

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
April 11, 2022

The first meeting of April of the Council of The Borough of Wilson was held in person at the Strausser Community Center. Council President John Burke called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

John Burke	Justin Woodring	Shaun Gable
Kurt Snyder	Tony Verenna	Russell Lipari
Jeffrey Bracken	Scott Palinkas	James McGowan

ABSENT:

NONE

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Ms. Gable to approve the Meeting minutes from March 28, 2022. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Verenna. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

GUEST:

Mr. Daniel Redington, Director of the Mary Meuser Library invited all Council members to a reception in memory of the late Janice Beck. The reception will be held on May 15, 2022, at 2:00 pm in the library annex.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia advised St. Jane's School requested permission to close Filbert Street between 19th and 20th Streets for their annual Hawk Walk. A motion to approve made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Ms. Gable. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised she received an application for the vacant seat on the Planning Commission from Armando Moritz-Chapelliquen. Council would like to have the applicant come to the next Council meeting to discuss his application and qualifications.

Mr. Snyder suggest seeing and meeting the prospective Board and or Commission applicants to make sure they are suitable. Mr. Snyder made a motion to interview all prospective members of Borough Boards and Commissions, at the Council's discretion. Second by Mr. Bracken. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Mr. Lipari and Mr. Verenna. Motion passed with a 7-2 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett thanked the Wilson Borough Lions Club, Celebration Committee and Public Works for all of their help with the Easter Egg hunt.

Mayor Barrett advised an application for a handicap parking spot was received from Ms. Ann Hare of 810 Miller Street. Chief Meehan advised she does have off street parking; however, the front of her home is in closer proximity to the door. A motion made by Mr. Lipari to approve. Second by Mr. Snyder. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

Mayor Barrett advised an application for a handicap parking spot was received from Richard & Louise Angstadt of 1543 Lehigh Street, Apt 4. Chief Meehan advised they meet all the requirements. A motion to approve made by Mr. Snyder. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia requested Council choose a voting delegate for the upcoming PSAB conference. A motion made by Mr. Snyder to appoint Mr. Palinkas as the voting delegate. Second by Ms. Gable. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 9-0 vote. No alternate was chosen as Mr. McGowan stated he will not be attending this year.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

NONE

FIRE:

Chief Sipel requested Council's permission to hire call fire fighter Blake McGlinch. A motion to approve made by Ms. Gable. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

Chief Sipel advised the new ladder truck is in Hatfield getting tools mounted. Training on the new truck will be April 21, 22 & 23, 2022.

PUBLIC WORKS:

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

NONE

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

The Celebration Committee will be holding a Spring Community Yard Sale at Meuser Park on May 14, 2022, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The Celebration Committee will be hosting Movies in the Park on the evening of May 14, 2022.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Solicitor Margle advised he will be looking into the parameters required to use the \$40,000 received from Lamar for a score board.

The Athletic Commission will hold its next meeting April 21, 2022, at 6:00 pm, in the Avona Field house, to discuss building maintenance.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

NONE

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Meehan and Ms. Garcia had a meeting with the Borough Engineers to discuss the new Police Station and Administration Building. After their discussion, it was determined that the Balata Street building would be a better fit based on finances and square footage. A motion made by Mr. Lipari to move ahead with the purchase of the Balata Street property. Second by Mr. Bracken. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

A motion made by Ms. Gable to allow Ms. Garcia to contact the Engineers and Finance Company and discuss next steps for the Police Station and Administration building. Second by Mr. Bracken. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Mc Gowan. Motion passed with an 8-1 vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Barrett received a written request from the Wilson Borough Lions Club to move the car show from Washington Boulevard to Meuser Park on August 6, 2022. Council had no issues with the change of venue as long as the park is available.

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to approve Palmer Township Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Central Interceptor Resolution #1268 made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. McGowan. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Ms. Panama Crozier of 2042 Forest Street, Rear questioned the Ordinance pertaining to parking in front of a person's own garage. Ms. Crozier's daughter was parked in front of her garage and was told by Wilson Public Works that she cannot park there. Chief Meehan advised that as long as her tires are not outside of the apron of her garage there is no issue.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$216,425.55. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

CAUCUS:

Council entered into Caucus at 8:21 pm and returned from Caucus at 8:42 pm.

Solicitor Margle advised matters pertaining to pending litigation and others as allowed by the Sunshine Act were discussed in caucus.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Second by Mr. Snyder and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
BOROUGH CLERK/TREASURER