

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
August 14, 2023

The first meeting of August 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:

Scott Palinkas	Jeffrey Bracken
Justin Woodring	John Burke
James McGowan	

ABSENT:

Russ Lipari, Shaun Gable, Tony Verenna and Kurt Snyder

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 24, 2023 meeting. Second by Mr. Palinkas. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

A motion by Mr. Bracken to allow Solicitor Margle to confirm verbal action taken by Mr. Snyder at the July 24, 2023 Council meeting. Seconded by Mr. Woodring. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from Daniel Redington, Director of the Mary Meuser Memorial Library to close N. 18th Street from Church St. to Northampton St. on Saturday, September 9, 2023, 9 am – 3pm and Sunday, September 10, 2023, 9am – 2pm for the annual Book Fair. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia requested Council's permission to go out for bid on the Mill and Overlay of Forest St. from S. 19th to S. 25th. Project is funded by a CDBG grant and the award is \$150,000. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia requested Council's permission to pay Public Works overtime to set up and take down cones and signs for the VIA Marathon on November 12, 2023. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan requested Council's permission to make a conditional offer of employment to Mr. Clinton Mitchell as a part-time Police Officer. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bracken. Seconded by Mr. Palinkas. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

FIRE:

Chief Sipel recommended having the Borough's Code Officer inspect the huts built for the Boro Fall Fest.

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 that trees on their property are the homeowners' responsibility.

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

Ms. Jones advised she is still receiving comments that the Borough does not have a Code Officer. Ms. Jones advised Council that since the beginning of the year our new Code Officer has taken approximately fifty-two complaint calls and sent 46 Notices of Violations, and this is just a small fraction of the work he does. Mr. Bracken asked all the Council if anyone has any issues with how things are being handled with Code. Mr. Burke recognized that the Borough's new Code Officer is doing a great job.

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Movies in the park is set for Friday, August 18, 2023, at dusk. The movie will be Super Mario.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Mr. Bracken suggested disbanding the Athletic Commission and allowing each association to run their program as they see fit. He also suggested taking the funds remaining in the Athletic Commission account and distributing it evenly to each association.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised a building on Northampton Street has been purchased and significant improvements are proposed by the new owner.

Solicitor Margle advise he will be meeting with potential investors of the Dixie site along with some Council and the Borough Manager on Tuesday, August 15, 2023. Solicitor Margle will have an update at the next Council meeting.

Solicitor Margle advised he has a conference call on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, with the owners of the Pfizer site and will update at the next Council meeting.

Solicitor Margle advised Council and Chief Meehan he drafted a letter to Don Spry, Wilson School Board Solicitor, regarding the current crossing guard situation. He should have an update at the next Council meeting.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Palinkas asked Chief Meehan about parking in alleyways. Chief Meehan advised that all complaints are taken on a case by case basis.

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

A motion made by Mr. Woodring to approve Ordinance #810 – Refuse Rates. Seconded by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Palinkas. Motion passed with a 4-1 vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to accept Resolution # 1279 - WBPD Audio/Video File fee of \$100 was made by Mr. Bracken. Seconded by Mr. Palinkas. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$274,980.01. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

NONE

CAUCUS:

NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. McGowan made a Motion to adjourn at 7:44 pm. Second by Mr. Bracken and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
CLERK/TREASURER