

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
April 28, 2025

The Second meeting of April 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:

Russell Lipari	Shaun Gable	Michael Figueroa	Grace Hurd
Kimberly Muzac	Charles Wacik	Jeffrey Bracken	John Burke

ABSENT:

Susan Allen

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

A motion to approve meeting minutes from April 14, 2025, made by Mr. Wacik. Second by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Figueroa, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

GUEST:

The Wilson Area School district requested the use of the pickleball courts for 2 days in June for a club activity. All children will be transported by a school district bus driver. Ms. Garcia advised that the courts will not be reserved, and they may have to wait until the court is cleared to use it. Ms. Garcia has requested a certificate of insurance as well. A motion to approve was made by Mr., Lipari mentioning that all future requests can be send in writing, they will not need to appear before council. Seconded by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Figueroa, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia advised that Mr. Wacik and Ms. Gable will be attending the PSAB conference and Council will need to choose a voting delegate and an alternate. A motion to appoint Mr. Wacik as voting delegate made by Ms. Gable. Seconded by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Figueroa, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote. Ms. Gable will act as the alternate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

First official meeting will be held on May 2, 2025, at Solicitor Margle’s office.

PROTECTION TO PERSONS & PROPERTY:

POLICE:

Chief Meehan advised he received a grant from PA Chiefs of Police for purchase of a high end camera.

FIRE:

Chief Sipel requested Council's permission to rehire Mike Smith as a part-time Fire Fighter. A motion to approve made by Mr. Wacik. Seconded by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Figueroa, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Sewer truck purchased through Municibid and saved the Borough about \$750,000 to \$1,000,000.

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

Next meeting will be held May 12, 2025.

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Food Truck festival May 3, 2025.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

NONE

CODE DEPARTMENT/ZONING/LAND DEVELOPMENT:

Zoning Hearing Board will be discussing 1700 Butler St. on April 22, 2025, at 7 pm.

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle will advise the Dixie Developer he should come before Council to give an update on the project.

MECAB:

This can be removed from agenda per Mr. Bracken.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

A motion to approve Ordinance # 817 LERTA for 1525 Wood Ave. made by Ms. Gable. Second by Mr. Bracken.

The matter was opened to the public for comment.

Mr. Richard Groff of 425 S 21st St., asked if the LERTA was limited to only real estate taxes. The answer is yes, only real estate taxes. Mr. Groff asked if there were any projections of payments to the Borough for other taxes that might offset the loss of real estate tax? Solicitor Margle advised the following will happen, it will increase the value of the real estate due to the improvement and reassessment by the County Tax Department. There will be economic activities that will create business privilege tax. The applicant will be hiring anywhere from 10 to 300 employees who will also be paying taxes. The tax break to the applicant will be minimal compared to the benefit the Borough is going to be receiving.

Ms. Panama Crozier of 2042 Forest St. asked what kind of benefits will the residents receive? Mr. Bracken advised placing that revenue back into the Borough helps provide a full time staffed Police, Fire and Public Works Departments and the power to purchase new vehicles and equipment without having to raise taxes.

A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Figueroa, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$418,942.27 A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. Wacik. Second by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Figueroa, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Ms. Patricia Papkovic of 2235 Fairview Ave. asked questions about the Dixie property.

CAUCUS

Entered Caucus at 8:10pm

Exited Caucus at 8:59 pm

Personnel and potential litigation matters were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lipari made a Motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm Second by Mr. Wacik and Council concurred.

STEPHANIE N. JONES
CLERK/TREASURER