

WILSON BOROUGH  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA  
July 24, 2023

The second 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:

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

ABSENT:

None

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

A motion by Mr. McGowan to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2023, meeting. Second by Mr. Lipari A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from Mr. Kevin Kiernan to close the 1900 block of Fairview Ave. for 24 hours on September 2, 2023, for the annual block party. A motion was made by Mr. Lipari to allow the closure for a 12 hour period. Second by Mr. Woodring. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Burke advised the City of Easton Police Chief Scalzo contacted Chief Meehan to advise the City of Easton and Palmer Township will be closing their bigger parks on July 29, 2023, due to the Heritage Day fireworks. Mr. Burke, Mayor Barrett, and Chief Meehan recommended keeping Wilson parks closed at the regular time. A motion to approve the parks remaining closed at dusk was made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Mr. Woodring. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Mr. Snyder and Mr. Verenna. Motion passed with a 7-2 vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Woodring to approve a press release notifying residents that the Borough parks will remain closed at their normal time on July 29, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia advised Ms. Karen Adams of Palmer Township questioned if the Borough would like to participate in an E-Waste Recycling event, the charge to the Borough would be \$500 to participate. The council agreed to participate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan requested Council's permission to make a conditional offer of employment to one of the top three on the current civil service list. A motion was made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

FIRE:

Chief Sipel requested Council's permission to hire part time fire fighter Mr. John Huhn. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Mr. Snyder. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Flowers expressed some concerns about dead or falling trees around the Borough. The council advised Mr. Flowers to advise the property owners.

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

NONE

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

NONE

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Mr. Burke advised the Athletic Commission By-Laws have been accepted by the Commission.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Bracken advised the weeds and grass at the Dixie property are very high. Ms. Jones will advise the Code Officer.

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised Council received two refuse rate ordinances in their packet; one that is a flat rate and one offering a senior discount. A motion was made by Ms. Gable to accept and advertise the flat rate Ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Palinkas. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Gable, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Verenna. No votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. Lipari, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. Motion failed with 3-6 Vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Lipari to accept the Ordinance with the Sr. Rate. Seconded by Mr. Snyder. Roll Call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Snyder, and Mr. Woodring. No Votes cast by Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas and Mr. Verenna. Motion passed with a 5-4 vote.

Solicitor Margle advised he received a call about a former Wilson Borough Clerk who embezzled money from the Borough and was subsequently imprisoned and required to pay restitution. The Solicitor has been advised that the former Clerk has recently received an inheritance. A motion was made by Mr. Bracken to have the Solicitor investigate how much the Borough has received from the Clerk and the Borough Insurance and any remaining funds due to the Borough be sought after. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Bracken asked how negotiations were going. Mr. Burke stated they are still on going and he has recently received resignations from two of the committee members. Mr. Bracken advised he would like to be placed on the committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Snyder announced he will be resigning from Council. Solicitor Margle advised Mr. Snyder to put his resignation in writing for the Council to act on at the next regular meeting.

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to accept Resolution # 1277; Multimodal Transportation Grant, made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Mr. Palinkas. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$448,517.87. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Mr. Wooding. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Ms. Marilyn Lynch of 2114 Birch St. expressed issues with cars parking on their garage aprons and making it difficult for other drivers to maneuver. Chief Meehan stated to please contact the non-emergency number if she has problems with someone blocking her garage or the alleyway.

Mr. Wilfredo Rodriguez of 1915 Northampton St. suggested of turning the old pool area into a dog park.

CAUCUS:

NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Second by Ms. Gable and Council concurred.

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STEPHANIE N. JONES  
CLERK/TREASURER