

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
AUGUST 25, 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. Vice President Starniri called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

James Klass
James McGowan
Louis Starniri
David Williams

Joan Lilly
David Schug
Tony Verenna

ABSENT:

Leonard Feinberg, Bob Reiss

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the August 11, 2008 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Verenna.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. An unidentified woman from the audience inquired as to why the Public Works Department was painting some of the curbs yellow. Mr. Starniri and Mayor Perruso responded that it was the law that cars have to be parked so many feet from a corner and that Chief Nace had been receiving complaints in certain areas about cars being parked too close to corners. In some cases, cars are parking in the crosswalks. The unidentified woman responded that there already was not enough parking in the Borough. The state should change the law. Ms. Lilly inquired about people painting yellow lines around their driveways. Chief Nace stated that you are allowed to paint two feet around a driveway.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Stephanie Miller of 1750 Northampton Street requested permission to close the alley behind her home on September 13, 2008 for a birthday party. The alley will be closed three to four hours. Motion by Mr. Verenna to approve request. Second by Mr. Schug.

2. Angel R. Ackerman of 1861 Ferry Street requested appointment to a vacant seat on the Mary Meuser Memorial Library Board. Ms. Ackerman supplied Council with a resume. Motion by Ms. Lilly to appoint Ms. Ackerman to the library board. Second by Mr. Schug.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso inquired about the status of a Handicapped Parking request in the 1800 block of Fairview Avenue. Chief Nace has spoken to Mr. Casella and his sign will be removed shortly. The handicapped parking spot requested by Joe Hurd in the same block will be installed.

2. Chief Nace is in the need of additional part-time Police Officers. Two officers have left the force and one has not worked in 2008. Motion by Mr. Schug to authorize Chief Nace to review applications for part-time Police Officers that he has on file. Second by Mr. Verenna.

3. Ms. Lilly inquired about the increase in the number of hours worked by the part-time detective. Originally he was to work 20 hours per week, but now it has increased to approximately 30 hours per week. Mr. Starniri responded that the hours worked was dependant on the work load. The Borough may be looking a having a full-time investigator in the future.

4. Mayor Perruso informed Council that the Police have filed for arbitration.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman informed Council a meeting was held last week regarding the 24th Street bridge project. Brandy Rotz will be the Project Manager. She will be responsible that the deadlines are kept. PennDot is in the process of reviewing the comments on the TS&L report. After the review, the report will be sent back to Bob Bryant. Several items may have to be updated because of the length of time and the change in bridge type. The bridge may be constructed in 2010. Hopefully, funding will be available for the Borough's project. Mr. Feinberg had inquired if the Borough could pay for the project and have

PennDot reimburse the Borough when the funds became available. There was not an immediate answer to the question.

2. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that a pre-construction meeting was held on the bocce project last week. Four bid packets were picked up and three contractors attended the mandatory meeting. The bid opening will be held at an advertised meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 2008. Ms. Montgomery will review the bid documents and provide Council with her recommendation. Hopefully Council will have it for the September 8, 2008 Council Meeting. The project completion date will be in early November.

3. Ms. Lohrman has received information on the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference which will be held from October 17, 2008 to October 19, 2008 in Gettysburg. Mayor Perruso and Mr. McGowan will be attending with their spouses.

4. Ms. Lohrman has received information on the PA Weed to Seed Initiative. Mayor Perruso felt that there were probably things that the Borough could do if it participated in the program. Mr. Klass stated that it is a pretty intense program. Motion by Mr. Verenna to look into the program. Second by Mr. Schug. Mr. Klass volunteered to attend the pre-proposal conference on September 25, 2008 in Harrisburg.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. Mr. McGowan has been trying to get additional information on putting nodes on poles within the Borough to enhance cellphone communications. Mr. McGowan will look at what the other local municipalities are doing.

FIRE:

None

POLICE:

1. Mr. Starniri requested a Caucus at the end of the meeting on a personnel matter.
2. Chief Nace has had several crosswalk signs that he has received from PennDot placed on Butler Street and near the high school. Chief Nace expects several more signs. The signs will be kept up 24 hours a day throughout the year.
3. Chief Nace informed Council that the new 2008 Crown Victoria police car has arrived. Mr. Bare will have to removed some equipment from the old car to be installed in the new car.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Behler informed Council that the City of Easton will not be repaving 15th Street this year. Therefore Mr. Behler would like to repave the 1500 block of Bushkill Street, 17th Street from Beech Street to Lehigh Street, 18th Street from Northampton to Fairview Avenue and the 2400 block of Hay Street. Mr. Behler will meet with Charlie Paris from PennDot to discuss the bid specs.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass reminded Council that there were only a few more days left for the pool season.
2. Ms. Montgomery is working on the completion of the calculations for the DEP on the Fisk Field project.
3. Mr. Klass informed Council that there are five trees on the south side of the pool. Three of the trees are sycamores and are dirty trees. Mr. Klass would eventually like to replace the sycamores with other types of trees. Mr. Klass have the Public Works Department remove the tree in the middle this year. He asked Council members to take a look at the trees at the pool.
4. Mr. Klass has asked Mr. Drake to get prices on new tables for the swimming pool. He would like to put six or seven tables at the refreshment stand and another four or five in the grassy area outside the pavilion. There is money in the budget for the tables.

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti requested that Mr. Corriere supply him with the Phase II application from Larry O'Neill. Mr. Minotti will deny the application.

2. Mr. McGowan has received a call from Alexandria Manor looking for sewer exemption paperwork. Mr. Minotti responded that the court case may hold up the project until it is disposed of or settled. The Borough is not in possession of reviewed plans.

Mr. Corriere stated that Alexandria Manor is looking for confirmation of the use of the walkway that is the Borough's. Mr. Minotti replied that all conditions should be brought to Council or referred to Ms. Montgomery. The Borough has only given conditional approval to the project.

MECAB:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Mr. McGowan reminded Council that there will be a TreeVitalize training session on September 20, 2008 at NCACC. The Borough must have someone there in order to participate in the grant. Mr. Starniri had several questions regarding whether the Borough wanted to do mass planting and who would do the plan. The Shade Tree Commission was discussed and tree replacement not being completed. Mr. McGowan and Mr. Schug volunteered to attend the training session. Mr. Klass may also attend. Ms. Lohrman will register them for the training.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Mr. Verenna to approve payment of overtime wages from 2005 to 2007 for Mr. Drake and Mr. Ronald Behler as per stated in an agreement drawn up by Mr. Minotti. Second by Ms. Lilly.

ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 744 – Amendment to Agreement with Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Schug, Mr. Starniri, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. No Negative votes were cast. Ordinance 744 passed by a seven to zero vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$133,209.56 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Williams.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Lilly made a Motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Second by Mr. Williams and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY