

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
October 23, 2023

The second meeting of October 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	Russell Lipari
Justin Woodring	John Burke	
Shaun Gable	Jeffrey Bracken	

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. Woodring to approve the minutes from the October 09, 2023, meeting. Second 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.

PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE # 812:

Solicitor Margle discussed Exhibits 1,2 and 3 which are photo verification of posting of properties being impacted by the amended zoning ordinance. Sworn testimony heard by both Borough Manger, Jill Garcia and Borough Engineer, Monica Wall. Properties were posted by Mr. Flowers, Public Works Superintendent. The amended zoning ordinance has been advertised in the Express Times two times. Solicitor Margle discussed Exhibit 4, a letter from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission commenting on the proposed Zoning Amendment. Exhibit 5, proof of advertisement. Exhibit 6, commentary from Borough Engineer, Monica Wall. Exhibit 7, Zoning amendment and map amendment.

Mr. Burke asked for comment from the public on Ordinance # 812. No comments were offered by the public.

Mr. Burked asked for comments from Council. Mr. Palinkas asked about off-street parking calculation. No other comments were offered.

A motion approving Ordinance # 812 made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Mr. Woodring. Ms. Garcia questioned Council on Monica's comments on the Ordinance. Solicitor Margle advised they are part of the record, the Ordinance itself will not be modified but the comments will be taken into consideration at future proceedings. 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:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Barrett advised the Borough Fall Fest was a success. He thanked Police, Fire, Public Works, Office Staff and National Guard.

Mr. Verenna stated Mayor Barrett should be thanked was well for doing a great job.

Mayor Barrett asked all Council members if they have any issues or concerns with any Borough Employees. No comment was made. Mayor Barrett advised he questioned the Council because he hears multiple Council members belittling the office staff and other departments' employees.

Mayor Barrett advised the Basketball association owes \$3000 for use of facilities and owes for Police services during an incident at a basketball tournament.

Mayor Barrett advised he received a handicap application for 1901 Lehigh St. Chief Meehan advised it meets all the requirements. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded by Mr. Palinkas. 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:

NONE

ENGINEERS REPORT

Monica Wall, Borough Engineer discussed the required MS4 permit and the Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) requirements and proposed BMPs for sediment reduction. A motion to approve the Solicitor and Engineer to begin the process to retrofit the basin at Avona and Iron Streets made by Mr. Lipari. Seconded 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

NONE

POLICE:

NONE

FIRE:

NONE

PUBLIC WORKS

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

Committee is in the process of updating fee schedule.

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Next year Fall fest will be held October 10, 11, 12 & 13, 2024.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle advised the Zoning Board will have two hearings on October 24, 2023. The first is for 2201 Northampton St., requesting variances and mixed uses. A motion to send the Solicitor to the Zoning hearing and express they limit the number of uses for the property at 2201 Northampton St. made by Mr. Palinkas. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Bracken, Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Lipari, Mr. Palinkas, and Mr. Verenna. No votes cast by Mr. Woodring. Motion passed with a 6-1 vote. The second is for 818 S 25th St. to allow a service center in the property. A motion of support of the use was made by Mr. Palinkas. Seconded by Mr. Woodring. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Ms. Gable, Mr. Palinkas, Mr. Woodring. No votes cast by Mr. Bracken and Mr. Lipari. Mr. Verenna abstain due to conflict of interest. Motion passes 4-2-1.

Solicitor Margle advised one letter of interest was received from Mr. Charles Wacik, for the open Council seat in Ward 1. A motion to appoint Mr. Wacik to Council made by Mr. Palinkas. Seconded by Mr. Bracken. 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.

MECAB:

NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$504,261.69. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Gable. 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.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

NONE

CAUCUS:

A motion to enter into Caucus made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Palinkas. Council unanimously agreed.

Enter Caucus at 8:31 pm.

Exit Caucus at 8:57 pm.

The Caucus was held to discuss personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Gable made a Motion to adjourn at 8:59 pm. Second by Mr. Lipari and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
CLERK/TREASURER