

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
DECEMBER 10, 2007

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
Bob Reiss	David Schug
Louis Starniri	David Williams

ABSENT:

Ronald Nixon

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the November 26, 2007 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Ms. Lilly.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Dave Colver, President of Revloc, appeared before Council to present plans for the homes he wishes to build at N. Wright, N. 19th and Spring Garden Streets. Currently the property has one house and a shed on it. The original plan called for 20 foot lots. Mr. Colver plans to turn the houses in the opposite direction. The proper variances have been obtained from the Zoning Hearing Board. The Planning Commission has also unanimously approved the development. The approved plans will have 2 three unit homes with a one car garage. The curbs and sidewalks will all be replaced. The utilities will be underground. Mr. Colver has worked with the neighbors and they all are in favor of the plans. Lehigh Valley Planning Commission is currently review the project. Mr. Colver will be purchasing the property shortly. Motion to approve Mr. Colver's plan by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Starniri. Mayor Perruso thanked Mr. Colver for being a responsible property owner. He takes care of all the properties that he owns in the Borough.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso inquired about the progress of having the graffiti removed on the Dixie building. Mr. Corriere responded that he had spoken to Mr. Reibman shortly after the last Council meeting. Mr. Reibman was not aware of the problem. He will take care of it shortly. Mr. Reibman will also be contacting security firms to secure the property. Mr. Corriere expects to have something in writing from Mr. Reibman shortly.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the staff Christmas luncheon will be held on Friday, December 21, 2007 at noon in Council Chambers. All public officials are invited.
2. The Borough has received a request from Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority to adopt two resolutions to modify the Industrial Pretreatment Program – EPA Streamlining Modifications to Rules and Regulations and Enforcement Response Plan.
3. The Borough has a 12 month CD for \$891,592.86 CD maturing on December 30, 2007. Ms. Lohrman requested direction from Council as to what they wish to do with the funds.
4. Ms. Lohrman has spoken to Ms. Montgomery concerning the bocce courts. Ms. Lohrman sent her the information on construction plans. Ms. Montgomery will be coming up with the surveyor to look at the area in Meuser Park where the courts will be constructed.
5. Ms. Lohrman has received an email from Ms. Montgomery about the Fisk Field project. Ms.

Montgomery did not feel the construction will begin until the summer as it is unknown how long it will take to get the appropriate permits. Ms. Montgomery will try to schedule a meeting with the Northampton County Conservation District before Christmas. Hopefully this will give us a head start on the permits.

6. Ms. Lohrman has presented the 2008 budget to Council. It has been advertised for approval at tonight's meeting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

FIRE:

None

POLICE:

1. Chief Nace has met with PennDot about the unsafe conditions at Hackett Avenue. PennDot will be installing guard rails, but until they do, they have installed 18 reflector posts. Curve signs and speed limit signs will also be installed.

2. Chief Nace has collected \$1,994.00 for uniform reimbursement.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake met with Traffic Solutions about the 23rd and Butler Street intersection. There are already cross buttons installed. The intersection could be timed that if a button was activated that the signal would be red in all directions for 20 seconds. Mr. Drake will supply Ms. Lohrman information including pictures to send to PennDot for their permission to go forward with the signal change. The police are usually at the intersection when school lets out. It might be more cost efficient if a crossing guard be there instead of an officer.

2. Mr. Drake will be meeting with a representative from Hi-Tech Security tomorrow to get a quote to add a security system to the building across the street.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass met with Mayor Perruso and Mr. Drake at Meuser Park to look at the bocce court area. Mr. Klass felt that the best layout would be inside the gate about 140 feet to the left. Placing the courts there would leave a long corridor of grass. Mr. Klass also felt that there would be room enough for a parking area outside the fence. Mr. Drake could do the paving and also run another road over to the lot. Ms. Lilly inquired as to why there should be a parking lot. Mr. McGowan agreed with Ms. Lilly. Mr. Klass replied that it was only an idea. Council would have to make the final decision about the layout.

SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. Minotti informed Council that Mr. DeEsch had written a letter to Weiss Markets about the condemnation of a parcel of land adjacent to the store. Mr. DeEsch had forwarded an appraisal indicating a value of \$40,000.00. If the matter is not settled, it will go before the Board of Review. The land was condemned for the bike path.

2. Mr. Minotti has received a request from Cadmus for an assessment of appeal on three parcels of land. The county and school district have agreed to the new assessment. Mr. Corriere expressed his dismay as Cadmus had put in a new addition and will be putting in a new press. Mr. Minotti stated that it would be very expensive for the Borough to fight the assessment appeal. Motion to approve request for the new assessment by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Klass. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Reiss, and Mr. Starniri. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. McGowan, Mr. Schug and Mr. Williams. Motion carried by a five to three vote.

3. Mr. Minotti has received a letter concerning the Police Accreditation. They are requesting the next disbursement. Mr. Minotti thought Chief Nace could give us an update.

4. Mr. Minotti informed Council that Ms. Lohrman had received information from Shelley Houk about handicapped parking. If the Borough charged a fee for the parking, it could be perceived as a civil rights violation. The Borough could eliminate the fee or just not enforce the fee portion of the ordinance. Mr. Minotti felt the Borough still need to have a procedure to follow regarding handicapped parking. Mr. Reiss felt the Borough should eliminate it altogether. Ms. Lohrman will request further information from Ms. Houk.

5. Mr. Minotti had been requested to look into Council officials and appointments. Mr. Minotti discussed compatibility and officials. Mr. Minotti did not see a problem with a Council person opening and closing the center and received compensation. Motion by Mr. Reiss to keep the matter as it is. Second by Mr. Schug. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Mr. McGowan, Mr.

Reiss, Mr. Schug, and Mr. Starniri. A Negative vote was cast by Ms. Lilly. Mr. Williams abstained from voting. Motion carried by a six to one vote with one abstention.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that there would not be a MECAB meeting until January or February.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Mr. Reiss to approve the two resolutions received from Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the resolutions and finds them acceptable. Second by Mr. Starniri. Ms. Lohrman will number the resolution, have them executed and forward them to the authority.

2. Ms. Lohrman was requested to get rates from several banks for the maturing CD for the next meeting.

3. Motion by Mr. Reiss to approve the 2008 budget. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Schug, Mr. Starniri, and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Ms. Lilly. The 2008 budget passed by a seven to one vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. McGowan made a Motion to authorize the Borough Manager to order Borough News from PSAB. Second by Mr. Starniri.

2. Mr. McGowan informed Council that the metering study will not get DEP funding. The municipalities will be charged on an individual basis. The authority is considering rolling the cost of the study into the debt service. Mr. McGowan did not feel it was a good idea. The number of meters that will be used in Wilson for the study was decreased from 12 to 8. The cost of the meters is \$1,100.00 per meter. Mr. Reiss responded that the rebate will cover the cost of the study including keeping the original number of meters. Motion by Mr. Reiss to notify Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority that the Borough would like to use 12 meters for the study. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Starniri, and Mr. Williams. Negative votes were cast by Mr. McGowan and Mr. Schug. Motion carried by a six to two vote.

Motion by Mr. Reiss to notify the authority that the Borough does not wish to have the cost of the study rolled into the capital budget. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Starniri, and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was approved by a seven to one vote. Ms. Lohrman will notify the authority by letter of Council's decision.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1153 – Salaries, Wages, Sick Leave Vacation, Holidays. Motion by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Schug, Mr. Starniri, and Mr. Williams. A Negative vote was cast by Ms. Lilly. Resolution 1153 was approved by a seven to one vote.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$57,711.88 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Williams.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Second by Mr. Feinberg and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY