

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
MARCH 12, 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 6:30 p.m. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

Leonard Feinberg, President	James Klass
Joan Lilly	James McGowan
Bob Reiss	Louis Starniri
David Williams	

ABSENT:

Ronald Nixon, David Schug

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

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

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Richard Deibert of Creditech appeared before Council to review a proposal to assist the Borough in the collection of municipal utility bills. Creditech is a collection agency that uses personal contacts to collect funds owed. Municipal liens no longer work. Payment arrangements may be set up with the residents on their delinquent accounts. Creditech's success rate varies from 30% to 80%. A 30% commission is added to the delinquent account. The Borough would receive 100% of the amount owed. The Borough would have to decide at what point the account gets turned over to Creditech. Credit reporting is an option Mr. Deibert recommends. If payment is not received, the account would be turned back over to the Borough for possible shut-off or legal action. If the Borough would like to proceed, an ordinance or resolution would have to be passed. The contract between Creditech and the Borough would be for a one year period.

2. Lori Groner appeared before Council to discuss the parking problems around the elementary school. Ms. Groner was concerned about the safety of the children as parents are parking in no parking zones, loading zones and double parking. The Borough and the school district need to work together to get the problem resolved. The buses are parking in the front of the building instead of on the boulevard side. The original building plans of the school had a driveway around the building that has never been completed. Mr. Starniri suggested bringing in a police officer early in the afternoon and have an officer stay late in the morning. Someone of authority needs to be present. Mr. Klass suggested writing a letter to the school district. Mr. Feinberg has already spoken to the school. Ms. Jarrell added that the Principle is crossing children in the middle of the street. The school district should write a letter to the parent about the problem.

Ms. Cressman appeared before Council to complain about the behavior of Ms. Jarrell. Ms. Cressman understands that Ms. Jarrell is following the rules, but she is belligerent. Ms. Cressman had a petition signed by numerous parents about Ms. Jarrell. Ms. Cressman also contends that Ms. Jarrell talks on her cellphone while she is crossing the children and she also calls the police on the parents. Mr. Minotti responded that the Borough needs to get together with the school district. Parents were recommended to discuss the matter with the school district.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received an email from Rick Weaver notifying the Borough that the marathon on October 28, 2007 has been cancelled.

2. Ms. Lohrman opened the following bids for the municipal building mold remediation project:

1. Servpro - \$13,671.98
2. K & A Environmental Contractors, Inc. - \$14,500.00
3. Power Component Systems, Inc. - \$19,700.00
4. Plymouth Environmental Co. - \$48,000.00
5. National Property Damage Experts, LLC - \$13,230.00
6. Marcor Remediation, Inc. - \$17,900.00

Mr. Feinberg set up a committee of Mr. Klass, Mr. McGowan and himself to review the bids.

3. Ms. Lohrman has received a request from Dominick Perruso to increase the fee for plumbing inspections from \$40.00 to \$50.00.

4. A letter was received from Daniel J. Shoemaker, Engineer for S C Engineers, Inc., informing Wilson Borough that Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority's Engineering Committee's recommendation to conduct an Adamson Street flow metering study will be considered on March 19, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in West Easton.

5. An email was received from Angi Jasionowski requesting information on setting up a recycling program at St. Jane's School. Mr. Feinberg directed Ms. Lohrman to the Ms. Jasionowski contact Waste Management.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mr. Mayor and Mr. Feinberg requested that an arrangement with the police be worked out to have an officer at the elementary school for 1 hour prior to school and another officer be at the elementary school 1 hour prior to school being dismissed.

2. Mayor Perruso has received a letter from SADD from the high school looking for donations for an after prom party. It was noted that the Borough has never given donations to groups.

3. Mayor Perruso requested a Caucus on a personnel matter.

#### COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Mr. McGowan, the Borough's representative to the sewer authority, will be at the PSAB conference and is unable to attend the sewer authority's meeting on March 19, 2007. Mr. McGowan stated that the engineering committee had voted by a 5 to 1 vote to do the metering study. There seems to be a severe infiltration problem in the area around West Easton Borough Hall. The Adamson Street line may have reached its hydrologic capacity. There had been a problem with the Lehigh line also. A camera had been put down in the area around West Easton Borough Hall. The grant the sewer authority had applied for has been declined by the DEP in Harrisburg. A discussion was held as to how the Borough could get the sewerage around West Easton. Mayor Perruso suggested going down S. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, but then the sewerage would flow into the Palmer line. Council decided to go ahead with the meeting and then the Borough would have more exact numbers of the sewerage flow.

2. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the Borough had received a copy of an engineering study completed by P.J. Lehman, Inc. on the 24<sup>th</sup> Street bridge project. The study discusses five options for the bridge. Ms. Lohrman requested interested parties to contact Mr. McGowan to review the report.

3. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that Mayor Perruso had been informed by Representative Freeman that he had \$10,000.00 in grant funds available for a project. As the grant application is due at the end of the week, Council will have to make a decision on a project by the end of the meeting. Ms. Lilly stated that the baseball association needed a new PA system and new roofs on the dugouts. Mr. Behler responded that the Public Works department has to put new roofs on the dugouts twice a year because the children ruin them with bats. Mr. Reiss suggested putting in bocci courts at Meuser Park. The Borough had \$2,500.00 from Lafayette Bank for the project and the funds were not returned. Mr. Reiss would like the associations to match a project 50-50 with the Borough. Motion by offer consider projects from the associations with a 50-50 match by Mr. Reiss. Second by MrGowan. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Williams, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss and Mr. Starniri. Negative votes were cast by Mr. Klass and Ms. Lilly. Motion carried by a five to two vote. Ms. Lilly made a Motion to use the funds to purchase radios for the Fire Department. No Second was received. Motion by Mr. Reiss to install bocci courts at Meuser Park. Second by Mr. Starniri. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Mr. Williams, Mr. Reiss, and Mr. Starniri. Negative votes were cast by Ms. Lilly and Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a five to two vote.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

##### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

##### FIRE:

1. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the pre-emptive devices have been installed in the vehicles in the Fire Department. Ms. Lohrman has forwarded a copy of the invoice to Palmer Township for reimbursement up to \$6,000.00.

##### POLICE:

1. Mr. Starniri reaffirmed that Caucus would be needed prior to adjournment.

##### PUBLIC WORKS:

None

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass would like to hold a Pool committee meeting on April 10, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss getting the swimming pool up and running. The meeting should last between an hour and an hour and a half.

SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the TIF Agreement. Mr. Minotti did not see any conflict with the ordinance. The Borough is authorized to execute the agreement as long as the other bodies have done so. The agreement will pass from one authority to another. Motion to proceed executing the TIF Agreement by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Williams.

2. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the shut-off agreement with Easton Suburban Water Authority. A clause exists in the agreement that the Borough would make up any difference in loss to the authority. The same phrase exists in the old agreement. Mr. McGowan felt the clause was meant for industrial users. The authority has never billed the Borough for lost revenue.

3. Mr. Minotti has reviewed the Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Easton. An emergency is not defined in the agreement and the Borough would be responsible for cost it incurs. Ms. Lohrman responded that the City had attempted to get funds from FEMA last year for the Borough when we had assisted them during the flood, but because the two municipalities did not have a formal agreement the request was denied.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed Council that he did not have any information on the March meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Ms. Lilly to approve the Addendum to the Public Works contract. Second by Mr. Starniri.

2. Motion by Mr. Starniri to execute the shut-off agreement with Easton Suburban Water Authority in case it was needed. Second by Mr. McGowan.

3. Motion by Mr. Starniri to execute the Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Easton. Second by Ms. Lilly.

4. Motion by Mr. Klass to increase the plumbing inspection fee requested by Dominick Perruso from \$40.00 to \$50.00. Second by Mr. Starniri.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg requested that Mr. Minotti review the Creditech proposal. Ms. Lilly requested that Ms. Lohrman contact Hellertown to see what they have.

2. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that the Borough was in the final year of the contract with Public Works. Mr. Feinberg appointed Mr. Klass, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Reiss, and himself to meet with representatives of the department to discuss a new contract.

3. Mr. Feinberg felt that the Borough rents the Strausser Community Center too cheaply and feels the kitchen should not be rented out. The facility is being abused. Mr. Feinberg requested that the General Government Committee look into the matter.

4. Pursuant to a personnel matter, Mr. Starniri made a Motion to terminate Michael Green from the Police Department. Second by Mr. Williams.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$60,815.57 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Reiss.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Second by Ms. Lilly and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY