

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
MAY 14, 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
David Williams	

ABSENT:

Ronald Nixon, Louis Starniri

Also present were: Mayor David Perruso, Attorney Dennis DeEsch, Chief Richard Nace, Chief Michael Collins, Code Enforcement Officer Paul R. Corriere, Assistant Superintendent Ron Behler

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the April 23, 2007 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Williams.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Attorney Bruno appeared before Council to discuss the possibility of the Borough withdrawing the Zoning Appeal on the Hassanein property. Mr. DeEsch has reviewed the plans dated March 27, 2007. Mr. DeEsch agrees that what appears on the plans can be legally done. A second home can be built on the lot without any variances. Mr. Klass questioned why the Borough shouldn't drop the appeal. Mr. Feinberg responded that there currently is one large lot. Parking is an ongoing problem in the neighborhood. Mr. Feinberg also added that the neighbors had not shown up at the actual hearing as it had been postponed once or twice. Motion by Mr. Klass to drop the appeal. Second by Mr. Reiss. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Klass and Mr. Reiss. Negative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Williams, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Schug. Motion was defeated by a five to two vote.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. A letter was received from Dr. Michael Seldow requesting a "2 hour parking from here to corner" at his business located at 1631 Northampton Street. Neighbors have been parking in front of his office daily. Often the vehicles are violating the 72 hour parking limit.
2. A letter was received from Miller-Keystone Blood Center inquiring whether or not the Borough would be interested in holding a blood drive.
3. A letter was received from the Wilson Youth Soccer Association requesting the use of Jeffrey field for their In-House Soccer Program this fall.
4. One bid was received from AMS for the paving of 20<sup>th</sup> Street from Butler to Fairview Ave., Hay Terrace from 20<sup>th</sup> Street to 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Lehigh Street from 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to the alley, 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and Lehigh Street, and Warrior Lane and Butler Street. The bid received is in the amount of \$187,739.80.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso has received a Handicapped Parking Sign Application from Edward Brown at 1846 Freemansburg Avenue. Chief Nace has approved the request.
2. Mayor Perruso has received a complaint about parking on Miller Street in the area of Hay Street. It is difficult to turn the corner as people are parking too close to the corner. Motion by Mr. Klass to paint a yellow line on the curbing. Second by Mr. Williams.
3. Ms. Lilly has a problem at the intersection of 21<sup>st</sup> and Hay Street. The tenants are parking in a yellow area. Chief Nace will check on it.
4. Chief Nace has four or five people he would like to interview for the position of part-time police officer. Ms. Lohrman will request Mr. Starniri to contact Chief Nace about interviewing the candidates.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Montgomery has reviewed the comment letter from PennDot concerning the HOPs for the

bike path. Additional signage and street markings will be needed. Ms. Montgomery will resubmit with the changes to PennDot and then on to the DCNR. Ms. Montgomery intends to split the bid into three sections in case someone would like to donate funds for the completion of the trail.

2. Ms. Lohrman has received the CDBG application from Northampton County Department of Community & Economic Development. The application is due on June 11, 2007. Ms. Lohrman requested Council's input as to what projects they would like to fund this year. The Borough could request up to \$250,000.00, but will probably receive approximately what they did last year or \$141,000.00. The Borough has been putting \$59,000.00 towards the ladder truck. Ms. Lilly requested the requested allocating the difference of \$81,000.00 to Fisk Field. Mr. Feinberg suggested making the HOME program and housing rehab a revolving program by having the funds paid back to the Borough when the house is sold. A lien would continue to be placed on the home, but would not be removed after five years is up. The solicitor will be review information on the matter. Mr. McGowan suggested paying for the ladder truck out of the EMST account. Mr. Feinberg replied that since the Borough has allocated the funds for several years, the Borough could continue to do so for another 3 years. If the fire truck was removed as a funded activity, the Borough would probably have to modify the CDBG application. Motion for the 2007 CDBG to fund the fire truck loan payment and Fisk field by Ms. Lilly. Second by Mr. Klass.

3. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the 3 CDs at Lafayette Bank will be maturing on May 26, 2007. The base amount of the CDs is \$1,400,000.00. Mr. Klass would like to segregate the interest in the CDs into a separate account as he would like to move ASAP on Fisk Field. The topsoil alone will cost \$200,000.00. Ms. Lohrman was requested to check the rates of area banks for certificates of deposit without penalties for early withdraw. Ms. Lohrman was authorized to reinvest the funds into four CDs at the best available rate without a penalty. Motion by Mr. Klass. Second by Ms. Lilly.

4. Ms. Lohrman presented Council with three proposals from PSAB, Enter.net, and ClearEnd Business Solutions for the Borough's website and email services. Mr. Feinberg has reviewed the proposals and wishes to recommend the Borough approve the proposal from ClearEnd Business Solutions as he felt that the Borough would get better one-on-one service. Mr. McGowan questioned why the Borough needs a website. Mr. Klass felt the Borough could provide a better website. Motion by Mr. Reiss to accept the proposal from ClearEnd Business Solutions. Second by Mr. Schug. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Williams, Mr. Reiss, and Mr. Schug. A Negative vote was cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion carried by a six to one vote.

5. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the mold remediation project was scheduled to begin on May 23, 2007. It should be completed by May 25, 2007. Mr. Reiss would like to replace all the tiles in Council Chambers and keep addition tiles on hand. The roof appears to be leaking, but it is not clear if it is actually the roof or a problem with the air conditioning unit. Mr. McGowan suggested having Mr. Behler check the pan drain. Council agreed not to install the new tiles until the matter is resolved.

6. Ms. Lohrman informed the members of the Police Pension Board that the next meeting would be held via a conference call. She is in the process of setting up an agreeable time where members of the board can call a toll free number and access the meeting using a pass code. Ms. Lohrman will contact the board members after the details are worked out.

7. Ms. Lohrman reminded Council members that the next Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 11, 2007.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

#### FIRE:

1. Chief Collins reminded Council that the roof the fire bay has been leaking for 20 years and the ceiling continues to come down.

#### POLICE:

1. Ms. Lohrman will have Mr. Starniri contact Chief Nace regarding the interviews for the part-time officers.

2. Mr. Drake will be replacing the light at the entrance of the Police Department with an orange bulb. If that does not diminish the light, a shield will be added to the fixture.

#### PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Motion by Mr. Reiss to have Mr. Drake and the Public Works Committee review the bid for the street paving and if found acceptable the bid is approved. Second by Ms. Lilly.

2. Mr. Reiss has received a request to install a hand railing at the community center at the painted step. Mr. Behler will have the railing installed.

3. Ms. Lilly informed Council that the public restrooms in the municipal building are appalling. A discussion was held about having the restrooms opened up and putting in one large handicapped restroom. The traffic using the restrooms is a consideration. Mr. Drake will look into the matter.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass informed Council that a meeting had been held on Fisk field. It was very informative and the project is moving forward.
2. Pool passes were sold last weekend and will be sold again this weekend.
3. Mr. Klass commended the Public Works Department on the fabulous job they were doing on the wall at the pool.

SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. DeEsch requested the members of the Police Committee meet with him after the meeting.
2. Mr. DeEsch has completed the update of the Police Accreditation agreement. Motion by Mr. Reiss to approve the agreement. Second by Mr. Williams. Mr. Feinberg added that a letter of intent must be sent to the proper authorities along with a check in the amount of \$100.00. Mr. Feinberg will supply Ms. Lohrman with the information.
3. A Caucus was requested on a Police matter.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan updated Council on the upcoming MECAB tour in Lehigh County on May 30, 2007. The tour will begin at 8:45 a.m. in Coopersburg. The tour will include various business and highlights of Lehigh County. Lunch will be in Magungie and dinner will be in Coopersburg. Reservations will be taken by Ms. Lohrman.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Chief Nace has investigated several of the parking complaints at Allied Chiropractic. He has found that all the vehicles were legally parked. Mr. Corriere stated that the business has grown and more office hours and staff have been added. The request for the parking sign was denied.
2. Mr. McGowan felt that a blood drive could be held by the Borough. It could be held at the municipal building or the community center. Ms. Lohrman will contact the Miller Blood Bank for details.
3. Motion to approve the use of field request by the Soccer Association by Ms. Lilly. Second by Mr. Klass.
4. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that three engineers and two attorneys were working on the price of the sale of sewer capacity. Mr. Feinberg felt that the tapping fee the Borough charges also need to be updated. The Borough is currently charging \$300.00 while Easton, Palmer and Forks charge between \$2,500.00 and \$3,350.00.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that a variance had been granted to LA Fitness on the high of the building. Mr. Feinberg displayed the architectural drawing.
2. Mr. Reiss inquired about the status of the 2001 Ferry Street property. Mr. Corriere has sworn out an arrest for the property owner. The property is under agreement of sale, but the settlement date keeps being postponed. Mr. Behler will have the grass cut at the property.
3. Mr. Klass had recently seen the newspaper that some local municipalities are being paid large sums of money for recreation fees. Mr. Feinberg requested that Mr. Klass look into the matter.
4. Ms. Lilly expressed her concern on the Met-Ed letter concerning outdoor lighting. Ms. Lohrman will contact Met-Ed to see which lights are involved.
5. Ms. Lilly has heard that the office staff, but not Ms. Lohrman has been making payment arrangements on delinquent sewer accounts for certain people after Council has made a policy that no payment arrangements will be accept. Ms. Lohrman responded that she had only known about one and the water company had refused to turn off the water as a member of the family had health problems. Mr. DeEsch added that health reasons were an acceptable reason not to turn off the water. Ms. Lohrman stated that the homeowner had made regular payments on the account.
6. Mr. Schug inquired if the condition of the shrubbery had been discussed with Ms. Montgomery. Ms. Lohrman replied that it had, but it was not the responsibility of the construction company. Snow had been piled on top of the shrubs and salt was used on the parking lot where the shrubs were located.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1150 – Creditech, Inc. Collection Services. Motion to approve by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Williams.

**BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:**

Bills of \$135,169.52 were paid on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Ms. Lilly.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Ms. Lilly made a Motion to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. Second by Mr. Williams and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

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KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY