

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
May 9, 2022

The first 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	Scott Palinkas	

ABSENT:

Tony Verenna

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 April 25, 2022. 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, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett advised he will be hosting 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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia requested that Council approve Civil Service changes. A motion by Ms. Gable 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. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised she received the bids for mill and overlay of Balata, 4th and 2nd Streets. Recommendation of award is to GoreCon Inc. with bid coming in the lowest at \$182,169.99. A motion to approve the bid 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, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised T&M Engineers began Phase 1 at the 1350 Balata Street building, the new location of the Police and Administration Building.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan reported the salary change language of part-time Police Officers should be completed this week.

FIRE:

NONE

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Flowers and Mr. Bracken held a meeting with the Linde Corporation and discussed the issues with the street repairs after UGI completes the gas line upgrades. Linde Corporation advised they will repair issues with temporary patches and make sure future patches are as level as possible. Linde Corporation will also have a street sweeper go through the areas they worked on to pick up debris.

PARKS:

Mr. Burke advised a meeting was held prior to the Council meeting.

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:

NONE

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

NONE

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

A motion to approve Ordinance #807 – Quality of Life 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, and Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Mr. Palinkas and Mr. Snyder Motion passed with an 6-2 vote.

A motion to approve Ordinance #808 – LERTA by Mr. Palinkas. 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, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Mr. Armando Moritz-Chapelliquen of 1945 Lehigh St. expressed concern regarding a LERTA and the possibility of warehousing in the Dixie Building.

Ms. Stephanie Douvier of 2414 Freemansburg Ave. wanted to thank the Police Officer that drove by Wilden Park and made sure her granddaughter was ok. She also requested Council investigate upgrading the Wilden Park equipment.

Mr. Joe Balamente 2234 Fairview Ave. expressed concern regarding the possible increase in noise and pollution for the potential buyers of the Dixie Building, since he lives so close.

Mr. Lenny Behler of 1946 Ferry St. thanked everyone for approving the updated Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$45,271.88 A motion to approve the bills made 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, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

CAUCUS:

Council entered Caucus at 7:59 pm and returned from Caucus at 8:46 pm.

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

A motion to send a 15 day notice letter to a certain committee member made Ms. Gable. Second by Mr. Bracken. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, and Mr. Palinkas. No votes cast by Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 5-3 vote.

A motion to authorize Solicitor Margle to submit financial positions, including futures to another party by Mr. Snyder. Second by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring cast votes. No votes were cast by Mr. McGowan. Motion passes with a 7-1 vote.

A motion to dismiss employee #00009 by Mr. Snyder. Second by Mr. Palinkas. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes were cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder. No votes cast by Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan and Mr. Woodring. Vote was tied 4-4. Mayor Barrett broke the tie by voting no. Motion denied.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

STEPHANIE N. JONES
BOROUGH CLERK/TREASURER