

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
NOVEMBER 13, 2006

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	Daneen McGinley
James McGowan	Ronald Nixon
Bob Reiss	David Schug
Louis Starniri	

ABSENT:

None

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the October 23, 2006 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Ms. Lilly.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. Mark Hartney appeared before Council to present a power point presentation on the Borough's Façade Design Challenge Grant Program. Mr. Hartney reviewed an overview of the program including: the purpose, who is eligible, the project area, how the project will be laid out, design standards, and the grading criteria. Mr. Hartney will notify Borough Council when the Façade seminar will be held.

2. Officer Potope presented Council information on the Mobile Data Terminal project. The police would like to install the MDTs in five vehicles, three cars and two SUVs. Most of the equipment can be purchased through COSTARS. The total cost estimate is \$64,355.00. The Borough already has received a grant from the Department of Justice in the amount of approximately \$20,000.00. Officer Potope would like to proceed to install the equipment in one vehicle as a test. Officer Potope has received a quote for the server from Ledet and Dell. Officer Potope was requested to get an additional quote as the equipment is over \$3,000.00 and will not be purchased on a state contract. Council requested feedback on how the equipment if working. Additional funds are available in the EMST account. Council requested that other grant options be evaluated. Motion to proceed with the project by Mr. Klass. Second by Mr. Starniri.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Ms. Lohrman reminded the Police Pension Board that the next meeting is on Wednesday, November 15, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. in the Fire Department.

2. Ms. Lohrman has received a letter from Donald Young, Owner of Young's Electric, requesting a refund of 2005 and 2006 BPT. Mr. Young's business is in Glendon and he should be paying WASD who collects for Glendon instead of Wilson Borough. Ms. Lohrman added that if Council approved a refund, Mr. Young would only be refunded ½ of the BPT as the other ½ was paid to the school district.

3. A letter was received from Nicholas Patti of 2123 Northampton Street concerning an ongoing problem with flooding in his basement. The Public Works Department has attempted to fix the problem several times, but the basement still is getting water. Mr. Drake responded that they have sealed the catch basin with concrete and tar several times. Mr. Patti believes that the problem exists with the 3-sided catch basin that was originally installed. Mr. Feinberg suggested performing a dye test on a dry day to see if the water is actually coming from the catch basin and not run-off from the driveway. Mr. Drake will perform the dye test.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso informed Council that the total fines collected by Magistrate Koury were \$9,473.48.

2. Mayor Perruso has received an Application for Handicapped parking from Suzann Kannapel of 837 Louis Street. Chief Nace has verified the information and approved the request. Motion to approve the handicapped parking sign by Mr. Reiss. Second by Mr. Starniri.

3. Mayor Perruso thanked Lisa Guth and the Wilson Civic Association for the fine job they did at the

Veteran's Day parade. It was one of the best parades that we've had.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received the 2007 contract from Northampton SPCA. The fee will be \$40.00 per domestic animal. The contract also removes private citizens in response to several requests from municipalities.
2. Mr. McGowan has received a draft of a program from Easton Suburban Water Authority establishing a Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control Program. The program would affect all industrial, commercial, and public water users by requiring them to use devices to be installed to prevent contaminants and polluted water from entering the water distribution system. Ms. Lohrman will have the information in the office for review.
3. Ms. Lohrman presented the information from PMHIC for the new 2 year contract for the dental and vision insurance for the employees. The increase in the premium for the dental insurance for the first year is 10% and for the vision insurance is 5.5%. The second year of the contract would not have an increase. Ms. Lohrman noted that the Borough could enhance the benefits on the dental insurance while reducing the premiums if the Borough would switch to one of the new plans. The enhancement would be the addition of Orthodontia. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to present the dental information to the bargaining units and allow them to determine the option they would like to have. Second by Mr. Starniri.
4. Ms. Lohrman reviewed a letter from PennDot concerning the 24th Street bridge inspections. The Borough can continue to have a PennDot appointed engineer perform the inspections and have the fee taken from the Liquid Fuels allocation or have the municipality's engineer initiate and complete the inspection of the bridge. Motion by Ms. McGinley to continue to have PennDot initiate the bridge inspections as they have in the past. Second by Mr. Starniri.
5. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that the last meeting of the year was scheduled on Christmas Day. Motion by Mr. Starniri to move the Council meeting to Monday, December 18, 2006. Second by Ms. Lilly.
6. Ms. Lohrman has received Supplemental Agreements from PennDot for the 24th Street bridge project. Motion by Ms. McGinley to have the proper parties execute the agreement. Second by Ms. Lilly.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

FIRE:

None

POLICE:

1. Chief Nace informed Council of the number of radios used by the Police department. The portable radios cost \$1,300.00 and the others cost \$2,200.00. Replacement batteries run \$100.00 a piece. The maintenance agreements and replacement batteries are reflected in the communications line item in the budget.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Mr. Klass commended the Public Works department on the fine job they did in paving Firmstone Street.
2. Mr. Drake informed Council that he is still waiting for the signs on S. 25th Street.
3. Ms. Lilly inquired as to whether the Borough could enforce the vehicular signs on Firmstone Street as it is not a dedicated street. Mr. Minotti responded in the affirmative. Mr. Drake will supply Mr. Minotti with a description of Firmstone Street.
4. Mayor Perruso inquired about the graffiti on the 24th Street bridge. Mr. Drake responded that he will take care of it in the morning.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Ms. Lilly requested Council's approval to allow Mr. Minotti to be involved in a Rec Board matter. The matter will be discussed in Caucus.

SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. Minotti has received the proposed deed for the property involved in the land swap with the Wilson Area School District. The land involved is a vacant lot owned by the Borough adjacent to the Lauer Middle School and the land owned by the school district where the Public Works garage is.

Motion by Mr. Starniri to have the appropriate officers execute the paperwork to complete the transfer of land. Second by Ms. Lilly.

2. Mr. Minotti has received an Assessment Appeal for the Butler Street shopping center. A reduction in the assessment was requested, but the county has upheld the assessment. Motion by Mr. Reiss to have Mr. Minotti involved in any appeals. Second by Mr. Starniri.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan reminded Council that the next MECAB meeting would be held in Coopersburg on November 29, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a train display at Borough hall.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Ms. McGinley inquired about the cost difference in the Northampton SPCA between a lump sum quarterly payment and being billed per animal. Mr. McGowan questioned the second paragraph of the cover letter regarding removing private citizens and suspected pet relinquishment. Mr. McGowan also questioned allowing trap-neuter-return within the municipality. The matter was deferred until the next Council meeting when Ms. Lohrman will supply the 2005 SPCA animal information.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that when the former Miz's Place reopens it will only be a restaurant as the liquor license as been sold.

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 1144 – Hazard Mitigation Plan – Lehigh Valley, PA July 2006. Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Schug.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$81,940.57 were paid on a Motion by Ms. McGinley. Second by Mr. Nixon.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. McGinley made a Motion to adjourn at 8:57 p.m. Second by Mr. Nixon and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.

KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY