

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
JANUARY 28, 2008

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	Louis Starniri
Tony Verenna	David Williams

ABSENT:

David Schug

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the January 14, 2008 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. Verenna. Second by Ms. Lilly.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Terry Briggs and Paul Reiser appeared before Council to request Council's blessing on one of their projects. Mr. Briggs and Mr. Reiser are intending to purchase the Driftwood Bar located at 1734-1736 Wood Avenue. They plan to lease the space to an insurance company and hair salon on the first floor and build a second floor for a day care center. Mr. Corriere informed Council that there is not enough parking to support the project without encroaching on the unused portion of the bike path. Mr. Briggs and Mr. Reiss are interested in leasing the bike path adjacent to their proposed property. Mr. Feinberg discussed the dimension and location of the portion of the bike path that is leased to Bean, Inc. and what would be available to lease to another party. Mr. McGowan informed Council that Mr. Schomp was interested in purchasing the bike path that he is leasing. The Borough cannot legally sell the bike path property. It is only able to lease it. Mr. Minotti inquired whether or not the area had been surveyed. The response was that it had not been. Mr. Minotti added that the project had to go before the Planning Commission and the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Briggs and Mr. Reiser would like to put in 20 parking spots. Mr. Corriere stated that based on the square footage of the buildings it is more than enough parking to support the proposed businesses. Motion by Ms. Lilly to table the matter until further information is gathered. Second by Mr. Klass. Mr. Feinberg stated that several of the parking spots run along Wood Avenue which is a PennDot road. They may need to acquire a HOP from PennDot. The play area could be used for additional parking, but then there may not be enough play area for the day care center to use.
2. Agnes Gallagher of 2143 Hay Street appeared before Council to complain that the residents are not cleaning off their sidewalks after snowstorms. There is no reason for this to happen.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. A letter was received from Attorney Alan McFall, Solicitor of Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority, informing the Borough that West Easton has requested that the Adamson Street line be acknowledged and treated as a common use line. The Board of the Easton Area Sewer Authority has concurred with the request of West Easton. The Authority Board has requested that the Borough consider adopting an ordinance approving an amendment to the 1978 Agreement that would add the Adamson Street line between Mary's Alley and the intersection of Keystone Avenue and Seventh Street as a common use facility. Mr. Feinberg stated that he did not feel that the information did not really spell out the area as no metes or bounds were provided. He did not really know what the Borough would be agreeing to. Mr. Feinberg made a Motion to request a more definitive definition of the area that was requested to be a common use line be supplied. Second by Mr. Starniri.
2. A second letter was received from Attorney Alan McFall informing the members of the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority that Wilson Borough has tentatively agreed to sell 24,000 gallons per day of its reserve capacity to Williams Township at a price of \$8.00 per gallon. If any municipalities are interested exercising the option to purchase the 24,000 gallons per day of capacity, it must give written notice to the Authority on or before Monday, February 18, 2008. The Authority Board will vote on approving the sale of such capacity on such date.

3. Ms. Lohrman acknowledged an email from Bob Bryant, Engineer for the 24th Street Bridge Project. Mr. Bryant stated that our TS&L report was submitted to PennDot on February 22, 2007. PennDot will be turning over all local bridge projects to a consultant management team once one has been hired. Ms. Lohrman was directed to contact Senator Wonderling's office to see if they can help speed up the project.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso has received a request for Handicapped Parking Sign from Donald Beohm of 422 S. 20th Street. Chief Nace has approved the application. Motion by Mr. Klass to approve the application and return the reimbursement check. Second by Mr. Verenna.
2. Mayor Perruso inquired whether the Borough had received any response from LANTA concerning the bus stop in front of LaBella's. Ms. Lohrman responded that she thought the Police Department would be handling the matter. Mr. Klass requested that Ms. Lohrman send a letter to LANTA to see if they would be willing to move the bus stop into the next block.
3. Mayor Perruso asked Chief Nace if he had looked at the parking situation on Hillside Avenue. Chief Nace responded that he did not see a solution without taking any parking away or making the street one way. A discussion was held on the ownership of the triangle area at Hillside Avenue and S. 25th Street. A portion of the land was deeded to the Borough in the form of the bike path. Mr. Minotti is holding the deed in escrow on the land swap deal with Mr. O'Neill. Mr. Drake was requested to look at how many parking spots could be temporarily put in off Hillside Avenue. Mr. Drake will provide pictures to Council at the next meeting. Ms. Lohrman was directed to see if the Borough has a map of the area.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received the Agreement for Use of Polling Place for the use of Council Chambers on April 22, 2008 and November 4, 2008. Mr. Feinberg reminded Council that they had thought about moving the polling place to the Community Center as the facility is larger and there is more parking. Mayor Perruso replied that it may be a problem for those people who walk to the polling place. Motion by Mr. Starniri to approve the County's request for 2008 and approach them about moving the polling place beginning next year. Second by Mr. Klass.
2. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that she had received a call from Angela Stackhouse from Met-Ed concerning two unmetered street lights. Ms. Stackhouse gave Ms. Lohrman the approximate locations of the street lights. Ms. Lohrman requested that assistance of Mr. Ron Behler to determine where the lights were and if they were needed. One of the lights was located near the Avona refreshment stand. The Borough will begin being billed for the light as soon as Met-Ed installs a meter. The second street light question was more difficult to find. It is located very near a second street light behind Wendy's adjacent to Maier's Bakery parking lot. Met-Ed will be removing the unmetered, lesser wattage light shortly. The metered, higher wattage light has been billed to the Borough since December, 1992. As Met-Ed will only bill the municipal government for street lights and Ms. Lohrman could not find any agreement with Maier's Bakery for the light, Ms. Lohrman inquired as to what Council would like to do about the light. The Borough is paying \$26.83 per month for the light. Ms. Lohrman was requested to contact them that the Borough no longer wished to pay for the light and request them to respond ASAP.
3. Mr. Verenna inquired about the telephone pole by the 24th Street bridge that was hit last year. Chief Collins responded that Met-Ed had put in a new pole and put their lines on the pole. Verizon, on the other hand, had come to the scene, but has not done anything. Mr. Verenna was concerned about the pole being a hazard. Ms. Lohrman was requested to send Verizon a certified letter and request the pole be removed.
4. Ms. Lohrman requested a Caucus on a personnel matter.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

FIRE:

1. Mr. Starniri thanked Borough Council for the flowers and sympathy upon the death of his mother.
2. Mr. Starniri requested a short Caucus on a contract matter with the Fire Department.

POLICE:

1. Chief Nace informed Council that PennDot had installed the guard rail on Wood Avenue. There still is no warning of the curve in the form of a sign nor of a reduction in speed. Chief Nace has spoken to Lou Chunko about reducing the speed limit at the curve.
2. Mayor Perruso has reviewed the Accreditation Manual. Mr. Starniri requested that members of the Police Committee review the manual. It can be found in Ms. Lohrman's office.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Verenna reviewed a list of activities that the Public Works Department has been working on. He also has a list of activities the department will be working on in the future.

2. Mr. Verenna requested Council's permission to execute a Letter of Intent for the lease for the new dump truck so Mr. Minotti can review the lease agreement. The new truck will replace the 1973 International. The purchase price of the truck is \$104,197.50. The payment on the five year lease is \$28,500.00. Mr. Drake has put funds in the 2008 budget for the lease payment. Mr. McGowan strongly objected to the purchase of the truck. He was not aware of purchase of the truck nor that funds were placed in the budget for the truck. Motion to execute the Letter of Intent by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Williams. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a seven to one vote.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass informed Council that the Parks and Recreation Committee had met to discuss the 2008 pool season. The Committee is in the process of finding a Pool Manager. Ms. Lilly will be speaking to someone this week. Council will know at the next meeting whether or not the Borough will have to advertise for the position. Mr. Drake has done his homework and is well on his way to preparing the pool for the season.

2. Mr. Klass updated Borough Council on the meeting he attended with the regional DEP office and the subsequent meeting with Lisa Walter from Senator Wonderling's office. The Borough must first obtain a permit from the Northampton County Conservation District. The Borough Engineer must also delineate the floodplain area and have the permit from the Conservation District prior to filing an application with the DEP. Depending on where the floodplain is, it could affect where and how large the field is. Ms. Walter will do what she can to speed up the process.

SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the Risk Management Agreement from Brown & Brown, Inc. Mr. Minotti had issues with the confidentiality agreement, advertising, adverse consequences, attorney's fees and venue issues. Mr. Feinberg stated that Council had already approved Mr. Minotti to contact the General Counsel to see if they could come up with an agreement to satisfy both parties. The revised agreement will come back to Council for approval.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan has received an email asking about a January meeting. He and Mayor Perruso were under the impression that the next meeting would be held in February 2008.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The General Government Committee will be meeting on Thursday, January 31, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$301,088.61 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Verenna.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Verenna made a Motion to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. Second by Mr. Williams and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY