

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
September 26, 2022

The second meeting of September 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	Russell Lipari
James McGowan	Tony Verenna	

ABSENT:

Jeffrey Bracken

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 September 12, 2022. Second by Ms. Gable. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Burke suggested making changes to the Civil Service requirements when hiring Police Officers. Chief Meehan advised he is working on changes and should have them for the next Council meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett advised the Hometown Hero banners will need to be scaled down to 18x36 inches since the poles being used are aluminum. Formal launch of the banners is expected to be on Veterans' Day and starting next year the banners will be up beginning Memorial Day along Washington Blvd.

Mayor Barrett advised the new Christmas tree was purchased. The tree is 14 feet and Mayor expects to grow the tree 4-8 feet per year.

Mayor Barrett advised he had an application for a handicap parking spot at 1822 Hay Terrace. It meets all the requirements. A motion made by Mr. Snyder to approve. Second by Mr. Woodring. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia advised that the 2023 Certifications of the minimum municipal obligations are approximately \$23,000 for the Fire Department, approximately \$43,000 for non-uniformed employees and approximately \$121,000 for Police Pensions. Ms. Garcia advised 90% of the obligations are covered by state aid. A motion by Mr. Verenna to approve. Second by Mr. Snyder. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia reported that the RFP for trash and recycling is near completion. Ms. Garcia requested Council's opinion if they will accept proposals from separate haulers, one for trash and another for recycle. A motion to approve by Mr. Verenna. Second by Ms. Gable. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan advised of monthly statistics; 3 criminal arrests, 1 drug, 1 burglary and 1 assault. Police were dispatched to 824 Calls, 49 traffic citations, 386 parking tickets.

FIRE:

Chief Sipel thanked the Highway department for helping take a vehicle for service.

PUBLIC WORKS:

NONE

PARKS:

The parks committee is currently looking into adding splash pads to the parks.

CODE COMMITTEE:

Next meeting will be held at 6 pm on October 10, 2022, in Council Chambers.

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Burke advised that the Fall Fest will be held at Meuser Park on October 13th – 15th. He requested that anyone who may be interested in helping, please sign the volunteer list at celebratewilson.org.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

NONE

CODE DEPARTMENT:

Zoning hearing will be held on September 27, 2022, at 7 pm, for 1601 Lehigh Street and 1639 Butler Street.

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised he received a demand to repeal our LERTA adopted in May 2022, from Northampton County Council. Solicitor Margle reached out the County Council to inquire as to why repealing it is necessary and has received no response.

Solicitor Margle also advised that he was told by County Council to reach out for help with the development of the Dixie Building or the area the LERTA has been approved for. Solicitor Margle advised he did reach out to County Council and has yet to receive a response, six weeks later.

Solicitor Margle requested Council's permission to advertise Ordinance # 809. A motion to approve advertisement of Ordinance # 809 Stormwater Management made by Mr. Snyder. Second by Mr. Verenna. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Palinkas. Motion passed with a 7-1 vote.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to approve Resolution #1270 – LSA Grant for Playground Equipment made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Verenna. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Mr. Ken Williams of 2220 4th St. – Speeding issue, referred to Chief Meehan.

Mr. Rod Nace of 807 Balta St. – Trash/Recycling issue, the trash and or recycle is being left behind in the roadways. Garbage men are not picking up what they drop.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$181,273.69 A motion to approve the bills made Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Verenna. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

CAUCUS:

Motion by Mr. Palinkas to enter Caucus. Second by Mr. Lipari. Council concurred

Council entered Caucus at 7:45 pm.
Council Meeting resumed at 8:20 pm.

Caucus was to discuss personnel and real estate issues as permitted by the open meetings law.

Motion by Ms. Gable to accept the resignation of Employee #75. Second by Mr. Snyder. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Motion to advertise Public Works vacancy made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Lipari. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Snyder. Motion passed with an 7-1 vote.

Motion to allow Solicitor Margle to draft a conditional proposal on a certain property made by Mr. Snyder. Second by Ms. Gable. Roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Palinkas and Mr. Snyder. Motion passed with an 6-2 vote

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Verenna made a Motion to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

JILL A. GARCIA
MANAGER/SECRETARY