

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
May 23, 2022

The second meeting of May 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	Russell Lipari	James McGowan
Jeffrey Bracken	Tony Verenna	

ABSENT:

Scott Palinkas

Also present were Solicitor Stanley Margle, Borough Manager Jill Garcia, Chief of Police 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 approve the Meeting minutes from May 9, 2022. Second by Mr. Woodring. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia read a letter from Mr. & Mrs. Roger Connors referencing tractor trailer traffic on Ferry Street specifically near their rental property at 1635 Ferry Street. Mr. & Mrs. Connors advised the tractor trailers drive the wrong way on the road as well as damaged curbs while trying to turn. Mr. & Mrs. Connors believe these trailers are following GPS leading them in the wrong direction. Chief Meehan suggested putting a sign up that will deter tractor trailers from entering.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett advised he hosted a picnic for all Office staff, Council, Police, Fire and Public Works employees at the small pavilion in Meuser park on Sunday, May 15, 2022. Mayor Barrett plans to hold one next year as well.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia requested Council's approval to go out for bids on the mill and overlay of S. 16th St. A motion made by Mr. Verenna to approve. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia requested Council's approval to go out for bids on the mill and overlay of Ferry and 19th Streets. A motion made by Mr. Verenna to approve. Second by Mr. Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia requested Council make a motion to accept the high bid on the sale of the 2003 ladder truck. Highest bid was \$4,250. 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. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan requested Council's permission to hire part-time Officer, Jonathan Miller pending Physical. 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. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

FIRE:

NONE

PUBLIC WORKS:

A motion made by Mr. Verenna to accept the resignation of employee #0009. Second by Mr. Snyder. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

A motion made by Mr. Lipari authorizing the advertisement of an open position in Public Works. Second by Ms. Gable. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Snyder. Motion passed with a 7-1 vote.

A motion to hire a second summer help employee made by Mr. Bracken. Second by Ms. Gable. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

NONE

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Burke advised the community yard sale was a success and they are looking forward to having one next year. The movie in the park was moved into the community center due to the weather but there will be more scheduled this summer.

Mr. Burke advised of a comedy night fundraiser for the Celebration Committee on July 16, 2022, at Brown and Lynch.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Mr. Burke advised the by-laws should be completed by the summer.

A motion to approve a football camp hosted by the Royal Football League and Wilson Football Association on June 10-12, 2022, made by Mr. Woodring. Second by Ms. Gable. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Mr. McGowan and Mr. Verenna. Motion passed with an 6-2 vote.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised he was in receipt of a resignation from Mr. Armando Moritz-Chapelliquen. His resignation will be from the Planning Commission. A motion to accept the resignation made by Ms. Gable. Second by Mr. Snyder. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Lipari motioned to move Council meetings back to Council chambers starting with the first scheduled Council meeting for June which will be June 13, 2022. Second by Mr. Bracken. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Mr. Snyder Motion passed with an 7-1 vote.

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Ms. Joy Sung of 2144 Freemansburg Ave. received a letter from the Code Officer referencing Ordinance #441 regarding sidewalks. Ms. Sung's property has bushes which are overgrown and covering a sidewalk. Ms. Sung advised she has lived at the property for eighteen years and never had a sidewalk. She cleared the bushes from the street up to the curb. Mr. Bracken asked if we could make an exception due to the length of time. Solicitor Margle advise it is still a violation of an Ordinance however, she has a right to be heard by a judge.

Ms. Panama Crozier of 2042 Forest St. - Rear stated that there are a lot of unmaintained properties in the Borough and questioned how the Code Department addresses them. Solicitor Margle advised they are addressed when the Code office receives a complaint, or it is noticed.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$149,771.99 A motion to approve the bills made Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Bracken. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

CAUCUS:

Council entered Caucus at 8:31 pm and returned from Caucus at 8:52 pm.

A motion by Mr. Verenna to allow Solicitor Margle finalize a settlement with the Hillis Group. Second by Mr. Snyder. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 7-0 vote.

A motion made by Mr. Verenna to begin negotiations only on the Balata Street property. Second by Mr. Bracken. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 7-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

STEPHANIE N. JONES
BOROUGH CLERK/TREASUER