

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
MAY 12, 2008

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, President	James Klass
Joan Lilly	James McGowan
Louis Starniri	Tony Verenna
David Williams	

ABSENT:

Bob Reiss, David Schug

Also present were: Mayor David S. Perruso, Code Enforcement Officer Paul R. Corriere, Chief Richard Nace and Assistant Superintendent Ronald Behler

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the April 28, 2008 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. Klass. Second by Mr. Verenna.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Robert Hare of 810 Miller Street appeared before Council regarding tractor trailers coming down Miller Street from S. 25<sup>th</sup> Street and Edelman Street. The tractor trailers are getting stuck at the intersection of Hay and Miller Streets. The neighbors are requesting a "No Truck" sign be placed at the intersection. Mr. Hare also requested a second sign be installed requesting drivers to slow down. Mr. Hare also would like the speed indicator sign used in the area. Mr. Behler will place the truck sign at the intersection at Council's request. Mayor Perruso requested the Police to patrol the area before and after school is let out.

Mr. Hare also expressed his displeasure about Liberty Park having been made a playground for children under 12 years of age replacing the basketball courts that the older children had been using. Now the older kids are hanging on the corner. Mr. Hare had heard that Council changed the park several years ago because of complaints about the older children's behavior. Mr. Klass responded that he felt that Council had made the correct decision about the park. Mr. Hare questioned the police department's response to keeping the older kids out of the park and adjacent area.

Ms. Lilly has had complaints about people urinating on the playhouse in the park. Mr. Behler will have the house removed.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Borough Council has been invited to attend "Government, the Media, and the Public's Right to Know" at the Meyner Center at Lafayette College. The forum will be offered on June 5, 2008 and begins at 8:15 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Ms. Lohrman requested that Council members let her know if they wish to attend the forum.

2. A letter was received from the Wilson Youth Soccer Association requesting permission to use Jeffrey Baseball field for their in-house soccer program. The program will run from the second week of September and concludes in early November. The field will be used two nights a week and a few hours on Saturday. The days and times have not yet been decided.

3. Ms. Lohrman reminded the Police Pension Board that a conference call was scheduled on Thursday, May 22, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. She will send out the reports as soon as she receives them.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso welcomed the Wilson High School students to the meeting. The Borough had six students attend Government Day. The students had a full day. They spent time with the Police, Fire and Public Works Department. Several of the students asked questions about current Borough affairs.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman shared information on the 24<sup>th</sup> Street bridge with Borough Council. Mr. Bryant

provided estimated cost figures on five bridge options. The Prestressed Concrete Bridge Structure is the lowest of all options. The estimate does not include the cost for core borings or boring inspections. The Type, Size and Location study will be submitted back to PennDot no later than May 12, 2008. Mr. Feinberg stated that the cost seems to be in line with what was quoted previously. The bridge should be inspected this month. It usually takes several months to get the report back. Mr. Behler stated that the beams on the bridge are getting weak. The weight limit may be lowered after the inspection. Fire trucks and school buses may have to be rerouted. Mr. Behler added that the Borough should have a better picture of the bridge's longevity after this year's inspection. Ms. Lohrman will contact Ms. Zizzi from Senator Wonderling's Office to make sure the Borough gets a response back on the TS&L report in a timely manner.

2. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the Borough had four certificates of deposit due the end of the month. Three CDs are due on May 26, 2008 and one is due on May 29, 2008. All the certificates coming due are for a one year term. Ms. Lohrman noted that the rate on one of the certificates was not changed at renewal. Both of the \$500,000 CDs should have a maturity value of \$525,487.21. The bank is in the process of correcting the error. Motion by Ms. Lilly to renew the Cds at the best rates possible. Second by Mr. Verenna.

3. Ms. Lohrman thanked Mayor Perruso, Mr. Feinberg, Chief Nace, Chief Collins, Mr. Behler and Mr. Corriere and their staffs for their assistance in making Government Day a success.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that the committee had met to discuss possible revisions to the fee schedule. The information provided was rather confusing. The committee will be meeting shortly to continue discussing the fee schedule.

#### FIRE:

1. Mr. Starniri shared with Council that the replacement camera has arrived. The charger has been mounted on the truck.

#### POLICE:

1. Mr. Starniri requested a Caucus on a personnel matter. He requested Chief Nace's attendance at the Caucus.

2. Chief Nace informed Council that the shelving for the guns and ammunition has been installed. The weapons and the ammo have been secured outside of the evidence room.

3. Mr. Starniri stated that there was no more room for additional bicycles. Previously the bikes had been donated to a charity or those less fortunate. Mr. Feinberg suggested contacting Broken Spoke or Genesis Bikes to see if there are any social programs the bikes could be donated to. Mayor Perruso and Mr. Verenna offered to go through the bikes and see which ones are usable. The ones in disrepair will be disposed of. National Night Out may be able to assist.

#### PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Verenna offered the names of Joseph Purdy and Michael Ryan to be hired as summer help in the Public Works Department. Mr. Verenna stated that they were the only two young men that lived in Wilson Borough. The remainder of the applicants reside outside Wilson Borough. Mr. McGowan stated that both of the young men were in college and the Borough usually hires high school students. Mr. Starniri would prefer to hire people who lived in Wilson. Motion to hire Mr. Purdy and Mr. Ryan by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a six to one vote.

2. Mr. Verenna made a Motion to increase the wages of the summer help from \$8.00/hour to \$10.00/hour. Mr. Verenna stated that money is in the budget to cover the increase in wages. Second by Mr. Williams. Mr. McGowan strongly objected. The budget has been passed at the lower rate. Mr. Feinberg responded that the rate of pay was established in the salary resolution that was passed at budget time. Ms. Lohrman added that the salary resolution could be amended if Council so desired. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan and Mr. Starniri. Motion was defeated by a four to three vote.

3. Mr. Behler showed Borough Council the proposed street sign. In order to get PennDot approval, it was necessary to remove the white background behind the warrior and the warrior had to be made smaller. The new sign meets all of the PennDot street sign specification. The Public Works Department will begin replacing the signs over the next few years beginning with the state roads. Mr. Drake will be getting a price on the new signs.

4. Mr. Behler informed Mr. Klass that the Borough Electrician will begin working at the pool tomorrow.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

None

ATTORNEY:

1. In the absence of the Mr. Minotti, Ms. Lohrman presented the Solicitor's report. Several months ago, the Borough received a draft of the lease for the Public Works truck. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the lease and has several concerns on the lease. The items include: no payment schedule, items that do not pertain to municipal governments, and warranties provided. Mr. Minotti does not find any of the items to be deal breakers. Mr. Minotti does have a contact person to discuss his concerns. Motion by Mr. Starniri to authorize the appropriate Borough Officials to sign the lease with Mr. Minotti's approval. Second by Mr. Klass. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a six to one vote.

2. Ms. Lohrman presented draft ordinances 740 through 743. An error was detected in the parking meter violation ordinance and the fines listed in the ordinance presented in Council packets has been revised. Council has the revised ordinance at their seats. Mr. Feinberg has prepared a list of rental license and inspection fees to go with the Rental Inspection Ordinance. Since it has taken several months to pass the ordinance, the dates on page 10 will have to be revised. Ms. Lohrman will inform Mr. Minotti of the changes.

3. Ms. Lohrman did not know the status of the graffiti ordinance. Mr. Feinberg will be checking a machine out this week. A possible grant may be available to pay for the machine.

4. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the lease between Palmer Township and Maier's Bakery for the bike path property. Mr. Minotti believes that the bakery is responsible for paving the bike path along their property. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to instruct Mr. Minotti to send the bakery a letter concerning the paving of the bike path. Second by Mr. Klass.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan reminded Council that the MECAB bus trip will be on May 28, 2008. The trip will be leaving from Freemansburg. Highlights of the trip will be a tour of the casino site, a visit to the Iron Pig stadium and a tour of Martin Guitar.

COG:

1. Mayor Perruso stated that the recycling event held in Palmer Township on Saturday, May 2, 2008 had gone over well. Mr. Klass requested Council members to visit Palmer Township's website and look at the environmental portion of the site. Mr. Klass would like the Borough to partner with Palmer on environmental issues. Mr. Klass would like to have some ideas ready for the next Council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Ms. Lilly to approve the request by the Wilson Soccer Association for the use of Jeffrey Field. Second by Mr. Starniri. Requests can be approved by the Borough Manager. Ms. Lohrman will be requesting a practice schedule.

2. Borough Council expressed their concerns over the lack of progress on the Larry O'Neill project. Mr. O'Neill has an extension until September 2008. Mr. Corriere had spoken to Mr. O'Neill today, but Mr. Corriere had left the meeting and was unavailable to answer questions. Mr. O'Neill has been cited for weed violations over the last few years. Ms. Lohrman will place the O'Neill project on the agenda for the next meeting.

3. Ms. Lohrman expects the sound system to be installed on June 2, 2008.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. McGowan inquired about the bill for \$250.00 from the Borough electrician for a hot water heater in the small pavilion. Mr. Behler responded that he had heard water running in the kitchen in the pavilion. Upon entering the kitchen, it was discovered that the hot water heater was leaking. Mayor Perruso stated that the water heater had not been drained in the fall. Ms. Lilly responded that the Lions should be responsible since it is their heater. Mayor Perruso responded that if the Lions had been made aware of the problem, they would have had it repaired themselves. Motion by Mr. Klass to pay the electrician bill. Second by Mr. Verenna. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. Negative votes were cast by: Ms. Lilly and Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a five to two vote.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$130,656.74 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Klass.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Lilly made a Motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

---

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY