

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
August 28, 2023

The second 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	Tony Verenna via phone
Justin Woodring	John Burke
Russ Lipari	Shaun Gable

ABSENT:

Jeffrey Bracken, Jim McGowan

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 Ms. Gable to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2023, meeting. Second by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

SWEARING IN OF THE NEW POLICE OFFICERS

Mayor Barrett swore in three new police officers: Officer Sky Esterly, Officer Eric Lopez and Officer Anthony Moser. Council offered congratulations and welcomed all.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from Autobots for a directional sign, at their cost. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from United Fellowship Church to hold a Red Sand Project, placing sand in the cracks of the sidewalk around the church and using sidewalk chalk representing victims of human trafficking. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from Palmer Volunteer Fire Co. to close the Filbert St. alley between 17th and 18th Streets on October 8, 2023, from 1-5 pm, to hold their annual party. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised she received a request from The Awakening, a non-profit group, requesting the use of Meuser Park (whole park) for 4 days in June of 2024 to hold an event. A motion was made to deny the request by Mr. Verenna. Seconded by M. Palinkas. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Palinkas and Mr. Verenna. No votes case by Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari and Mr. Woodring. Tied vote 3-3. Mayor Barret broke the tie with a Yes vote, motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett expressed his condolences to Mr. Charlie Wacik and family on the loss of their loved one Mrs. Marlowe Wacik.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

NONE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

NONE

FIRE:

Chief Sipel requested permission to hire part-time Fire Fighter Mr. Aiden Kindrew. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Gable. Seconded by Mr. Lipari. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Chief Sipel requested permission to hire part-time Fire Fighter Mr. Jordan Phillips. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lipari Seconded by Ms. Gable. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

PUBLIC WORKS

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

NONE

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Mayor Barrett advised this is the last week for vendors to sign up for the Fall Festival.

Mayor Barrett advised a cash bingo will be held at the Community Center on September 9, 2023.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Next meeting will be held on August 31, 2023, at 6 pm in the Community Center.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised the potential investor of the Dixie property held a presentation in his office. Also present were the Borough Manager, Councilmen Burke, Palinkas, Woodring and Mayor Barrett. Solicitor Margle stated the presentation was informative but vague. The property is under a valid legal agreement of sale.

Solicitor Margle advised he forwarded a letter to the Councilman who resigned at the July 24, 2023, meeting, advising a motion would be made to accept his intent to resign at the August 28, 2023, meeting. Solicitor Margle received no response to the letter. A motion was made by Mr. Lipari to accept Mr. Snyder's resignation from Council. Seconded by Mr. Woodring. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Verenna and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Palinkas. Motion passed with a 5-1 vote.

Solicitor Margle advised the Balata Street property is moving forward.

Solicitor Margle advised he is aware and dealing with the Butler Street property garage collapse and expects to have a resolution by the end of this week.

Solicitor Margle advised the Airbnb Ordinance needs to be reviewed by our Zoning Officer and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission.

Solicitor Margle suggested Council make a motion to approve the Zoning amendments proposal for the Pfizer property. A motion to approve made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Mr. Palinkas. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$244,404.78. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Ms. Marilyn Lynch of 2114 Birch St. advised the residence at 2109 Hay Street has garbage piled in the rear of the home (alley). It is not all in garbage bags, animals get into it and it blows all over the alley. Ms. Jones advised Ms. Lynch can call the Borough office anytime with these issues and she will advise the Code Officer.

Mr. Joe Wallace of 1616 Northampton St. advised his neighbor at 1618 Northampton St. is breeding dogs inside his home. He has 12-15 dogs and puppies at one time and does not clean up the feces. Ms. Jones advised she will let the Code Officer know.

Ms. Jody Nguyen of 1838 Fairview Ave. reported issues with her neighbor parking behind his garage causing her to have a hard time getting her vehicle out of her parking pad.

CAUCUS:

NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 8:37 pm. Second by Ms. Gable and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
CLERK/TREASURER