

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
February 13, 2023

The first meeting of February 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 with corrections from the January 23, 2023, 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:

Attorney Brian Panella introduced himself to Borough Council and community members in the audience. He is currently seeking the position of Judge of the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas.

Mr. Daniel Redington of the Mary Mueser Library requested use of the large pavilion on May 20, 2023, with a rain date of May 21, 2023, and also waiving the non-profit fee of \$25, for the Wilson High School Band to use while performing a concert in the park. A motion to approve made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. McGowan. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Mr. Bracken and Mr. Verenna. Motion passed with a 6-2 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from Senator Boscola's Office for use of the Community Center on April 28, 2023 for a Senior Fair. A motion to approve made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes case by Mr. Bracken, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Wooding. No votes cast by Mr. Burke and Mr. Lipari. Motion passed with a 6-2 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

NONE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan requested permission to make a conditional offer, pending background investigation, to hire Mr. William Schumann as a part-time Police Officer. A motion to approve 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, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

FIRE:

Chief Sipel requested permission to hire Mr. David Kemmerer as a part-time fire fighter. A motion to approve made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Verenna. 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.

PUBLIC WORKS:

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

Next meeting will be held on April 10, 2023, at 6pm in Council chambers.

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Burke advised the Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 8, 2023 and the Community Yard Sale will be held on May 20, 2022 from 8 am to 12 pm.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Ms. Garcia advised she received a letter of interest from Mr. Michael Shannon to continue to serve on the Athletic Commission. A motion to approve made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr., Woodring. 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.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Verenna made a motion to allow the office staff to use the Code cars for Borough Business. 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.

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised three individuals submitted letters of interest to join the Planning Commission. Mr. Charlie Wacik, Mr. Frederick Boettinger, and Ms. Donna "Pic" Schoenek. A motion to appoint Ms. Schoenek. Second by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Ms. Gable and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 6-2 vote. Ms. Gable advised she voted no due to Council not having the applicants appear before Council to be interviewed.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Verenna asked Ms. Jones for a report on the status of the late sewer and garbage bills. Ms. Jones advised there are currently 522 customers and \$198,628.82 that are currently overdue. Mr. Verenna asked Solicitor Margle if the Borough could make the delinquent accounts public? Solicitor Margle advised yes. A motion made by Mr. Verenna to notify residents on their sewer and garbage final notices if they continue being delinquent there may be a public posting of their names. Second by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, and Mr. Verenna. No votes case by Mr. Palinkas and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-2 vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

## RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to approve resolution # 1275, PD Disposition of records made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Woodring. 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.

## BILLS AND ACCOUNTS

Bills were in the amount of \$230,143.23. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Verenna. Second by Mr. Bracken. 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.

## PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Pastor Larry Vandevere of 331 S. Main St. Nazareth, PA requested Council to place cat condos back where he had them, behind Lidl for a few more weeks until he can move the colony. Council objected.

Mr. Dan Dow of 101 N, 18<sup>th</sup> St, advised his neighbors have cat condos in their back yard and he has fecal matter all over his back yard.

## CAUCUS:

Entered Caucus 8:30 pm

Exited Caucus at 9:00 pm

Caucus was to discuss employee relations.

A motion to approve the draft of the Police Department pre-employment contract 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, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

A motion to approve Public Works contract limited opening to amend existing hourly rate made by Mr. Bracken. Second by Mr. Woodring. 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. Verenna made a Motion to adjourn at 9:05 pm. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

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STEPHANIE N. JONES  
CLERK/TREASURER