

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
SEPTEMBER 28, 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  
David Williams

James Klass  
Bob Reiss  
Louis Starniri

ABSENT:

Joan Lilly, Tony Verenna

Also present were: Mayor David Perruso, Attorney Louis S. Minotti, Jr., Chief Richard Nace, Code Enforcement Officer Paul Corriere, Superintendent Greg Drake

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the September 14, 2009 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Williams.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

None

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received an email from Terence Coe of 2210 Second Street. Mr. Coe had a question concerning where the bike path was going to be. Ms. Lohrman responded to that inquiry. Mr. Coe also felt that replacing the 24<sup>th</sup> Street bridge with a culvert would destroy any future possibility of turning the railroad right-of-way under the bridge into a bike path that would connect Palmer Township with downtown Easton. Mr. Coe felt that this action is incredibly shortsighted and asked Council to reconsider its plan.

2. A letter and a check for \$200.00 were received from AARP for the purchase of an AED for the community center. Mr. Feinberg asked Mr. Drake the cost of an AED. Mr. Drake responded that an AED could be purchased for several hundred dollars. Mr. Drake added that someone where an AED was stored should be trained to use it. Although the device won't shock someone if it wasn't needed, certain CPR procedures should be done regardless. Mr. Williams stated that Don Rush had looked into the matter and it would cost approximately \$1,600.00 to purchase an AED and the device walks an untrained individual through the steps. No one would be held liable. Mr. Drake was requested to discuss the matter with Mr. Rush.

3. A letter was received from the Lehigh Valley Coalition on Affordable Housing looking for a donation from Wilson Borough of \$3,763.40 based on the Borough's per capita income. Motion by Mr. Starniri to deny the request. Second by Mr. Reiss.

4. A letter was received from Northampton County Detachment – Marine Corps League requesting permission to place a 3 feet by 8 feet sign – “Toys for Tots/now in progress/Happy Holidays” in Meuser Park from November 15, 2009 to December 18, 2009. The banner had been placed in the park the last few years. Motion to approve request by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Schug.

5. The Meyner Center at Lafayette College will be offering a “Meet the Arbitrators” seminar on Wednesday, October 14, 2009. The event will run from noon to 4:00 p.m. at no cost. Guest speakers will be two attorneys from Reed Smith. If any Council people wish to attend, they were directed to let Ms. Lohrman know by October 9, 2009.

6. Mayor Perruso has received a packet from the Bushkill Creek Conservatory looking for a \$200.00 donation to restore the waterway. Mr. McGowan added the Spring Brook is part of the Bushkill Creek waterway and it runs through Fisk Field. Ms. Lohrman will check into the matter.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

None

## COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. The MMO for the Police Pension Plan for 2010 is \$13,491.28. Ms. Lohrman will include the figure in the 2010 budget.
2. Ms. Lohrman recently had Ms. Guth look into updating the calendar for the use of facilities. It was discovered the Wilson Youth Basketball was using Council Chambers on the second Sunday of the month without being scheduled and the Wilson Football Mothers' Club and the Band Boosters were using pavilions at Meuser Park without being scheduled. Ms. Lohrman inquired if Council knew of any other groups that were meeting on Borough property that might not be scheduled. There was a conflict last year with the swim team's picnic and cheerleading practice because the picnic had not be scheduled with the office. The Recreation Board had also left the building unlocked after their last meeting and Ms. Lohrman would like to know who may have been using the building so any problems could be addressed.
3. Ms. Lohrman has spoken to Mr. Starniri and Mr. Drake concerning the dormant Wilson Borough Memorial account at Lafayette Bank. Mr. Drake had given Ms. Lohrman a check in the amount of \$847.01 that had been left in the account. The bank had not closed the account. Mr. Starniri explained that the money was left over after the purchase of the bricks. The money was to be used to maintenance and flowers. Mr. Starniri wished to keep the funds separated from the General funds. Mr. Reiss suggested adding another name to the account as Mr. Drake is the only one left. Ms. Lohrman will add her name to the account and use the funds for maintenance.
4. Ms. Lohrman suggested having the Civil Service Commission perform exams for police and fire and for rank in those departments. Mr. McGowan objected that the Borough had not decided on hiring anyone or promoting anyone. Mr. Starniri replied that the Borough should have an active list. Mr. Klass suggested waiting until the new Police Chief is hired so he can assist in the process. Mr. Starniri stated that it was not necessary since all the procedures for the process are in the ordinance. Mr. Minotti added that he was not sure that the Civil Service procedures are up the current standards. Mr. Minotti will review the current Civil Service procedures and report back to Council.
5. Ms. Lohrman has received a request from Phil Weitz to refund garbage fees on 2414 Butler Street, 2420 Butler Street and 2430 Butler Street. Mr. Weitz purchased the former Easton Suburban Water Authority property in August 2004. The property was renovated and billing on the property began on June 2005. Mr. Weitz has had a contract with Chrin's to pick up the garbage for the property. Mr. Weitz is looking for a refund for the garbage fees. Ms. Lohrman stated that Ms. Guth removed the garbage fees in June when Mr. Weitz produced the contract with Chrin's. The refund due on the three bills for the last four years is \$3,570.00. Mr. Minotti inquired about whether the Borough had an appeal's process. Ms. Lohrman responded that the Borough did not. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to refund the garbage fees that the Borough had received in 2009 as that is the only money the Borough has available. Second by Mr. Klass. Motion by Mr. Starniri to have Mr. Minotti look into setting up an appeals process. Second by Mr. Klass.
6. Ms. Lohrman requested a Caucus on a personnel matter.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

### FIRE:

None

### POLICE:

1. Chief Nace informed Council that Shiloh Baptist Church had used the park for an event over the weekend. Two police officers along with several security officers from the church were present. One of the officers had to have the church come back to clean up the park. There was also an incident occur in one of the bathrooms. Port-o-potties were present and the bathrooms should not have been opened for use. Chief Nace suggested not allowing them to use the park again.
2. Chief Nace stated that he had suggested to the Safety Committee that an AED be placed in Council Chambers, but the suggestion was denied because there are not any trained staff present upstairs during the day. Possible liability was discussed. Mr. Drake will check into the matter.

## PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake informed Council that the paving had begun on 15<sup>th</sup> Street. They had planned to start at Elm Street, but UGI had a leak and was going to be digging up the street. The paving started on Butler Street and was yesterday completed curb to curb to Lehigh Street.
2. Mr. Drake requested assistance from BlockWatch on getting graffiti removal forms signed. Several of the residents who have graffiti on their property are not home during the day to get the permission forms signed. Mr. Drake will supply Ms. Howey with a list of homes that need to have graffiti removed.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

None

ATTORNEY:

1. Mr. Minotti has satisfactorily reviewed the proposed contract between West Easton and the Wilson Recreation Board. Mr. Minotti requested Ms. Guth to talk to Ms. Lilly regarding insurance coverage for the athletes participating in activities off Borough property. Mr. Klass responded that they would be insured no matter where they played. Mr. Minotti made special note that West Easton could terminate the agreement without any notice. Ms. Lohrman will forward the contract to Ms. Lilly for execution by the Wilson Recreation Board.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan reminded everyone that the next MECAB meeting would be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the community center. Chris Cap, Vice-President of PSAB, will be the guest speaker. Mr. Cap spends most of his time on the hill. Mr. McGowan invited everyone to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$111,466.55 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Starniri.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. Second by Mr. Williams and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY