

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
September 11, 2023

The first meeting of September 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)	Jeffrey Bracken
Justin Woodring	John Burke	
Russell Lipari	Shaun Gable	

ABSENT:

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 28, 2023, meeting. Second by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

GUEST:

County Executive Lamont McClure Jr. presented the Borough with a check for \$150,000, from the CDBG Grant (Community Development Block Grant).

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Mr. Burke advised that contracts negotiations are nearing completion.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett thanked both the Fire and Police Departments for their work at the incident on S. 25th St.

Mayor Barrett explained the Garbage contract price increase to the residents present at the meeting.

Mayor Barrett advised he received a handicap application for 1838 Fairview Ave. The applicant meets all the required criteria. A motion to approve the application was made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia received a letter requesting the Borough commit \$63,000 to Suburban EMS as part of the Borough 2024 budget. Council requested Mr. Young attend the next Council meeting to provide further details.

Ms. Garcia received a request from the Council President of West Easton asking Wilson public works to sweep West Easton streets for a fee. Council declined.

Ms. Garcia received two letters of interest for the open Council seat. Council requested Ms. Garcia invite the interested parties to attend the next Council meeting for interviews.

Ms. Garcia advised she received the renewal for the Borough's Worker's Comp insurance. The premium will be going up \$48,000 next year due to the volume of claims.

Ms. Garcia advised the grants for Police station and Administration building will be completed in two phases. Ms. Garcia requested a motion to sign the agreement with T&M Engineering. Cost of the work will be \$16,000. A motion to sign the agreement made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Mr. Verenna. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. No vote cast by Mr. Palinkas. Motion passed with a 6-1 vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

Chief Meehan requested Council's permission to make conditional officers to the two candidates on the Civil Service list. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

FIRE:

NONE

PUBLIC WORKS

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

Next meeting will be held October 9, 2023.

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Movies in the park will be held on September 22, 2023, featuring Cars.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION:

Athletic Commission approved their by-laws. Council received a copy to review and a discussion will be held at the next Council meeting.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle required a motion to notify the landowners of property near Wood and Hackett Avenues, of a Zoning Hearing scheduled for October 23, 2023. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Woodring. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

A motion to allow Solicitor Margle, T&M Engineering and Borough Manager to advertise the Zoning Hearing and post surrounding properties made by Ms. Gable. Second by Mr. Woodring. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

Solicitor Margle received a response from the seller of the Balata St. property, which stated the lease payments paid prior to purchase will not be applied to the purchase price of the property.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to approve Resolution # 1280 – LSA Grant for Bucket Truck 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. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$246,037.49. A motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Verenna, and Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Iggy Nguyen of 1838 Fairview Ave. thanked Council for approving a handicap spot in front of his home.

Ms. Nalyn Marcus of 1501 Spring Garden St. discussed issues with the new ADA Ramp on the corner of her property.

Ms. Tina Vanhouten of 2407 Hay St. explained to Council she received a shut off notice due to a non-paid sewer garbage bill and is in a financial bind and asked Council for assistance.

Ms. Joy Sung expressed her feelings about the new garbage rate.

CAUCUS:

A motion to go into Caucus made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Woodring. Council unanimously agreed.

Enter Caucus at 8:16 pm

Exit Caucus at 8:22 pm

The Caucus was held to discuss personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Woodring made a Motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Second by Ms. Lipari and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
CLERK/TREASURER