

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
JANUARY 22, 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	Joan Lilly
James McGowan	Ronald Nixon
Bob Reiss	David Schug
Louis Starniri	David Williams

ABSENT:

James Klass

Also present were: Mayor David S. Perruso, Solicitor Louis S. Minotti, Jr., Officer Bud Shull, Assistant Superintendent Ron Behler, Code Enforcement Officer Paul R. Corriere, Chief Michael Collins

Mr. Reiss made a Motion to change the order of the meeting to allow Borough Council to vote on Resolution 1147 – Appointment of a Resident to Fill a Vacancy on Borough Council at the beginning of the meeting. Second by Mr. Starniri.

Resolution 1147 – Appointment of a Resident to Fill a Vacancy on Borough Council. Motion to approve Resolution 1147 by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Nixon.

Mayor Perruso proceeded with the Oath of Office to David J. Williams as Councilperson from the 2nd Ward.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the January 8, 2007 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Starniri.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Joe Civitella, Engineer for the Larry O'Neill project, appeared before Council to provide an update on the traffic pattern in the area of S. 25th Street and Freemansburg Avenue. Mr. Feinberg reviewed the Minutes of the June 27, 2005 Minutes when Mr. Civitella last appeared to discuss the traffic pattern. PennDot has reviewed the HOP and will look at improvements based on traffic counts. The Hillside Avenue entrance/exit has been moved to the west of Stewart Street. Additional changes may be requested by PennDot which may require an easement across Borough property. Mr. McGowan and Mayor Perruso did not wish to have the entrance/exit moved. They would prefer it to be straight across from Hillside Avenue. No matter where the entrance/exit is moved, it will cross the bike path. The situation with the adjacent property owner whose land may be affected by keeping the entrance/exit lined up with Stewart Street was discussed. A land swap with the Borough and the property owner may be possible. Mr. Civitella agreed to provide Mr. Minotti with name of the property owner and the meets and bounds of the affected property. Mr. Civitella felt that the area may have been surveyed already if not he would perform it. Mr. Minotti will contact the property owner after he has received the necessary information. Mr. Civitella felt it would be sometime in the spring before the traffic plans would be resubmitted to PennDot. Mr. Minotti informed Mr. Civitella that the Borough may require additional time to review the plans. Mr. Civitella stated that the time extension would not be a problem. Mayor Perruso inquired about the position of the gas pipes near the corner of S. 25th Street and Freemansburg Avenue. Mr. Civitella responded that if PennDot required a right turn lane on S. 25th Street, the pipes would have to be moved. Mr. Civitella must also check into the rights. Mr. O'Neill may have to pay to have the gas pipes relocated. Mr. McGowan questioned the truck designations discussed in the Minutes of the meeting between Mr. Civitella, several Borough officials, and PennDot. Mr. Civitella will supply the information to Borough Council.

2. Eric Case from Louis Street appeared before Council to discuss the lack of parking on Louis Street. Mr. Case informed Council that people from Freemansburg Avenue park on Louis Street. Mr. Case suggested having a 2 hour parking limit or restrict overnight parking. Mayor Perruso responded that parking is a problem throughout the Borough. He reminded Mr. Case that the Borough does have a 72 hour parking restriction. Council agreed that there is no quick fix to ease the parking problems. Mr. McGowan suggested allowing each household one parking pass and charging an additional \$100 for each

additional one. This may cut down on the number of cars each household has. Mr. Corriere added that he encourages homeowners to put in offstreet parking. Mr. Starniri felt the Borough should make it as easy as possible for homeowners to have parking pads. The area off Hay Street was discussed for additional parking.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received an Agreement for Use of Polling Place from the County of Northampton. The Primary Election is scheduled on May 15, 2007 and the General Election is scheduled for November 6, 2007. The municipal building will be a polling place for the 2nd Ward of Wilson Borough.

2. A letter was received from Rick Weaver, PinnacleRacing, requesting permission from the Borough for a marathon race come through Wilson Borough on October 28, 2007.

3. The following three bids were received from Housing Rehab Case No. HR06-1, Kathleen Allen, 1833 Lehigh Street:

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| 1. S.J. Sawyer, Co. | \$22,250.00 |
| 2. TDM Construction | \$23,800.00 |
| 3. Dutt Construction | \$23,400.00 |

4. A letter was received from Cindy Konopaski and Stacey Shotko requesting permission to use the Community Center for a Girl Scout cookie delivery station. The cookies will be delivered on February 16, 2007. The center would be need from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso has received a request from the Wilson Area School District to close off S. 21st Street in front of the Wilson Elementary School for approximately 20 minutes twice a day for traffic control. The crossing guards could close the street. Mr. Starniri questioned where the through traffic would go if the street were closed. The street would only be closed between Hay Terrace and Washington Blvd. Mr. Feinberg requested that the Police issue ticket to those parked illegally. Officer Shull responded that it was difficult for the officers to be at all the schools at the same time. Mr. Minotti suggested swearing in special officers. Mr. McGowan questioned whether the security people had any authority over the parking. The response was no. Council was not in favor of closing the street. Chief Nace was directed to see if he could get extra officers out to handle the situation.

2. Mayor Perruso has received an inquiry if additional one way signs could be posted on Washington Blvd. Council felt the boulevard was adequately marked.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the PSAB 2007 Spring Legislative Conference will be held March 18, 2007 through March 20, 2007 in Grantville. Ms. Lohrman requested Councilpersons to notify her by Friday if they wish to attend the conference. Mr. McGowan, Mayor Perruso, and Mr. Reiss responded that they would like to attend the conference.

2. Ms. Lohrman has spoken to Kuru Mathew from PennDot regarding our Safe Routes to School project. Borough Council had accepted the reduction in the bid from AMS of \$56,875.00. However, upon PennDot's review, their Legal Department perceived the addendum as negotiating the price and will not allow the Borough to award the project at the lower price. Ms. Lohrman requested Council to award the bid to AMS at the original bid of \$60,125.00.

3. Mr. Feinberg and Ms. Lohrman have received requests from the non-uniform employees to allow them to increase the percentage contributed into their pension plan. Currently the non-uniform employees can contribute only 3% of their salary. The employee will bear the burden of the increase. Ms. Lohrman requested Council's authorization to allow Mr. Minotti to review the draft ordinance and agreement sent to the Borough from PMRS.

4. Ms. Lohrman has received information that Ledet Computer Consulting will be going out of business shortly. As the Borough has a contract for service, a refund will provided for the unused service time purchased. Mr. Seip and another Ledet employee will be working for another former Ledet employee who started his own company with a partner. The new company is TechnoLogic Solutions LLC. Ms. Lohrman requested Council's permission to purchase 100 hours of service at \$72.00 per hour with TechnoLogic Solutions. Ms. Lohrman pointed out that three out of the four employees of the firm are familiar with the Borough's computer system.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

FIRE:

1. Chief Collins met with the 911 personnel on Friday to discuss the switch to 500 MHz. 911 will be pulling the plug on the old system. Chief Collins has received two quotes for the purchase of the new

radios. However, the companies did not quote on the same radio. The total cost will be \$38,000.00 to replace all the radios. The cost is below the state contract price as the radios are quoted as a bulk purchase if ordered by March 15, 2007. Funds are available in the EMST account to purchase the radios. The county will give the Borough two repeaters, but the Borough would have to pay for the installation. Motion by Ms. Lilly to purchase the radios with the approval of Mr. Minotti, that the county supplies the Borough with the repeaters, and the Borough will pay for the installation of the repeaters. Second by Mr. Williams.

POLICE:

None

PUBLIC WORKS:

None

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Ms. Lilly has received a request from the Rec Board that a new thermostat be placed in the Rec building. Ms. Lohrman will check into the matter.
2. Ms. Lilly inquired as to what the status of Fisk field was. Ms. Lohrman responded that no work can be started until both grant applications are approved. Ms. Lohrman does not expect a decision on the grants to be decided until at least spring.

SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. Minotti reminded Council that the Borough had received a quote from Forks for accreditation services for the Police department. There had been some questions as to what was involved in the process. The quote was for services for 24 months at a price of \$30,000.00. Mr. Minotti has received information about an accreditation meeting to be held in Forks Township on February 2, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. If anyone is interested, Dick Harmon should be contacted. Mr. Minotti suggested that the Mayor and members of the Police committee should attend. Mr. Reiss inquired if anyone had checking the building. The response was that it had not.
2. Mr. Minotti requested a short Caucus on a personnel matter and a Zoning appeal.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that the next MECAB meeting will be held on January 31, 2007 in Fountain Hill. Mr. McGowan requested Council's input on places to go in for the spring MECAB tour.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Motion to approve the Municipal Building as a polling place for the 2nd Ward by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Starniri.
2. It appears that the only Borough street affected by the marathon race is Lehigh Drive. Motion to approve the request by PinnacleRacing by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms. Lilly.
3. Motion by Mr. McGowan to have the appropriate personnel review the three bids received for the Housing Rehab project. Second by Ms. Lilly.
Ms. Lilly inquired as to why the Housing Rehab committee was not consulted on the change order to a recent Housing Rehab project. The price of the project was increased over \$2,000.00 and completed without the consent of the committee. Mr. Corriere responded that he did not wish to hold up the project by having to contact the committee.
4. Motion by Ms. Lilly to have the Girl Scout cookie delivery at Borough Hall. Second by Mr. Starniri.
5. Mr. Feinberg reminded Council that the Safe Routes to School project had only one bidder. Motion by Mr. McGowan to award the bid to AMS at the original price of \$60,125.00. Second by Ms. Lilly.
6. Motion by Ms. Lilly to authorize Mr. Minotti to review the agreement and the draft ordinance from PMRS for the proposed change in the Non-Uniform Pension Plan. Second by Mr. Williams.
7. Motion by Mr. Reiss to purchase 100 hours of professional computer service from TechnoLogic Solutions LLC. Second by Mr. McGowan.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ms. Lilly has seen several Boroughs have Junior Council Persons. Ms. Lohrman was directed to contact PSAB for additional information.

2. Ms. Lilly has been informed that the Public Works department has received a raise of an additional \$0.04 per hour raise. The new rate is over the 6% that was approved. Mr. Feinberg responded that the office used the rate Mr. Minotti had used in the addendum to the contract. Mr. Minotti responded that it was probably a rounding error. Mr. Feinberg was requested to look into the matter for the next meeting.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1148 – Establishing a Non-Smoking Policy. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that this resolution was a unanimous recommendation from the Safety Committee. The Fire and Public Works department have very few problems with smoking on the premises or in vehicles. However, the Police officers have smoked inside the building and in vehicles. Motion to approve Resolution 1148 by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Williams. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Starniri. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. McGowan, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Reiss, and Mr. Schug. Motion was tied at a four to four vote. Mayor Perruso voted in the affirmative. Resolution 1148 was approved by a five to four vote.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$121,857.39 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Ms. Lilly.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Nixon made a Motion to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY