

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
AUGUST 24, 2009

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
James McGowan
David Schug
Tony Verenna

Joan Lilly
Bob Reiss
Louis Starniri

ABSENT:

James Klass, David Williams

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the August 10, 2009 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Ms. Lilly.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Mark Kindt of 2465 Hay Street appeared before Council wishing to find a solution to the problem that he had appeared before Council about some time ago. The Borough had offered a land swap deal 30 years ago that his father had turned down. Mr. Kindt would like to swap a piece of his property where the hedges are for 20 feet of the 50 feet that the Borough owns in order to build a garage. Mr. Starniri pointed out that there are houses on the other side. Mayor Perruso felt that the Borough got the land from the vacated trolley line. Mr. Kindt would like to keep the hedges for privacy reasons. Mr. Feinberg pointed out the Mr. Kindt would lose the land if the Borough were to condemn it. The property owners who attended the last Council meeting could be affected by Council decision on the matter. Mr. Reiss felt that the land would have to be bid out. Mr. Minotti will look into the matter to see what can be worked out.

2. The owners of 2451 Hay Street informed Council that they received a parking ticket for parking on the side of their garage. They were not parked on Borough property, but their own. The owners have measured out the property and they would like the Borough to remove the pole so they can put up a fence and park next to the garage. The property may need to be surveyed to make sure it is part of their property. Mr. Minotti will work with Mr. Corriere to try to resolve issues in the alley.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Henry Casella has requested permission to rent the community center for dances from April through November 2010 at a reduced rate of \$50.00 per dance. The Borough pays \$65.00 to have the center cleaned after each dance, \$25.00 to open and close the center for the dances and the Public Works employees spend several hours cleaning the floor and setting up for each dance. Mr. Starniri made a Motion to approve the rental of the community center for the dances at a fee of \$100.00 per dance. Second by Ms. Lilly. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Starniri, and Mr. Verenna. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. Schug. Motion carried by a six to one vote.

2. Sara Pandl has resigned her position with the Borough in order to take the position of Planning and Community Development Director for Lower Macungie Township. Ms. Pandl has set up a meeting with the planners from Boucher and James to see if they can assist us with completing the Zoning Ordinance revisions. Ms. Pandl will work with the Borough to complete some loose ends prior to starting her new position on September 8, 2009.

3. Dan Redington has sent an email to the Borough informing them that Mary Meuser Library Board member Lisa Strohl had moved from the Borough several months ago.

4. Judy Matthewson of 1801 Fairview Avenue has offered to serve on the Mary Meuser Library Board. Ms. Matthewson had written her letter when she learned that Ms. Strohl had moved. Motion to appoint Ms. Matthewson to the library board by Mr. McGowan. Second by Ms. Lilly.

5. Three bids were received for HOME program project HRH06-34. They are as follows:

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|---------------------------|-------------|
| S.J. Sawyer & Co. | \$19,100.00 |
| Fehnel's Construction Co. | \$39,972.00 |

Bianco's Contracting \$26,464.00

Ms. Lohrman will forward the bids to Mr. Corriere and the Housing Rehab committee for review.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso has received a request for a handicapped parking sign from Doris Gerstenberg of 105 S. 18th Street. Chief Nace has verified that the requirements of the sign have been met and no off street parking is available. Motion by Mr. Starniri to approve the request. Second by Mr. Reiss.
2. Mayor Perruso informed Council that the fines collected by Judge Koury in July were \$6,060.46.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Montgomery has completed the plans for Fisk Field and is working on the final revision of the specs. Ms. Lohrman received the plans on August 14, 2009 and contacted Council members to let them know that the plans were available for review. Ms. Lohrman has not received any adverse comments on the plans. Ms. Montgomery is requesting permission to advertise for bids for Fisk Field on September 5, 2009 and September 12, 2009. Ms. Montgomery expects to have the plans reviewed and have a recommendation to Council to award the bid in early October. Motion to advertise for bids for the Fisk Field project by Mr. Verenna. Second by Ms. Lilly.
2. Ms. Lohrman was contacted by the owner of Palmer Nursery regarding the Borough's yard waste program. Palmer Nursery has offered another municipality the option of having a dumpster at the cost of \$150.00 per month so residents could drop off their yard waste themselves. The cost to haul and dump the container would be \$300.00. Mr. Starniri felt that having a dumpster may be a problem as other items may appear that are not yard waste. Palmer Nursery is also willing to take Christmas trees. They could be placed in the dumpster or the Public Works employees could collect the trees. Currently Waste Management collects the trees on garbage day if they have room. If the trees are part of the garbage contract, taking them out of it might be a reduction in cost. Mr. Behler added that Palmer Nursery charges \$5.00 per cubic yard for the material the Borough collects. Mr. Minotti nor Ms. Lohrman thinks the trees are part of the contract.
3. Ms. Lohrman has completed the 2010 MMOs for the Non-Uniform and Fire Retirement plans. The MMO for the Non-Uniform plan is \$32,858.00 and the MMO for the Fire plan is \$573.00. The information will be used as part of the 2010 budget.
4. The Borough office has received several inquiries as to when Trick or Treat will be held this year. Mayor Perruso informed Council that Trick or Treat will be held on Halloween evening, October 31, 2009 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
5. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that Ms. Pandl will be attending the September 14, 2009 Council meeting 7:00 p.m. as part of a Public Hearing to modify administrative funds from CDBG 2005 and CDBG 2006 so they can be used for the bike path project.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. A question arose concerning the table and chairs for the community center. Mayor Perruso responded that the Lions were waiting for the chairs to come in. Mr. Feinberg stated that the old chairs and tables could not be given to someone. They would have to be bid or must stay in the ownership of the Borough. Ms. Beck has requested 10 tables for the library which would be permissible. Mr. Feinberg requested the General Government committee to come up with a plan for the disposition of the old tables and chairs.

FIRE:

None

POLICE:

1. Mr. Starniri requested that the Police Committee stay after the Council meeting for five minutes.
2. Chief Nace requested permission to have Mr. Drake install a handicapped crossing at the gate for football games in the 2200 block of Washington Blvd. The crossing would look like the veterans memorials on the boulevard with painted crosswalks and signage. Chief Nace feels that putting in the walkway would make it safer for everyone when exiting the game and going to the parking lot. Motion to approve request by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Schug.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Verenna has talked to Mr. Behler and Mr. Drake about Mr. Behler's truck. The vehicle is a 1985 truck with over 100,000 miles on it. Mr. Verenna would like to purchase a plain pickup truck with sewer funds. Mr. McGowan objected to the idea as the Borough no longer gets sewer rebates and the sewer rates have just raised to meet other obligations. The vehicle has needed work as a wheel has

recently fallen off and it stalls all the time. It would cost approximately \$20,000.00 to purchase a new vehicle under state contract. Matter was deferred until budget time.

2. Mr. Drake would like to purchase a plow for his truck so he could help plow alleys. The lowest quote that was received was for \$5,450.00. Liquid Fuel funds could be used to purchase the plow. Smaller trucks have been used to do alleys. Mr. McGowan objected as the matter should be discussed with the committee before it goes to Council.

3. Mr. Drake informed Council that the City of Easton has started making repairs to 15th Street. UGI has started working on Hay Street and then will move down to Miller Street. The street will then be ready to mill and pave the streets.

4. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that several of the Borough officials had met with Palmer Township and PennDot last week where the sidewalk had fallen in on S 25th St. PennDot is claiming that it's not their fault. Mr. Drake has located a document that shows that the sidewalk is in Palmer Township, not Wilson Borough. Palmer is currently dealing with the property owners. Mr. Feinberg suggested that the Borough offer manpower and equipment, but no money if Palmer makes the repairs. Motion to approve Mr. Feinberg's suggestion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Verenna. It may be awhile before the repairs are made.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Ms. Lilly inquired about the work order completed by Mr. Verenna for the Rec Board and authorized by Ms. Lohrman. The Borough has money available for paint for Borough buildings. Mr. Drake will purchase the paint and the association(s) will paint the Rec building.

2. Mr. Reiss has read the recent Rec Board minutes, but does not have copies of any of the Treasurer's Reports. Ms. Lilly will have copies of the reports made available to Council. Mr. Reiss also felt that it was terrible that it costs \$50.00 for a child to go to playground in the summer. Ms. Lilly responded that the Rec Board was still waiting for a report from the person in charge of the playground.

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the garbage bid document that Ms. Lohrman had sent him. Mr. Minotti has indicated that only the dates need to be changed. Ms. Lohrman will have to check to see if Christmas trees are included in contract. Motion to advertise for bids for the garbage contract by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Schug.

2. Mr. Minotti has received a letter from PFM Advisors regarding police pension. The firm has admitted institutional investors. If the Borough does not respond to the letter, it is deemed approved. Mr. Minotti requested that Ms. Lohrman forward a copy of the letter to the Borough Actuary and members of the Police Pension Board for their review and comment.

3. Mr. Minotti requested a Caucus after adjournment.

MECAB:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that the graffiti busters video showing the Public Works Department removing graffiti is on the Borough's website.

2. Mr. Feinberg thanked Mr. McGowan, Mayor Perruso and Ms. Lohrman for coming to the Borough wide garage sale. Mr. Feinberg felt it was a great success. Information and pictures are on the Borough website. Approximately 40 individuals and businesses participated. A wide variety of merchandise was on sale. Mr. Feinberg would like to have the event again next year on Saturday, August 21, 2010. Mr. Feinberg would also like to schedule Vets for Pets on August 8, 2010. Motion to approve both events for the park next year by Ms. Lilly. Second by Mr. Verenna.

3. Mr. McGowan inquired about Boucher & James becoming the Borough's planners. Mr. Feinberg responded that they will be meeting next week with Sara Pandl in regards to completed the revision of the Zoning Ordinance. Mr. McGowan stated that he did not want Boucher & James as the Borough's grant writers. Mr. Feinberg requested that the General Government Committee look into finding the Borough a new grant writer. Mr. Feinberg suggested contacting PSAB or Dave Woglom.

ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 750 – Adopting the 2006 Edition of the International Fire Code. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Schug, Mr. Starniri and Mr. Verenna. No Negative votes were cast. Ordinance 750 was adopted by a seven to zero vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$205,705.24 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Starniri.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Lilly made a Motion to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY