

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
July 11, 2022

The first meeting of July of the Council of The Borough of Wilson was held in the Guy B. Tomaino Public Safety Building at 2040 Hay Terrace, Easton, PA. Council President John Burke called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

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

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 Mr. McGowan to approve the Meeting minutes from June 27, 2022. Second by Ms. Woodring. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from the Avona Volunteer Fire Co. to close Balata St. from the intersection of Front and Balata Streets back to the alleyway for their annual picnic. A motion to approve made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Lipari. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Burke expressed his condolences to anyone that attended the Heritage Day celebration and experienced the crisis that ensued.

Mr. Burke advised Council members to attend the next Northampton County Council meeting. A motion made by Mr. Woodring to have no more than three Council members attend the next Northampton County Council meeting on July 21, 2022. Second by Mr. Snyder. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia requested Council's permission to accept the low bid from Bracalente to complete the mill and overlay of S. 16th St. A motion to approve by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Snyder. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised Council the Lion's car show has been moved from Washington Blvd. to Meuser Park. A motion to allow the Lion's Car show to use Meuser Park and waive all fees made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Snyder. Yes votes cast by Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Mr. Bracken and Ms. Gable Motion passed with a 6-2 vote. Mr. Burke abstained.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

Mr. Woodring advised the committee will be meeting soon to start discussions on the Comprehensive Plan.

POLICE:

Chief Meehan requested Council's permission to make a conditional offer of employment to Mr. Frank Kirschner to fill the full time Police Officer position pending background investigation. A motion to approve by Ms. Gable. Second by Mr. Lipari. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

FIRE:

Chief Sipel requested Council's permission to promote Mr. Adam Emsweller to Lieutenant. A motion to approve by Ms. Gable. Second by Mr. Snyder. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

PUBLIC WORKS:

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

Next meeting will be held on August 8, 2022, at 6 pm in Council Chambers.

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

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

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Mr. Burke advised Council that all the old trophies have been cleared out of the Avona Fieldhouse.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

Code Officer Machado advised there will be a Zoning hearing on July 26, 2022. Taco Bell, located at 2420 Northampton St. is requesting to add a second drive thru.

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle suggested Northampton County Council may not be completely informed about the LERTA for the Dixie Building. He suggested Borough residents appear at the next meeting on July 21, 2022, as a show of support.

Solicitor Margle advised he met with Attorney Nitchkey, Code Officer Machado, and Borough Manager Garcia to discuss streamlining the process for citations and violations.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Mr. Rod Nace of 807 Balata St. would like Council to investigate hometown hero banners. Solicitor Margle advised most of the poles in the Borough are owned by utility companies and need special permits to attach banners to the poles. Solicitor Margle asked Mr. Nace to acquire additional information for Council.

Ms. Annelle DiSanto expressed her concern for the closing of Meuser pool, however after listening to a Council meeting and reasoning behind the closure she understands.

Ms. Margaret Paschal of 1504 Washington Street expressed her concern for the letters residents received in reference to the temporary pools.

Ms. Pamela Silverman of 1552 Ferry St. expressed concern over the letter she received about her temporary pool. Solicitor Margle advised she needs to speak to the Code Officer and discuss what her next steps are to be compliant with the Code.

Ms. Mary Haverstock of 2316 3rd St. expressed concern about the condemned property directly behind her home at 2319 2nd St. She stated it is a mess and the grass is seventeen inches high. Council advised Ms. Haverstock that the property is still in possession of the owner and public works does take care of the grass when she calls.

Mr. Jeremy Whyte of 1841 Washington Blvd. asked if the Borough could plant street trees. Council advised the property owner may plant a street tree but must apply for a permit.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$160,456.63 A motion to approve the bills made Mr. Verenna. Second by Ms. Gable. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

CAUCUS:

NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Verenna made a Motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Second by Ms. Gable and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
BOROUGH CLERK/TREASURER