

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
November 13, 2017

The First Meeting of November 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  
Pamela Taylor

Russell Lipari  
Leonard Feinberg  
Scott Palinkas  
David Jones

ABSENT:

Daniel Schaffer

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 October 23, 2017 Council meeting. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council unanimously approved the minutes.

2018 BUDGET:

Ms. Garcia advised Council that after reviewing the proposed 2018 figures another time, a few changes were able to be made to increase revenue and reduce spending. Mr. Drake adjusted his street sweeping line item 01-430-085 from \$20,000 to \$10,000. Estimates were received for this service. Mr. Drake dropped line item 01-438-008 for the paving of Front Street, from \$60,000 to \$30,000. Any funds needed to complete this project will be taken from Liquid Fuels or CDBG funds. With these changes, the 2018 Budget has been balanced.

Motion by Mr. Feinberg to advertise the proposed 2018 Budget. Second by Mr. Starniri and Council unanimously agreed.

GUEST:

None

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Ms. Allyson Palinkas of 1518 Spring Garden Street was present representing the Wilson Youth Basketball Association. She requested permission for the WYBBA to hold a Vendor Event as a fund raiser at the Community Center on November 24<sup>th</sup>, with fees waived. Motion by Mr. Starniri to allow the event and waive fees. Second by Ms. Taylor. Council agreed with Mr. Palinkas abstaining.

Mr. Donald Barrett Jr of 725 S 23<sup>rd</sup> Street spoke for the Wilson Midget Football Association, requesting the lights at Fisk Field be turned on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for two more weeks. They will need access to the field house as well. He also apologized for a recent incident where the winterized bathrooms posted do not use, were used by one of the coaches.

Mr. Verenna took a moment to thank everyone who ran for office in the 2017 elections and to congratulate the winners.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

A request for a parking sign at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and Freemansburg Avenue from Ms. Rebecca Werner was tabled for a future meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

A parking sign request for an Acupuncture office at 150 S. 17<sup>th</sup> Street was tabled for a future meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia reported to Council that Beyer-Barber, administrator of the Police Pension Plan has inquired if Council would like to issue a 2% cost of living adjustment to the three current pension recipients. The COLA can be allowed with no adverse impact on the pension plan. Motion by Mr. Starniri to grant the 2% COLA. Second by Ms. Taylor and council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Corriere presented a property line adjustment request from Mrs. Mary Young of 2492 Front Street. Planning has approved and the plans can now be signed. Motion by Mr. Feinberg to approve the property line adjustment. Second by Mr. Starniri. Council concurred.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

Mr. Feinberg reported on the RCAP grant funding. The first round was missed and the second round never happened due to the State's budget issues. The Borough will submit an application next year if possible.

Mr. Feinberg said LIDL will most likely be opening its new store in June 2018.

POLICE:

Chief Parkansky spoke regarding the recent shooting of State Trooper Kelly. The suspect was taken into custody at Easton Hospital without incident. The Wilson Police Department did an excellent job and at no time was the public in danger. The Chief will be addressing an issue that arose with County Control.

FIRE:

None

PUBLIC WORKS:

None

PARKS AND RECREATION:

None

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle re-addressed a question from the last meeting regarding the issue of a Council Member sitting on the Library Board. Mr. Margle said he believes there is no ethical violation with a Council Member being a Library Trustee however the Council Member must abstain from any Council votes relating to Library Funding. Solicitor Spry who represents the Wilson Area School District will be issuing the same opinion.

Motion by Ms. Taylor to appoint Mr. Lipari to the Mary Meuser Library Board of Trustees. Second by Mr. Palinkas. Council agreed.

COG:

None

MECAB:

Mr. McGowan said the next meeting will be on November 29, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Catasauqua's new building.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Palinkas submitted Resolution #1230 in opposition to House Bill #1620. House Bill #1620 is known as the “Wireless Infrastructure Deployment” bill and would strip municipalities of their legal authority to regulate wireless facilities in the public rights of way. Motion by Mr. Palinkas to approve Resolution #1230. Second by Ms. Taylor and council concurred.

CAUCUS:

Council entered into Caucus at 7:31 pm and exited at 7:37 pm. The purpose of the Caucus was to discuss personnel matters.

Motion by Mr. Feinberg to offer conditional full time employment as a Wilson Borough Fire Fighter to Mr. Justin Purdy, pending psychological and physical exams and background checks. Second by Ms. Taylor and council unanimously agreed.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$499,612.25 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Feinberg. The bills were paid by a unanimous vote of Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Feinberg made a Motion to adjourn at 7:41 pm. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

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JILL A. GARCIA  
BOROUGH MANAGER