

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
MARCH 24, 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	David Schug
Louis Starniri	Tony Verenna
David Williams	

ABSENT:

None

Also present were: Attorney Louis S. Minotti, Mayor David S. Perruso, Code Enforcement Officer Paul R. Corriere, Chief Richard Nace, Assistant Superintendent Ron Behler

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the March 10, 2008 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Williams.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Helen Remaley thanked the Perruso's, McGowan's, Klass's and Ms. Lohrman for their assistance with the Easter egg hunt.
2. Bob Milositz from the Wilson Baseball Association appeared before Council to inform them that State Senator Freeman has given them a grant application for \$5,000.00 to build dugouts next spring. The application was dropped off to Ms. Lohrman for her completion. The application is due tomorrow, March 26, 2008. The application needs Council's approval. The dugouts will be built on the back field at the Lauer Middle School. The school district was approached several months ago for approval to build the dug outs on their property. Mr. Verenna stated that the school district had requested a drawing showing the position of the dugouts, but as of this morning the drawings have not been received and final permission has not been granted to build the dugouts. Mr. Milositz stated that the approximate cost of the dugouts would be \$9,200. They would be built of concrete block on a pad. Mr. Milositz did not know who would be building the dugouts or where the additional funding was coming from. Mr. Reiss added that the Borough did not have a lease on with the school district and did not know if a Borough grant could be used to benefit school district property without one. Mr. Feinberg suggested that the Rec Board give the Baseball Association the money for the dugouts. Ms. Lilly did not know how much money the Rec Board had. Several Council members did not have a problem with the grant in principle, but the Baseball Association did not have enough information to proceed with the grant at this time. Mr. Verenna agreed to go along with Mr. Milositz for a meeting with the school board. Mr. Milositz did not realize what procedures what was required to do in order to apply for a grant.
3. Mr. Milositz requested a 4' x 6' American flag for the pole at the field. Ms. Lohrman has new flags in the office. Mr. Milositz was instructed to pick one up.
4. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson from S. 25<sup>th</sup> Street appeared before Council to discuss the recent parking changes on Hillside Avenue. "No Parking" signs have been posted and a stone parking lot marked "Permit Parking" has been built. Mrs. Johnson stated that they received three parking tickets on Saturday without notification from the Borough. Chief Nace stated that the tickets have been voided. Mr. Johnson stated that the residents are only allowed 2 permits per household and they have 4 vehicles. Mrs. Johnson questioned why the street was not made one way. Mayor Perruso responded that it was Council's decision not to make the road one way. Twelve spaces have been lined off in the lot. The parking situation is a 30 day trial to see if how the parking pattern works. Letters were sent to the residents of the five households today. Mr. Feinberg suggested making the parking lot for public parking as opposed to permit parking. Motion to approve making the lot public parking by Mr. Feinberg. Second by Mr. McGowan.
5. Mr. DeEsch requested a Caucus on a litigation matter. Council adjourned the meeting for the Caucus.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. A letter was received from Judith Lerch, Registrar of the George Taylor Chapter, National Society

of the Daughters of the American Revolution, requesting permission to hold a Bake Sale on April 22, 2008 in the vestibule of the Municipal Building. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that she had been approached by Ted Veresink, Borough Health Inspector, that a request by the Daughters had been denied by the City of Easton. Ms. Lohrman added that the Borough had not had a bake sale on the premises for at least a year and a half. Mr. Veresink felt the Borough should do the same unless the bake goods were made in one specific location that could be inspected and have liability insurance. Motion by Mr. Starniri to politely deny the request. Second by Mr. Verenna.

2. Mr. Starniri has received a request from the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1914 to begin negotiating a new agreement. The current contract expires December 31, 2008. Mr. Feinberg requested that the Protection to Persons and Property Committee begin negotiations. Mr. Starniri requested that the committee stay after the Council meeting to discuss possible meeting dates and times.

3. Council inquired whether or not Ms. Lohrman had received any communication from the Palmer Volunteer Fire Company #2. Ms. Lohrman stated that the letter had been sent out, but they had not contacted her and nor have they appeared at tonight's meeting. Matter was tabled until the next Council meeting on April 14, 2008.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso stated that there had been a bookkeeping problem at Judge Koury's office and the checks had been delayed. The total fines collected in January 2008 were \$7,189.14. The total fines collected in February 2008 were \$7,156.57.

2. Mayor Perruso informed Council that the Wilson Lions Club would like permission to put up a pole for lights so it would be easy for the Police to monitor the park during the fair. Mr. Drake would have to decide where to put the pole. The electric for the lights would be metered on the Lion's meter account. Mr. Feinberg questioned whether the Lions considered renting the equipment. Motion by approve the request by Mr. Klass. Second by Mr. Starniri.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received a revised Ordinance with a corrected map to amend the 1976 Agreement with Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority to make the Adamson Street sewer line along Avona Avenue between Mary's Alley and the intersection of Spring Street and Keystone Avenue a common use facility. Mr. McGowan requested a letter be sent to West Easton requesting that Wilson Borough resume the billing of Wilson Manor and the seven townhouses after the line is made a common use facility. Motion to authorize Ms. Lohrman to send the letter to West Easton by Mr. Klass. Second by Mr. Williams.

Mr. Minotti will prepare the advertisement in preparation for the passage of the Ordinance. Motion by Mr. McGowan to table the passage of the Ordinance. Second by Mr. Schug.

2. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the NPDES permit has been completed and sent to the Northampton County Conservation District/DEP for review. The Conservation District has responded with a page and a half of items that were not include in the application. Ms. Lohrman has spoken to Ms. Montgomery. At least one of the items was waived at the Pre-Application meeting in January. The DEP's response was that they have changed their policy about waiving requirements on the checklist and all the items need to be completed whether or not they are applicable. The Borough has 60 days to supply the DEP with the requested information. Ms. Montgomery will not have a problem completing the items in this time period.

3. Ms. Lohrman and Mayor Perruso have been invited by County Councilman Ron Angle to attend a community meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in Pen Argyl. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the Northampton-Lehigh County Health Department and appointments to the Northampton-Lehigh County Health Department. As both Ms. Lohrman and Mayor Perruso will be attending a MECAB meeting on Wednesday evening, Ted Veresink, Wilson Borough Health Inspector, will be attending the meeting in their places.

4. At the last Council Meeting, Ms. Lohrman was requested to contact the Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs for guidelines they use for qualifying people who are requesting an exemption from paying Real Estate Taxes. Ms. Lohrman received the requested information and has shared it with Mr. Minotti. Exceptions are issued to persons who as a result of military service that are blind, paraplegic or double or Quadruple amputees or have a service-connected disability declared by the United States Veteran's Administration or its successor to be a total or 100% permanent disability. Income guidelines have a rebuttable presumption that an applicant must have an annual income of \$75,000.00 or less to qualify for the exemption. Income guidelines will vary beginning in 2009 based on the Consumer Price Index. Motion by Mr. Reiss to approve the request by the Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs for a Real Estate Tax exemption for Lawrence E. Crozier. Second by Mr. Williams. Ms. Lohrman will forward a letter to Mrs. Klass notifying her that Borough Council has approved the request.

5. Ms. Lohrman has been notified by the company that worked on the sound system that the unit the Borough has is no longer being made and parts are no longer available for its repair. The system was worked on this morning and it has been modified and adjusted to make the most use of it with any parts being replaced. Borough Council authorized Ms. Lohrman to get quotes on a new system.

6. Ms. Lohrman has contacted Mr. Kunsman in regards to changing his engagement letter to perform the audit for 2008 and not for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010. Mr. Kunsman suggested having a modification agreement done for the changes. Ms. Lohrman spoke to Mr. Minotti and he suggested

having Mr. Kunsman change the portion of the agreement that has the dates for the performance of the duties changed. Ms. Lohrman has received a revised page of the engagement letter with the 2008 date. Motion by Ms. Lilly to execute the revised agreement. Second by Mr. Starniri.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

##### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

##### FIRE:

None

##### POLICE:

1. Mr. Starniri inquired on the status of the parking ordinance revisions. Mr. Minotti responded that the work was almost complete.
2. Chief Nace has contacted Mr. Wagner, Wilson Area School District Superintendent, and requested that the Police Department be placed on their emergency call list. The request will shorten the time for the Police to be notified of school closings and possible abductions outside of the Borough, but within the school district. The Fire Department will be notified by the school district who in turn will notify the Police Department. The Police will notify the crossing guards of information.

##### PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Verenna thanked the Public Works Department for the fine work they did on the parking lot on Hillside Avenue.
2. Ms. Lohrman has been approached by the Public Works Department about the status of the Public Works contract. Mr. Feinberg responded that Mr. Minotti is working on the latest Public Works contract revisions.

##### PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass informed Council that the committee will be interviewing the applications for the pool management positions on Saturday, March 29, 2008. The committee will come back to Council with recommendations.
2. Mr. Klass also thanked the Public Works Department for all their work.

##### SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the proposed agreement between the Borough and the Wilson Area School District. He did not find anything alarming in the agreement. The Borough is covered for any work done at for the school district. Motion to execute the agreement by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Verenna.
2. Mr. Minotti has completed the draft for the rental property inspections. Mr. Minotti is ready to prepare the advertisement, but would like to make sure he has the proper codes listed in the ordinance. He will speak to Mr. Corriere or Chief Collins to verify the codes. Mr. Minotti will attempt to have the ordinance ready for the April 14, 2008 Council meeting. Motion to authorize the advertisement for the ordinance by Mr. Feinberg. Second by Mr. Reiss.
3. Mr. Minotti had several questions concerning the parking and vehicular ticket ordinance revisions as proposed by the Police Committee. Mr. Starniri, Chief Nace and several Council members reviewed the recommendations of the Police Committee and the changes requested the ordinances. Mr. Minotti will sit down and review the material.
4. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the Risk Management Agreement from the insurance company. The one outstanding change concerning attorney's fees has been rectified. Motion to approve the agreement as authorized by Mr. Minotti by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Williams. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Schug, Mr. Starniri, and Mr. Williams. Negative votes were cast by: Ms. Lilly and Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a six to two vote. Mr. Minotti will forward the final agreement to Ms. Lohrman when received.

##### MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan reminded Council that the next MECAB meeting would be Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in Freemansburg.

##### OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. After a brief Caucus, a Motion was made by Ms. Lilly to inform Mr. Briggs that the Borough is no longer interested in proceeding with the driveway on North 17<sup>th</sup> Street for his project. Second by Mr. Reiss. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Starniri, and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. Schug. Motion carried by a seven to one vote. Ms. Lohrman will compose a letter and have Mr. Minotti review it prior to mailing it. Any questions on the matter will be referred to Ms. Lohrman or Mr. Feinberg.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1157 – Opposing Senate Bill 596. Motion by Mr. Starniri to ratify Resolution passed at the March 10, 2008 Council meeting. Second by Mr. Williams.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$82,289.28 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Williams.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Lilly made a Motion to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY