the years and is afraid it will come down in a storm. Mr. Drake will meet with Mrs. Shafer tomorrow to look at the tree. A permit will have to be issued if the tree can come down and a new one replanted.

3. Alyssa Behler of 1946 Ferry Street appeared before Council to discuss her problem with the pool management. Ms. Behler had been an employee at the pool for six years. Over the last few years, the pool management has left a lot to be desired. Ms. Behler had purchased cleaning supplies and assisted in setting up the pool during the first two weeks of the season. Ms. Behler stated that she had been let go by the manager as she had not hired her. The changing of food prices was discussed. Mr. Klass responded that the pool manager was responsible for the scheduling of the staff. He was told by the pool manager that she could not work well with Ms. Behler and would not be scheduling her for more hours. Several Council members did not feel this was the right thing to do. Ms. Behler suggested that the Borough take back the pool and manage it themselves.

4. Jennifer Pospisil of 122 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street questioned Council to see if a changing the day of the week that Block Watch meetings are scheduled would increase the attendance of Borough Council members. In particular, Ms. Pospisil was concerned about the dates of the Lions meetings. Ms. Pospisil would like to have the Council members involved in the Block Watch including the members who are Lions. The next Block Watch meeting is July 31, 2007 at Meuser Park.

Ms. Pospisil was also concerned about the wires coming down in her alley. Both a Met-Ed truck and a garbage truck both got caught on wires in the past week in the alley. Mr. McGowan responded that the utilities are to make sure that their wires are at least 14 feet off the ground. Ms. Pospisil was instructed to contact the 911 center to have the wires taken care of.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. A letter was received from St. Jane Frances de Chantal School requesting permission to close the alley behind the school on August 28, 2007, August 29, 2007, September 4, 2007, September 5, 2007, September 11, 2007 and September 12, 2007 for a one mile run. The ends of the course will be marked

by a cone with an individual to move the cone for local traffic. Local traffic will be allowed to pass through.

2. A letter was received from McFall, Layman & Jordan, PC requesting permission for the Board of the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority to establish and fund a capital budget. The Board is currently negotiating with a New Jersey landfill for a contract whereby the Authority will be able to treat some of the leachate from the landfill. The surcharge fees received by the Authority for the leachate treatment is estimated to be in the \$300,000-\$350,000.00 range on an annual basis. The proposal to create a capital improvement fund with surcharge proceeds in such a fund will be carried over by the Authority from year to year to fund ongoing capital improvements without the need to rebate any such surcharge fees to the municipalities at the end of the budget year. Mr. McFall requests the Borough respond on or before August 20, 2007 with their decision to approve or disapprove the establishment of a capital improvements budget to be funded solely by surcharge fee income.

3. A letter was received from Mark Rosenkranz of 2412 Hay Street to be considered for the position on the Wilson Planning Commission.

4. A letter was received from Karl Kline, PC, attorney for Forks Township, presenting a proposal from Forks Township to purchase 150,000 gallons per day of capacity from the Borough of Wilson at the rate of \$8.00 per gallon per day of capacity. Forks Township proposes to purchase this in four yearly installments of 37,500 gallons per day each year, resulting in four yearly payments of \$300,000 from Forks to Wilson commencing in 2007.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso informed Council that fines collected by Judge Koury in June 2007 were \$6,493.57.

2. Mayor Perruso informed Council that further discussion was held on the stolen car issue that was brought up at the last Council meeting. Facts have been gathered to fully answer Mr. Minotti's questions. Mayor Perruso hopes that the matter can be resolved at tonight's meeting. Motion by Ms. Lilly to pay \$800.00 out of the general fund to pay for the car to be returned to Ms. Shorter. Second by Mr. Klass. The check will be made payable to Easton Auto Body.

3. Mayor Perruso thanked the Public Works department for doing a good job in cleaning up the Borough after the recent storm.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the Borough now had three properties that they were cutting the grass. The Borough has been cutting the grass at the Ferry Street property since last summer and the other two properties that have been repossessed by out of town banks. All the property owners have been cited for not cutting the grass. Ms. Lohrman suggested hired someone like Mr. Segreaves in the Public Works Department who has a grass cutting business cut the grass at the properties in question. Mr. Minotti would like to file municipal claims against the property owners. Borough ordinance states that property owners can be cited for grass over 10 inches high. Mr. McGowan questioned whether the Borough would have to wait until the grass 10 inches high again before another citation is issued and the grass cut again.

2. Ms. Lohrman reviewed the damage done to Borough property during the storm. Chief Collins' vehicle had a broken window, one of the glass doors was broken at the library, several branches came down at Meuser Park and two trees will have to be taken down at the park, and an edge of the large pavilion was damaged. A portion of at least one tree came down in the back of the library. It may be too large for the Public Works department to take down.

3. PSAB has an article in the Borough News concerning the changes to the EMST law. It bill allows for \$1.00 a week to be taken out of an employees paycheck during the year. The tax would be due every quarter. Mr. Feinberg questioned whether the Borough could authorize the payment to be only once a year instead of quarterly. Mr. Minotti felt it may be possible. Ms. Lohrman will forward Mr. Minotti a copy of the PSABstract and a copy of the EMST ordinance for review.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

#### FIRE:

1. Firefighter Barry Rogers reviewed the Fire Ops program that will be held on September 15, 2007 at the Allentown Fire Academy. Mr. Rogers was interested in knowing if any Council members were interested in attending the program as the sponsors of the event would like a preliminary headcount as they are looking into providing transportation for the day. Orientation will be held on September 14, 2007. Mr. Rogers will attend the next Council meeting with an update.

#### POLICE:

1. Chief Nace informed Council that there would be a Taser recertification shortly. Chief Nace was looking for volunteers for the training session.
2. The new locking system is currently being installed.
3. Chief Nace added that the accreditation process has begun. Some items will need to be addressed in the future.

#### PUBLIC WORKS:

None

#### PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass has provided a list of those who are working this summer at the pool. Motion by Mr. Klass to approve the list. Second by Mr. Schug.
2. Approximately two weeks ago, Ted Veresink, Wilson Borough Health Inspector, performed a surprise health inspection at the pool. The facility scored a 100%.
3. Mr. Klass appreciated the comments that had been made at the pool and will check out the concerns discussed at the meeting.

#### SOLICITOR:

None

#### MECAB:

None

#### OLD BUSINESS:

None

#### DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Ms. Lilly to approve the request by St. Jane's School to use the alley for the one mile run. Second by Mr. McGowan. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Schug, Mr. Starniri and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. Feinberg. Motion carried by a seven to one vote. Ms. Lohrman will remind them to allow the traffic to flow in the alley during the event.
2. In response to the letter from Attorney McCall, Mr. McGowan would prefer to pay down the debt rather than put the funds aside in a capital fund. He would like to make it more difficult to spend money. Mr. McGowan also felt that the Borough may not get a rebate as stated in the letter. Motion by Mr. Starniri to respond in the negative. Second by Mr. McGowan. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Schug, Mr. Starniri and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. Reiss. Motion carried not to allow the capital fund by a seven to one vote.
3. Motion by Mr. McGowan to appoint Mark Rosenkrantz to the Wilson Borough Planning Commission. Second by Mr. Starniri.
4. Mr. Reiss questioned the figure quoted to purchase the latest sewer capacity. The previous sale of capacity was from the BBL and that had its own cost figure. The current capacity offer is for \$8.00 a gallon. Forks Township is willing to pay the \$8.00 a gallon plus interest over a four year term. The price of the capacity could go up or down over the four years. Mr. Minotti agreed that Forks Township should pay interest if they wish to purchase capacity over a several year term. Mr. Klass suggested renegotiating the cost each year. Mr. Feinberg responded that the market does not set the price and the cost could go down next year. Motion by Mr. Reiss to make a counteroffer to Forks Township for interest to be paid based on commercial loan rates on the sale of sewer capacity. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Schug, Mr. Starniri and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a seven to one vote. Mr. Minotti will negotiate the terms of the agreement with Forks Township.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that it has been years since Michael Cabot had completed the Wilson Borough Zoning Ordinance. There are a few inconsistencies in the book and Mr. Feinberg felt that with Council's blessing it should be redone. Ms. Pandl, the Borough's Planner, is qualified to do the work with the assistance of the Zoning Board, the Planning Commission and Mr. Corriere. Both Mr. Starniri and Mr. Minotti felt the book should be redone as there have been changes in the Municipal Planning Code. Motion to proceed with the update to the Zoning Ordinance by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms. Lilly.
2. Mr. Reiss requested that Ms. Lohrman contact Amy Riddle Montgomery to get a progress report for Fisk Field. Ms. Lohrman will get the update for the next Council meeting.

3. Mr. McGowan felt that the trees that had been lost in the recent storm should be replaced. The Borough should consider applying for a grant for shade trees. Mr. Drake added that the Public Works Department will replace one of the trees that will come down at the park. The trees gave grown too close together to replace the other tree.

4. Mr. Klass commended Mr. Drake on the fine job the Public Works Department had done on fixing up Liberty Park. Children playing hard ball in the park had damaged trees and shrubbery and had to be replaced. The manner in which the shrubbery and trees were replaced should defer future ball playing in the park. The Police department will be reminded to lock the gates of the park at the end of the day.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$136,866.67 paid and bills paid on a Motion by Mr. Schug. Second by Ms. Lilly.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Second by Ms. Lilly and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY