

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
DECEMBER 8, 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	James Klass
Joan Lilly	James McGowan
Bob Reiss	Tony Verenna
David Williams	

ABSENT:

David Schug, Louis Starniri

Also present were: Mayor David S. Perruso, Chief Michael Collins and Code Enforcement Office Paul Corriere

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the November 24, 2008 Council Meeting were approved by Mr. McGowan. Second by Ms. Lilly.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Barry Albertson of Suburban EMS appeared before Council to better understand why the Borough will no longer allow Suburban to obtain their diesel fuel from the pumps at the highway garage. Mr. Albertson requested Council to reconsider. Mayor Perruso responded that Suburban did not pay anything towards the upkeep of the equipment. Mr. Albertson stated that he had never been approached about paying anything, but was willing to consider it. Mr. McGowan added that the Borough had to show the diesel used by Suburban as an expense even though the Borough did not use it. Mr. Feinberg stated that the Borough had to often pay a higher price when replenishing the diesel supply than what Suburban had paid. As Mr. Albertson was caught by surprise by not being allowed to use the pumps after January 1, 2009, he requested an extension until February 1, 2009 so they could get their account and cards set up on a new system. Motion to allow Suburban EMS to use the gasoline pumps until February 1, 2009 by Mr. Feinberg. Second by Mr. McGowan. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly and Mr. McGowan. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Reiss, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. Motion carried by a four to three vote.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Mr. Feinberg has received three quotes on a pressure washer to be used to remove graffiti. The quotes are as follows:

ACR Products	\$7,723.80
On Site Service	\$8,473.80
HPI Processes, Inc.	\$8,573.80

All quotes include the pressure washer, hoses, tank, heater, trailer and the trade-in of the Hotsy. The washer can run on hot or cold water. Representative Freeman is willing to give the Borough a \$5,000.00 grant for the pressure washer. The remainder of the funds can come from the LST account. Motion to approve the purchase of the pressure washer from ACR Products, Inc. by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Reiss. The grant application is due on Friday, December 12, 2008.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso stated that he thought that the increase in the community center fee to \$300.00 was outrageous. Mayor Perruso also did not like that discounts were discontinued for employees and those who helped build the center. Mayor Perruso asked Council to reconsider. Motion by Mr. Verenna to reinstate the community center fees including the discount to the present rate. Mr. Feinberg felt that the new rates were not unreasonable. King Henry has already been given a rental price of \$50.00 for each of his dances and he is making money on the rental of the center. Second by Mr. Reiss. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Klass, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Lilly and Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a four to three vote. Council was reminded that the practice of people renting the center for other people to get the discount must stop.

Motion by Ms. Lilly to discontinue discounts to employees and those who helped build the center. Second by Mr. Feinberg. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Lilly and Mr. McGowan. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Klass, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. Motion was defeated by a four to three vote.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman has prepared the 2009 budget and properly advertised it. Motion to approve the 2009 budget as presented by Mr. Feinberg. Second by Mr. Reiss. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Williams. Negative votes were cast by: Ms. Lilly and Mr. McGowan. The 2009 budget passed by a five to two vote.

2. Ms. Lohrman has received a request to appoint P. Joseph Lehman, Inc. as Municipal Engineer for the 24<sup>th</sup> Street bridge project. Motion to approve request by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Feinberg.

3. Borough Engineer, Amy Riddle Montgomery, has sent an informational email concerning a PADOT Transportation Initiative. Funding will be available for projects such as roadside/streetscape improvements, enhancing the capacity and functionality of existing transportation networks, and projects that improve the quality of living by promoting town centers and decreasing sprawl development. Initial applications must be submitted to PennDot by December 15, 2008. After a short discussion, Borough Council chose not to participate because of the application deadline constraints.

4. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that she had spoken to Ms. Montgomery last week concerning the bocce court project. The stands are in the process of being put together and when the ground sufficiently freezes the stands and the fabric for the fence will be installed at Meuser Park.

5. Ms. Lohrman was also informed by Ms. Montgomery that she has received a verbal approval of the Northampton County Conservation District permit for Fisk Field. The County has requested additional information, but Ms. Montgomery did not foresee a problem with obtaining the information. After they receive all the information, the Conservation District will forward all permit information to the PADEP.

6. Ms. Lohrman has spoken to Ms. Sywensky, Northampton County DCED, regarding the revision of the Planning Grant contract. Ms. Sywensky did not think the Borough would receive it until next week. The Borough will also have to prepare a contract for planning services with Mr. Swiger. Ms. Lohrman has been working on the contract with Mr. Swiger. The County will have to have both items shortly or the Borough may be in jeopardy of losing the contract funds. Ms. Lohrman will provide both items to Mr. Minotti as soon as received. Motion to execute both contracts with Mr. Minotti's approval by Mr. Feinberg. Second by Mr. Verenna.

7. Several weeks ago, Ms. Lohrman received a request from Craig Swinsburg, Easton Suburban Water Authority Engineer, to release the escrow funds set aside for the street renovations completed at the time the new water lines were installed. Mr. Drake has inspected the street restoration and found them acceptable. Motion by Mr. Reiss to release the escrow funds. Second by Mr. Williams.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

##### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

##### FIRE:

1. Chief Collins informed Council that he had received several requests for Rental Inspections. Chief Collins has started performing the inspections.

2. Chief Collins will be losing two part-time firefighters at the end of the year. Chief Collins requested permission to hire Michael Joseph as a part-time firefighter. Motion to approve request by Mr. Klass. Second by Mr. Reiss.

##### POLICE:

None

##### PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. McGowan and Mr. Schug met with Mr. Ron Behler at the community center on Friday, December 5, 2008 to review repairs that need to be made. Ms. Lilly questioned why the matter wasn't brought to Ms. Lohrman and why she received a last minute phone call about the meeting. Ms. Lohrman had been made aware of most of the items on the list through conversations with Mr. Drake, Mr. Ron Behler and Mr. Williams. Several items that need to be repaired or replaced are as follows: back door may need a stop, a canopy should be put over the door as water is coming in and the floor is rotting, the windows over the sink could be replaced with double hung windows, the other back door is rarely used, the coat hanger should be taken off the door as it is going through the wall, and Mayor Perruso will be calling Mr. Strausser to find out where he got the windows facing Northampton Street to see if parts are available for repairs. Several tables are getting bent and bowed. Mr. McGowan suggested replacing the tables as needed with plastic ones. The new tables are estimated to cost \$70 to \$80 a piece.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

None

ATTORNEY:

None

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that MECAB will not meet again until January 2009.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chief Collins has located a company in Allentown that may be able to perform the lead testing that Mr. Corriere needs to have completed for housing rehab. The company does 8 swipes for \$240.00. Mr. Corriere responded that swipes were unacceptable for housing rehab projects, but he would contact the company to see if they could perform the lead testing that he needs.

2. Mr. Reiss questioned why Council was meeting the week of Christmas. He suggested authorizing the Manager to pay the bills that were due by the end of the month. Mr. McGowan responded that Council decided to meet on December 22, 2008 at the last Council meeting. Motion by Mr. Reiss to cancel the December 22, 2008 and allow the Manager to pay the bills that are due prior to the end of the year. Second by Mr. Verenna. Mr. Corriere has bids due on December 22, 2008, but will open them at a separate public meeting.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1160 – 2009 Salaries, Wages, Sick Leave, Vacation, Holidays. Motion to approve resolution by Mr. Klass. Second by Ms. Lilly. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan and Mr. Williams. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Reiss and Mr. Verenna. Motion carried by a five to two vote.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$114,679.28 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Williams.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Klass made a Motion to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Second by Mr. Verenna and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY