

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
July 28, 2025

The Second meeting of July 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 (arrived 7:08pm)
Kimberlee Muzac (arrived at 7:15 pm)	Susan Allen	Charles Wacik
Jeffrey Bracken	John Burke	Grace Hurd

ABSENT:

NONE

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 July 14, 2025, made by Mr. Wacik. Second by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

GUEST:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Mr. David Ney of the Wilson Baseball/Softball Association advised Council that the association received a \$25,000 grant for improvements to Jeffrey field. The funds will be used to replace the netting around the batting cages. The old netting will be fixed and placed along the 12-foot fence in the rear of the batting cages to prevent balls from going past the fence. The trees along the batting cages will be trimmed as well. Mr. Ney requested Council’s permission to use Public Works to complete the work, estimating the work to be completed in about a day and a half. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bracken. Second by Ms. Allen. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

Ms. Garcia advised Mr. Redington of the Meuser Library requested Council’s permission to close N. 18th Street from Northampton Street to the Church Street alley for the Annual Book Fair on September 6, 2025, from 9 am – 3 pm and September 7, 2025, from 9 am – 2 pm. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bracken. Second by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Burke advised the TIF committee met on July 22, 2025, and will have the TIF back to the Borough shortly. The TIF will then go back to the IDA (Industrial Development Authority) for a vote on August 7, 2025, and then on to Northampton County Council for a vote in September 2025. A motion to allow the Solicitor, Borough Manger and maximum of 4 Councilperson is to attend any meetings regarding the TIF made by Mr. Bracken. Second by Ms. Gable. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

Ms. Garcia advised that the Borough was awarded a \$70,000 grant for Sanitary Manhole Rehabilitation, which requires a 15% match to be paid from Sewer funds. She stated of the three bids received for the project, the lowest bid of \$33,725 was submitted by Advanced Rehabilitation Technologies. The Borough Engineer has fully vetted the bidder, and awarding the contract to the lowest bidder will enable the rehabilitation of additional manholes within the project budget. A motion to award the project to Advanced Rehabilitation Technologies by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Figueroa. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

Mr. Bracken, along with Mayor Barrett and Council President John Burke, met with the WASD Superintendent and several school board members in an effort to build a stronger relationship between the Borough and the School District. However, following the discussion of several topics and the negative feedback received from the school board, Mr. Bracken expressed his belief that the school board has no intention of fostering a cooperative relationship with the Borough at this time.

PROTECTION TO PERSONS & PROPERTY:

POLICE:

NONE

FIRE:

Ms. Garcia stated Council received information on PA Fire Recovery Service in their meeting packets. The company assists municipalities in recovering costs associated with the loss or damage of equipment during emergency response calls. A motion to discuss at the next Fire Committee meeting made by Mr. Bracken. Second by Mr. Wacik. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

PUBLIC WORKS:

NONE

PARKS:

NONE

CODE COMMITTEE:

Next meeting will be August 11, 2025.

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Burke requested Council's permission for Movies in the Park on September 12th or 13th, 2025, depending on availability. A motion to approve made by Mr. Wacik. Second by Ms. Muzac. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

Fall fest is October 10-12, 2025

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

NONE

CODE DEPARTMENT/ZONING/LAND DEVELOPMENT:

NONE

ATTORNEY:

Solicitor Margle distributed a draft copy of the Short-term rental ordinance for Council to review before the next Council meeting.

Solicitor Margle advised the Board of review for the right of way condemnation is scheduled for October 2025.

Solicitor Margle addressed the false allegations circulating about Council members and other Borough officials allegedly accepting bribes from the developer of the warehouse on Wood Avenue. He firmly stated that no member of Council, the Mayor, or any other Borough official has ever been offered or accepted a bribe in connection with the project. A motion made by Ms. Gable authorizing the Solicitor to draft a letter formally addressing and refuting the false allegations. Second by Mr. Figueroa. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Bracken asked Ms. Garcia about insurance coverage for a Fire Department truck spraying children at the park for a few hours during the summer. Ms. Garcia advised that she has not yet received a response from the insurance company. A motion was made by Ms. Muzac to allow the Fire Department to use Meuser Park and set up a hose to spray children, pending insurance approval. Second by Mr. Bracken. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

ORDINANCES:

NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

Ms. Garcia advised the Borough is applying for a MTF (Multimodal Transportation Fund) Grant in the amount of \$1,036,500.00 for 60 ADA ramps and paving. A motion to approve Resolution #1302 made by Mr. Bracken. Second by Mr. Figueroa. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills were in the amount of \$181,718.69. A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. Bracken. Second by Mr. Lipari. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS:

Mr. Jim Smith of 2246 Ferry St. representing The Table of Life Church, requested use of the large pavilion to hold services on September 21 & 28, 2025. A motion to approve with the condition of proof of insurance made by Mr. Lipari. Second by Mr. Wacik. A roll call vote followed. Yes votes cast by Ms. Allen, Mr. Burke, Mr. Bracken, Mr. Figueroa, Ms. Gable, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Lipari, Ms. Muzac and Mr. Wacik. Motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

Ms. Hope Hurd of 1803 Fairview Ave advised she is in support of the Wood Ave project and pleased the Solicitor is sending a letter refuting allegations.

CAUCUS

A motion to enter a caucus was made by Mr. Wacik. Second by Mr. Bracken. Council unanimously agreed.

Entered: 8:40 pm

Ended: 9:41 pm

The caucus was to discuss personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Wacik made a Motion to adjourn at 9:45pm Second by Mr. Muzac and Council concurred.