

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
July 24, 2017

The Second Meeting of July 2017 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 Verenna called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

James McGowan
Louis Starniri
Tony Verenna
Daniel Schaffer

David Jones
Leonard Feinberg
Scott Palinkas
Russell Lipari

ABSENT:

Pamela Taylor

Also present were: Fire Chief Joseph Sipel, Police Chief Steven Parkansky, Solicitor Stanley Margle, Code Officer Paul Corriere and Director of Public Works Gregory Drake.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. McGowan to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2017 Council meeting. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved the minutes.

GUEST:

Mr. Charles McGarvey, physical education teacher at St. Jane's School, was present to request Council's permission to use Filbert Street, between 19th and 20th Streets for a one mile run. Dates requested are August 29th and 30th, September 5th and 6th. Rain dates if needed will be September 12th and 13th. Times will be from 8:00 am to 11:00 am and 12:15 pm to 1:45 pm each day. Mr. McGarvey has already provided the Borough with a certificate of liability coverage. Motion by Mr. Lipari to allow use of Filbert Street as requested. Second by Mr. McGowan. Council concurred.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Mr. Donald Barrett of 725 S. 23rd Street was present, representing the Wilson Midget Football Association. He advised Council that football games at Fisk Field will be starting within a month and expressed his desire to have the scoreboard up by the first or second week of September. Solicitor Margle reminded Mr. Barrett that the Borough is currently reviewing the proposed lease and waiting for Lamar's response to comments on said lease.

A member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church spoke about having a health fair on Washington Boulevard in August. Mr. Verenna advised the gentleman to put his request in writing and submit to the Borough Manager. Mr. Margle added that event insurance will be needed and every provider present will need to show proof to the Borough that they have special insurance for the day.

Mr. Adesh Oddesy of 1531 Washington Street spoke regarding improvements he has seen in the Borough. He commended Public Works on the street sweeping project and praised the Police for their interaction with the Borough residents. Mr. Verenna suggested Mr. Oddesy also use his position on the School Board to be able to meet with the children of the Borough and speak to them about community.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia read a letter from Ms. Pamela Taylor of the 1900 Block of Fairview Avenue requesting Council's permission to hold the Block's annual block party on August 26th from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm. She requested the block be swept and invited the Borough's Police and Firemen to join them for this event. Motion by Mr. Starniri to allow closure of the 1900 Block of Fairview Avenue for the annual Block Party. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council unanimously agreed, with Mr. Schaffer abstaining.

Ms. Garcia read a letter from Ms. Carol Kuhn of 818 Balata Street. Ms. Kuhn urged Council to consider banning bamboo in the Borough. She said it threatens sewer and gas lines and it is currently invading her yard from her neighbor's yard. She included an article from the Morning Call which mentioned various other municipalities that have taken action to ban bamboo. Motion by Mr. Starniri to have Solicitor Margle draft an ordinance regarding the use of bamboo in the Borough. Second by Mr. Feinberg and Council unanimously agreed.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Perruso relayed complaints he had received regarding smoking in Meuser Park. Mr. Drake will check into the ordinance covering parks, but said he believes all parks are non-smoking.

Mayor Perruso requested permission from Council to approve two handicap parking spots: Mr. Arnold Vargas of 130 S. 17th Street and Ms. Marcella Sos of 1631 Ferry Street. Motion by Mr. Starniri to approve the requested handicap parking spaces. Second by Mr. Feinberg. Council concurred.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia advised Council that the Fall PSAB Conference is being held October 13th through the 15th and requested Council's permission to send members who would like to attend. Motion by Mr. Lipari to allow members to attend the Fall PSAB Conference. Second by Mr. Palinkas. Council concurred.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

None

POLICE:

None

FIRE:

None

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Jones thanked Mr. Drake and his crew for an excellent job with the street sweeping project. Mr. Drake said they plan to seal the curbs next time. Mr. McGowan asked why something was not done with cars that did not obey the no parking signs. Solicitor Margle said that the Police cannot cite cars where temporary signs are used unless an ordinance is in place.

Motion by Mr. Feinberg to have Mr. Margle draft an ordinance to enforce temporary no parking signs for street sweeping. Second by Mr. Jones. Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Drake advised Council that the \$70,000 grant for the playground at the pool has been officially awarded and work should begin in the next few weeks.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Motion by Mr. Jones to hire Ronald Brunstetter and Steven Brunstetter for cleaning crew at the pool, pending required background checks. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council concurred.

Mr. Lipari said pool deposits to date are \$38,782 and there have been 7,284 people in attendance so far this summer. Ms. Brunstetter is doing an excellent job managing and there have been many positive comments.

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle told Council his office is making progress working on having the damaged utility poles in the Borough removed by their owners.

Mr. Margle will be advising Mr. Reibman, owner of the Dixie building that Council will need an update by the end of August or the beginning of September regarding the progress of his plans. Council may need to begin thinking of implementing deadlines.

Motion by Mr. Starniri to have Mr. Margle write a letter to Mr. Anthony Sortino of Midtown Abstract regarding his request to merge two parcels in the Borough (2101 Washington Boulevard and 315 S. 21st Street), noting Borough Council has no objections. Second by Mr. Feinberg. Council unanimously agreed.

COG:

None

MECAB:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

CAUCUS:

Council entered into Caucus at 7:40 pm and exited at 7:56 pm. The purpose of the Caucus was to discuss personnel matters.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$81,079.23 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Schaffer. Second by Mr. Starniri. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Feinberg made a Motion to adjourn at 7:58 pm. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council concurred.

JILL A. GARCIA
BOROUGH MANAGER