

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
January 11, 2021

The first meeting of January of the Council of The Borough of Wilson was held virtually via Zoom. President Verenna called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

Justin Woodring	John Burke	Russell Lipari
Scott Palinkas	James McGowan	David Jones
Tony Verenna	Jeffrey Bracken	

ABSENT: Pamela Taylor

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. McGowan to approves Council Meeting minutes from December 28, 2020. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Jones, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

GUEST:

Mr. Joe Rohrman - Waste Management residential route manager, Mr. Ed Brown - Waste Management District Manager and Mr. Tom Stang - Waste Management contract manager attended the meeting to address any concerns Council or residents may have about the garbage and recycle pickup.

Ms. Victoria Lennox of 836 Louis St advised her recycling was miss three times in two months. Mr. Rohrman advised he will investigate the issue. Ms. Lennox was advised by council to send her records of any correspondence she had with the Waste Management call center.

Council President, Mr. Verenna asked that Waste Management instruct their drivers to please pick up any trash that may fall out of the truck.

Mr. Russel Benner and Mr. Robert Koochagian of T&M Associates advised Council of the next steps for Meuser Pool. Phase 1 will cost \$206,960 and will include design services up to the bidding process. Phase 2 will cost \$114,000 and includes the construction, bidding and administrative costs.

President Verenna asked if it would be advisable to table the issue until the next Council meeting to review the information received this evening. Solicitor Margle suggested in light of the significant financial commitment involved in Phase 1, he would like to have Council in a position where they have thought about the finances now rather than later. This is a decision Council has to make knowing all the facts, terms and risks.

Ms. Garcia advised Council in order for the Borough to receive grants, it is helpful to have Phase 1 approved and implemented. Ms. Garcia advised there is money in the pool account that can pay for Phase 1 but recommended to Council to think about what the Borough's revenue stream will be after Phase 1 is completed; having lost Easton Hospital tax revenue of approximately \$300,000 per year.

A motion made by Mr. Lipari to approve the proposal on Phase 1. Second by Mr. Jones. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Jones, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 7-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Liz Deemer requested permission to host a Girl Scout Cookie sale by the steps at Meuser Park. A Motion by Mr. Lipari to approve pending approval from the Girl Scouts of American for in person sales. Second by Mr. Buke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Jones, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

NONE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan requested approval for a handicap application at 1951 Fairview Ave. Chief Meehan advised there all currently two handicap spots located on Fairview Ave. No motion was made.

FIRE:

Chief Sipel requested Council's permission to hire two call Fire Fighters, Mr. Caleb Messinger and Mr. Doug Cochran. A motion to approve made by Mr. Jones. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Jones, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

PUBLIC WORKS:

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

NONE

2020 COMMITTEE:

Mr. Burke advised the ornament sale in December was postponed due to a snowstorm.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION

NONE

CODE DEPARTMENT

NONE

ATTORNEY:

NONE

COG:

NONE

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

A motion to approve Ordinance #800 for advertising made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Jones, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Burke and Mr. McGowan. Motion passed with an 6-2 vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to approve Resolution #1251 made by Mr. Burke. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Jones, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion passed with an 7-1 vote.

CAUCUS:

Council entered a caucus at 8:32 pm and ended caucus at 8:45 pm.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$397,740.71. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Burke. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Jones, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Burke made a Motion to adjourn at 8:59 pm. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
BOROUGH CLERK/TREASUER