

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
JANUARY 9, 2005

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, President Feinberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

Leonard Feinberg, President	James Klass
Joan A. Lilly	Dannen McGinley
James McGowan	Ron Nixon
Bob Reiss	David Schug
Louis Starniri	

ABSENT:

None

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the December 19, 2005 Council Meeting and the January 3, 2006 Reorganization Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Ms. Lilly.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Chuck Meyers from P.J. Lehman, Inc. appeared before Council to discuss the 24<sup>th</sup> Street bridge project. PennDot is agreeable to change the bridge from a box culvert bridge to a regular bridge structure. Mr. Meyers advised Council that the six month extension was needed as additional time was needed for review. Mayor Perruso expressed his concern that the delay may mean an end to the project. Mr. Meyers did not think there would be a problem. The major expense in going forward would be the need for additional core borings and possible inspections. The construction may be more difficult in building a regular bridge structure than the box culvert type bridge. After additional information is received this week or next week, Mr. Meyers will have a better idea of will be necessary in order to proceed. All forms of the bridge will be evaluated. Lehman, Inc. will make a recommendation, but PennDot will have to sign off on it. Mr. Meyers informed Council that even if the form of the bridge had not changed, it was getting close to being put off until 2007. A discussion was held on the safety of a box culvert bridge for those who would use the bike path. Mr. Minotti felt he should review the loan agreement to make sure there were no problems. Ms. Lohrman will forward the information to him. Motion by Ms. Lilly to approve the six month time extension for the Engineering Phase I of the 24<sup>th</sup> Street bridge project. Second by Mr. McGowan.

2. Henry Casella of 1855 Fairview Avenue appeared before Council to see if they would allow him to arrange a regularly scheduled Friday night dance aimed at senior citizens. Mr. Casella would keep the attendance to around 100 people. A \$5.00 fee would be charge. Mr. Casella requested the community center rental fee be waived or lowered to a nominal amount. Mr. Casella would like to hold the dances from the first week in April through the last week in November. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the community center is already booked weekends in June and it is frequently booked on Friday evenings in June and towards the holidays. Mr. Feinberg did not feel the Borough should tie up the center every week. Revenue will be lost. Motion by Ms. Lilly to allow Mr. Casella to hold dances on Friday evenings from April through November for a \$50.00 rental fee. Second by Ms. McGinley. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Ms. McGinley, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Reiss, and Mr. Schug. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg and Mr. Starniri. Motion carried by a seven to two vote. Several Council members offered to open the center for Mr. Casella.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. A letter was received from Amar Bhajandas from PennDot concerning the Borough's request to eliminate a box culvert bridge from consideration. PennDot does not have any objection. However, their experience has shown that a box culvert structure would be quicker, cheaper to build, and since work has already been done on the box culvert bridge, some work will have to be reviewed and revised. It was noted that any re-design work will not be eligible for additional funding reimbursement from the Department above the current budget amount.

2. An email was received from David McGuckin from PennDot requesting the Borough to

reconsider the six month extension for Preliminary Engineering now that the focus is on a bridge structure.

3. A letter was received from Deborah Patterson of Williams Township notifying the Borough of a NIMS class to be sponsored by Williams Township on Friday, February 3, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Ms. Lohrman added that the NIMS class was mandatory for most of the employees and elected officials. Other classes will be offered, but one may wish to complete the class early. Ms. Lohrman requested that she be notified if one would like to attend.

4. A letter was received from James Klass resigning from the Wilson Recreation Board effective immediately.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso informed Council that the total fines collected by Magistrate Koury were \$6,881.20.

2. Mayor Perruso informed Council that the Civil Service exam for the Police department would be given on Saturday, January 21, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman explained to Council that Beverly Hutzel, from the PA DCED, had performed a compliance review on CDBG contracts from 2001 – 2003 on December 12, 2005. The audit went well. However, there were two concerns found. Ms. Hutzel requested a separation of duties should occur between the person who receives revenue, records and deposits the revenue and reconciles the bank statements. Also separation should occur between the person who processes invoices for payment and the person who reconciles the bank statements. Ms. Lohrman stated that she understood the reasons why Ms. Hutzel was concerned. Ms. Lohrman suggested that Ms. Guth draw down the funds, record the receipts, and record the payment. Motion by Mr. Starniri to make Ms. Lohrman's suggestion standard operating procedure. Second by Mr. Nixon.

The second concern was in regard to the Environmental Review for 2001 and 2002 that was to have been completed by our former planner. Ms. Lohrman will meet with Ms. Pandl next week to respond to Ms. Hutzel's letter.

2. Ms. Lohrman requested a Caucus on a personnel matter.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

##### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

##### FIRE:

None

##### POLICE:

None

##### PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Drake informed Council that he was going to begin disposing of the items in the pool parking lot.

##### PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass informed Council that last year Mr. Drake had finished installing ½ of the new partitions at the swimming pool. Public Works will be completing the other ½ this year.

##### SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. Minotti felt that Ms. Riddle should review the proposal by the Real Estate Department from Weis Markets concerning the proposed location of the bikepath. Mayor Perruso did not feel the location suggested by Weis Markets would work as the Borough must comply with ADA which requires a 5% grade or less. Mr. McGowan expressed his concerns over having to cross four lanes of traffic. Ms. Lohrman will discuss having Ms. Riddle write a letter on the Weis Market's proposal as soon as possible. Mr. Klass suggested that the Bike Path committee meet on Thursday, January 12, 2006 at 3:30 p.m.

2. Mr. Bogusky appeared before Council concerning the release of the bond on Firmstone Street. Mr. Drake stated that Firmstone Street has numerous holes in it and the road is cracked. The top coat should not be installed until after the base coat is repaired. Mr. Drake thought it may cost \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00 to repair the base coat and \$25,000.00 to do the top coat. Mr. Reiss responded that the funds would be coming out of the Borough's Liquid Fuel allotment. The unusual length of time for the project

to be completed was discussed. Mr. Minotti reminded Mr. Bogusky that his attorney would need to prepare the paperwork for the road to be dedicated. Mr. Minotti will report back to Council on the matter.

MECAB:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Mr. Starniri to accept with regrets Mr. Klass' resignation from the Recreation Board. Second by Mr. Reiss.

Motion to appoint Mr. Nixon to the Recreation Board by Ms. Lilly. Second by Mr. Starniri.

2. Mr. Feinberg requested that Mayor Perruso be added to the Bikepath committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1128 – Environmental Review Determination Regarding the FFY 2003, 2004, 2005 CDBG Program. Motion to approve by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms. Lilly.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$40,127.43 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Nixon.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Lilly made a Motion to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY