

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
January 23, 2023

The second meeting of January 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:

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

ABSENT:

Kurt Snyder

Also present were Solicitor Stanley Margle, Borough Manager Jill Garcia, Chief of Police Christian Meehan, Fire Chief Joseph Sipel, and Supervisor of Public Works Eric Flowers.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

A motion by Mr. McGowan to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2023 meeting. Second by Mr. Lipari. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna 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 received an application for a handicap parking spot at 932 S. 24<sup>th</sup> St. and it meets all the required criteria. A motion from Mr. Lipari to approve the handicap parking spot. Second by Mr. Verenna. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Mr. Verenna asked Ms. Garcia how LMR Disposal has been doing since they started. Ms. Garcia advised LMR is doing great, and the office has had very few issues since the first week they started.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan advised he will be meeting with the Civil Service Commission on January 25, 2023, to establish a new hire list. A motion to allow Chief Meehan to make a conditional offer to the first applicant on the list. Mr. Lipari made a motion to approve the conditional offer. Second by Ms. Gable. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Chief Meehan requested Council's permission to allow Detective Whitney Peterson to join the Northampton County Human Smuggling task force; any overtime will be repaid by Northampton County. A motion to approve made by Mr. Woodring. Second by Ms. Gable. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

FIRE:

NONE

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Bracken thanked Mr. Flowers and his crew for cleaning up the bike path. There is also a two-inch conduit causing some issues that he would like Public Works to investigate.

A motion made by Mr. Bracken to have Mr. Flowers remove the chained cat boxes that are located on the bike path. Second by Mr. Verenna. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Mr. Verenna asked Mr. Flowers how filling in the pool is going. Mr. Flowers advised Public Works has received about eight to ten loads of clean fill.

Mr. Flowers advised the area of Lehigh Dr. by the culvert has been changed to a 1 lane bridge to reduce the amount of traffic going over it.

PARKS:

Mr. Burke advised Ms. Gable will coordinate with Borough Manager to develop a plan for splash pads in the Borough.

Mr. Burke advised the Parks Committee is looking into a summer program for kids, i.e. sports camp or tournaments.

CODE COMMITTEE:

NONE

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

New registration forms for the 2023 Borough fall fest are now available on the website [www.boroughfallfest.org](http://www.boroughfallfest.org).

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Ms. Garcia advised she received a letter of interest from Mr. Robert Stout, to join the Athletic Commission. A motion by Mr. Verenna to accept his letter. Second by Mr. Bracken. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Mr. Verenna questioned what happened to the by-laws that were created in 2022 when the Athletic Commission was started and why they are not being used. Discussion tabled until the next Council meeting.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised there is a new applicant for the use of the old Pfizer plant. Estimated 1 million square foot single use tenant, low impact and low volume employment.

A motion to authorize Solicitor Margle to reach out to Northampton County Council and advise them of the project made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Woodring. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

A motion to authorize Mr. Burke to attend meetings with Borough Manager, Solicitor and Zoning Officer Monica Wall made by Ms. Gable. Second by Mr. Woodring. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Verenna asked Ms. Jones for a report on the status of the late sewer and garbage bills are. Ms. Jones advised there are currently 72 customers and \$64,579.71 that are currently at the shut off status.

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Mr. Charlie Wacik of 1532 Washington St. had questions about the Athletic Commissions funds.

Ms. Panama Crozier of 2042 Forest St. advised of a safety concern for kids crossing Butler St at 21<sup>st</sup> St. She stated even with a crossing guard it is very treacherous.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$452,884.40. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Ms. Gable. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

CAUCUS:

Entered Caucus 8:30 pm

Exited Caucus at 8:45 pm

Caucus was to discuss employee relations and potential litigation.

A motion to authorize the Chief of Police and Borough Solicitor to draft a contract to help with personnel issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Verenna made a Motion to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Second by Ms. Gable and Council concurred.

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STEPHANIE N. JONES  
CLERK/TREASURER