

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
January 9, 2023

The first 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 – via phone
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 December 12, 2022, meeting. Second by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. 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 made by Mr. McGowan to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2022, meeting. Second by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. 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 addressed the residents about the change in garbage and recycling hauler and advised them the change was not a Borough Office or Borough Council decision. The previous hauler did not renew our contract and Council had to place the services out for bid. The first round of bidding no one submitted a bid and therefore Council was required to place a second request for proposals. The Borough received three proposals and Council decided to accept the lowest bid. Mayor Barrett also advised a disgruntled resident came into the Borough offices and began yelling at office staff. The police had to escort the resident off the premises. Mayor Barrett advised residents to please treat the office staff with respect.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia advised the Borough received 3 bids for the mill and overlay of Spring Garden and North 16th Streets. Capital Paving and Contracting LLC came in at \$158,582; Graver Industries DBA: Barker & Barker came in at \$194,237; Kobalt Construction came in at \$343,868. T&M recommended that the Borough award the project to Capital Paving and Contracting, LLC for the base bid amount of \$158,582.00.

A motion to accept the bid of \$158,582 from Capital Paving and Contracting LLC made 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 and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan advised the department co-applied with the City of Easton for grants and was awarded \$310,000 that will go towards the purchase of new radios and license plate readers.

FIRE:

NONE

PUBLIC WORKS:

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

NONE

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Next meeting will be held January 12, 2023, at the Community Center at 6:30 pm.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

The Commission is still seeking members of the public to join. Please send letter of intent to the Borough Manager.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised Council he was contacted by J. P. Mascaro's in house Council requesting to review the bids received by the Borough for Trash & Recycling services.

Solicitor Margle advised Council he is seeking a court date to determine if a Conservancy will be granted regarding the Dixie Building.

Solicitor Margle advised Council the title search on property for new Municipal building has begun.

A motion to renew Attorney Margle as Borough Solicitor at the same rate made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Verenna. Motion passed with a 7-1 vote.

Amendment to the minutes – Mr. Verenna made a motion to increase to Solicitor Margle's hourly rate. Solicitor Margle decline the increase.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

NONE

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$144,426.58. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. McGowan. A roll call vote followed. 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 7:28 pm

Exited Caucus at 7:55 pm

Caucus was to discuss employee relations.

A motion by Mr. Lipari to authorize the Police Chief, Borough Solicitor and Borough Manager to discuss recruitment and retention of Police Officers. Second by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. 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.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 7:59 pm. Second by Mr. Woodring and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
CLERK/TREASURER