The second meeting of January 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        Justin Woodring
Scott Palinkas       Tony Verenna
John Burke           Pam Taylor

ABSENT: David Jones, Russell Lipari and Jeffrey Bracken

Also present were: Police Chief Christian Meehan, Solicitor Stanley Margle, Code Officer Paul Corriere, Code Officer Emanuel Machado, Borough Manager Jill Garcia, Fire Chief Joseph Sipel and Supervisor of Public Works Eric Flowers.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. McGowan to approve Council meeting minutes from the January 13, 2020 meeting with corrections. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

CAUCUS:

Council entered a caucus at 7:08 pm. Motion made by Mr. Burke to go into caucus. Second by Ms. Taylor. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Council returned from caucus at 8:12. Motion made by Mr. Burke to return from caucus. Second by Ms. Taylor. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

The purpose of this Caucus was to discuss issues involving land sale or purchase as well as matters involving pending litigation.

A motion made by Mr. McGowan to allow Solicitor Margle to negotiate sale of certain Borough owned property if the same can be accomplished within the parameters of applicable law. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

A motion made by Mr. Verenna to authorize the Solicitor to further communicate with the applicant’s counsel relative to the draft of an agreement with certain conditions and with continued efforts to discuss and resolve the pending appeal that was filed by the applicant and to do so in a manner consistent with the best interest of the Borough. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett administered the Junior Council person Oath to Mr. Steven Lambert.
COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

NOBE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:
NONE

POLICE:
NONE

FIRE:
NONE

PUBLIC WORKS:
Mr. Flowers advised pool demolition continues.

PARKS AND RECREATION:
Mr. Burke reminded everyone that the 2020 Celebration Committee is hosting a comedy night on Saturday, February 1, 2020.

Mr. Burke advised the Wilson Borough Lions Club donated $3,000 to the 2020 Celebration Committee.

CODE:
NONE

ATTORNEY:
Solicitor Margle advised that as a result of certain activity that was brought to the attention of Mayor Barrett, Borough Council members and the Solicitor’s office, Council is taking a very close look at actions and activity in and around the Dixie building. The Solicitor reported he previously met with the general partners’ representative, Joseph Reibman. Solicitor Margle advised it was a productive meeting at which time they discussed the manner in which the Borough wants to insure that all activities inside and outside of the building, specifically the parking lot, are preceded by the proper applications if necessary, the issuance of proper permits and any formal approvals by either the Zoning Board or Borough Council. Any violations of the Borough’s Ordinances or Zoning Code will be promptly brought to the Solicitor’s, Borough Code Enforcement Officer’s and Borough Council’s attention to take immediate and aggressive action to ensure that the potentially illegal or dangerous activity stops. There are pending violations before the Magistrate that have been continued for approximately twenty days and will be consolidated to save money. The Borough is in active negotiations to resolve the pending violations however, the Borough will not do so without receiving certain concessions which include the improvement of certain areas of the building and addressing remediation of dangerous conditions, if in fact they exist at the Dixie building. Solicitor Margle assured Borough Council and Wilson Borough citizens that this issue is, was and will be a priority at his office.

COG:
NONE

MECAB:
Next meeting is January 29, 2020 in Catasauqua.

OLD BUSINESS:
Mayor Barrett advised the State of the Borough address will be published in the next few days.

NEW BUSINESS:
NONE

ORDINANCES:
NONE
RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of $281,399.04. A motion by Ms. Taylor to approve the bills. Second by Ms. Taylor. Council unanimously approved. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Taylor made a Motion to adjourn at 8:26 pm. Second by Mr. Burke and Council concurred.

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STEPHANIE N. JONES
BOROUGH CLERK/TREASUER