

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
MAY 11, 2009

The First 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  
James McGowan  
Louis Starniri  
David Williams

James Klass  
Bob Reiss  
Tony Verenna

ABSENT:

Joan Lilly, David Schug

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the April 27, 2009 Council Meeting were approved by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Williams.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Herman Gray of 1801 Ferry Street appeared before Council in regard to a shut off notice on a garbage and sewer bill. Mr. Gray fell behind on his bill when his mother passed away, his wife lost her job and he was unemployed for three months. Mr. Gray offered to pay \$600.00 towards a \$1,389.00 bill. Mr. Gray did not know when he would be able to pay the remainder of the bill off, but would like another month or two. The account had been neglected and had been turned over to a collection agency. An extension was not granted.

2. Dan Redington, Director of Mary Meuser Library, presented Council with the 2009 concert schedule. Mr. Redington thanked Lafayette Ambassador Bank for donating the schedules. The concert series begins on May 31, 2009 with a performance of the Wilson Area High School Band.

Mr. Redington presented Council with the 2008 Annual Director's Report. The overall circulation for the library last year was 54,869 items. Any questions on the report should be directed to Mr. Redington.

Mr. Redington informed Council that the Library Board is in the process of looking at options for the repair or removal of the wall in the sunken gardens. The wall may be removed and replaced with terraced steps. Mr. Corriere will be contacted prior to any work being done.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Four letters of letter were received from people who were interested in an open seat on the Wilson Recreation Board. Letters were received from: Kevin Coyle, Sherry Miller, Robbi Figueroa and Francis Roscioli. Mr. Williams nominated Kevin Coyle. No second was received. Mr. Reiss made a Motion to appoint Francis Roscioli. Second by Mr. Verenna.

2. Bruce Barnes of 1557 Ferry Street a white "stop" be placed at the Ferry Street at 16<sup>th</sup> Street going westbound on Ferry Street. The stop sign is frequently run through. Mr. Starniri did not feel it would help, but painting the road would be not be difficult to do nor expensive. Mr. McGowan felt that painting the road would make it slippery when it got wet. Mr. Behler agreed. Motion to approve request by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Feinberg.

3. Ms. Lohrman reminded the Police Pension Board that the next meeting would be Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. Bill Hildebrant, Borough Actuary, will be in attendance. Mr. Feinberg mentioned that there was an open seat on the Board. He nominated Sharlene Laureigh. Second by Mr. Starniri.

4. A letter was received from the Wilson Midget Football Association requesting the use of facilities for several programs. Ms. Lohrman would like input from Council prior to responding to the association. The use of Meuser Park for cheering practice from July 8, 2009 to September 30, 2009 on Monday through Fridays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. was requested. The only date that was already booked was by BlockWatch on August 4, 2009 for National Night Out.

The use of Fisk Field was requested for football practices was requested from July 27, 2009 to the end of November, 2009 on weekdays from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Ms. Lohrman had spoken to Ms. Montgomery and she expects the Fisk Field construction to begin in September. Mr. Verenna had indicated at a previous meeting that the Football Association had

been instructed to contact the school district to see what they may have available for practice. Mr. Verenna will check with the school. The field could be used until the construction starts. Mr. Klass suggested pushing the construction back a few months so they could use the field.

The Football Association requested the use of Meuser Park for a sports and agility camp from May 26, 2009 through July 11, 2009 on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Ms. Lohrman felt the use of the park was a problem for several reasons. The pavilions in the parks are already booked throughout the summer on weekends. The park is basically closed for 10 days for the Lions Fair. Ms. Lohrman also did not feel that Meuser Park should be used for a sports camp when Fisk Field was still available. Council agreed. Ms. Lohrman will respond in writing to the association.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso commented that it was nice to have four qualified people volunteer to serve on the Recreation Board.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. It has been discovered by the Public Works Department that the roof at Jeffery Field is in the need of repairs. An estimate for \$750.00 was received from James Kunsman & Sons, Inc. and a second estimate was received from JLK Contracting Inc. in the amount of \$4,000.00. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that there was approximately \$1,000.00 in the budget for Jeffery Field. After a brief discussion, Mr. Klass made a Motion to have James Kunsman & Sons repair the roof. Second by Mr. Verenna.

2. Ms. Lohrman has had several conversations with the Public Works Department and Mr. Williams regarding the tables at the Strausser Community Center. Mr. Drake has gotten a price from Modern Office for blow-molded 30" x 96" plastic folding tables. The price ranges from \$175.00 to \$143.00 depending on how many tables are purchased. Some of the tables have been repaired, but they continue to be broken because people sit on them. Mr. McGowan added that the tables could be replaced as needed. Mayor Perruso requested that the matter be deferred until the next meeting. The Lions Club may be willing to purchase the tables. Mr. Behler felt that half the tables should be replaced.

Ms. Lohrman added that there was still a problem with the windows at the center. Mr. Corriere was requested to contact Bobby from Gary Strausser's office.

3. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that there would be a public meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at the Strausser Community Center to review the information obtained by Ernest Swiger on community business revitalization. The work is being fund in large part by a grant from Northampton County.

4. Ms. Lohrman has received information from Sharon Davis that the State Senate has proposed a 2009/2010 budget that completely cuts the funding for the Main Street programs. Part of the funding from the Borough Revitalization Program, of which the Borough is part of, comes from this program. Mr. Reiss made a Motion to write a letter of support for the program to Senator Wonderling. Second by Mr. Starniri.

5. Ms. Lohrman has received an agreement with Northampton County regarding our CDBG funding for the next three years. If the Borough wishes to continue receiving the funding, the agreement must be returned to the county no later that June 2, 2009. If the Borough wishes to be excluded from the program, the county must be notified by May 28, 2009. The Borough is not eligible to received CDBG funding directly. Motion to execute the agreement with the County by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Feinberg.

6. Mr. Drake has been in discussion with Kmart is regards to a sinking grate near the entrance of the driveway into their parking lot from Wood Ave. Kmart believes that the grate belongs to the Borough and the Borough should repair it. Mr. Drake supplied Ms. Lohrman with an As Built Site Plan dated 5/10/95 registered with the Commonwealth of PA. The grate appears to be near the property line. Wood Avenue is a PennDot road. It does not belong to the Borough. Mr. Verenna stated that the grates are 10 feet into the driveway. Mr. DeEsch felt that it was Kmart's problem and they should retain someone else to solve the problem. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to have Mr. DeEsch draft a letter to Kmart. Second by Mr. Starniri.

7. Ms. Lohrman received an email just prior to the Council meeting concerning the 2009 CDBG application. The application will be due in mid-June prior to the second meeting in June. Ms. Lohrman requested the Council members have projects in mind that they wish to fund for the next meeting. The Borough still has several years to payments left on the ladder truck.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

#### FIRE:

1. Mr. Starniri thanked Chief Collins for his detailed report on training and incidents. Chief Collins was not at the meeting as he was at a drill in Williams Township.

POLICE:

1. Chief Nace informed Council that all the cars have the cameras installed in them, but one. Training will be completed soon. Permission is still needed from the DA before the audio can be used.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Verenna informed Council that the summer help will start after graduation.  
2. The pool is being prepared for opening.  
3. Mr. Verenna has 12 women that would like to use the bocce courts. There are others who wish to use the courts also. Mr. Verenna would like to get the stone going. Motion by Mr. Verenna to put stone area the bocce courts. Second by Mr. Reiss. Mr. Starniri stated that the original plans did not call for stone. He understood that people want to use the courts, but he did not feel that the process should be rushed. Mr. McGowan added that our insurance did not cover for people who used the courts for leagues. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Klass, Mr. Reiss and Mr. Verenna. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Starniri and Mr. Williams. Motion was denied by a four to three vote. Ms. Lohrman added that Boucher & James has inspected the work last week. A two feet section was out of alignment. The grass had been reseeded.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Williams had stopped by the pool this weekend. The sale of pool passes was light. Ms. Guth felt that the sales would pick up on Memorial Day weekend.

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. DeEsch with input from Chief Collins has completed a draft of the amendment for inspection fees. Motion by Mr. Starniri to advertise the ordinance for the next meeting. Second by Mr. Klass.  
2. Mr. DeEsch has received the letter signed by the school district for the public improvement agreement. Chief Collins and Ms. Montgomery have reviewed it. Ms. Montgomery has one item to add. The school district would like to go out for bid prior to the next Council. Mr. DeEsch suggested authorizing the Council President and Borough Secretary to execute the agreement if the final version is acceptable to the Borough Engineer and the Borough Solicitor. Motion to authorize the execution of the agreement under the conditions suggested by the Borough Solicitor by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Reiss.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that the MECAB tour to Carbon County will be on May 27, 2009. Mr. McGowan does not have an itinerary at the present time.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. The Public Works Department had a graffiti removal demonstration last Friday. The department will begin removing the graffiti once the pool is up and running. BlockWatch has prepared a list of properties that have graffiti and can update the list. Reports of graffiti can be reported to the office and a list prepared. Mr. Starniri felt that graffiti was becoming more of a problem now that the weather has gotten warmer.  
2. Mr. Klass inquired about who was going to be our representative for the casino funds. The Borough will not be getting casino money, but it does have to appoint a representative as an EIT representative. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to appoint Mr. McGowan as the Borough's representative. Second by Mr. Reiss.  
3. Mr. Williams questioned that now that concerts, pavilion rentals and swim team meets have or will be starting shortly, what the Borough wanted to do about parking in the park. Mr. Klass felt that other than handicapped parking, there should not be any parking in the park. Mr. McGowan responded that there had been a sign about no parking in the park, but it is no longer there. Mayor Perruso did not have a problem with the parking. Mr. Klass felt that if there was an accident, the Borough would have a problem. Mr. Redington was asked if they could direct the traffic in the park. He felt that he may have a problem finding someone to do it. Ms. Lohrman was directed to write a letter to the owners of the Dixie warehouse and see if the Borough could reach some agreement with them to use the lot.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that the local business group would like to hold a flea market/yard sale in Meuser Park on August 23, 2009. The Borough businesses could display their wares. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to allow the group to hold the event. Second by Mr. Verenna.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1163 – Open Record Policy. Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Verenna.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$121,038.18 for were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Williams.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Second by Mr. Verenna and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY