

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 26, 2007 SPECIAL MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order by President C. Tuscan at 8:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

ROLL CALL: G. JAKUB, present; L. FIASCO, present; C. SPICUZZA, absent; S. VOLPE, present; S. SHURGOT, present; C. TUSCAN, present. MAYOR D. POMPOSELLI was also present.

MR. C. TUSCAN: Council met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel issues.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MRS. A. BRUCE, AIRBRAKE AVE.: have you found out anything about the creek.

MR. C. TUSCAN: nothing new at this point.

MRS. A. BRUCE: do you remember receiving letters from us about this.

MR. C. TUSCAN: yes, it was a while ago, probably about six months ago.

MRS. A. BRUCE: are you going to act on it.

MR. C. TUSCAN: like I said before, it is going to take more than one municipality. I will bring it up at the COG meeting, but they have recessed for the summer.

MRS. A. BRUCE: someone has to get it started. We need Council to back us up. You need to do preventive work before something happens down there.

MR. R. POWELL, STATION STREET: I am the President of the Station Street Condo Association. I would like to talk about the curfew whistle. It is very loud and it is particularly loud across the street. It is at a time when people are putting their kids to bed. We are not very faint of heart over there with the trains and the fire whistle. I understand that there is obviously a problem you have with the kids causing problems at night. It seems to me the critical part of that problem is the enforcement and not necessarily notifying the kids that it is ten o'clock and time to go home. They should know what time it is with cell phones and watches. I am not blaming the police because I know they have a full plate and it should be the parents responsibility to make sure their kids are home. I would like to see if you can eliminate the whistle or find another way to notify the kids to get off the streets.

MR. C. TUSCAN: for many years the borough had a curfew whistle and with talking to the police and the public safety committee they felt that when the whistle blows the kids start moving. How often would they check their cell phone or watch to see what time it is. There has been a big difference between prior using the whistle and post using the whistle. I understand what you are saying living right here and the whistle going off.

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MR. L. FIASCO: I was in Pitcairn one night at the field next to the fire department and they also use a whistle for their curfew. I don't know how they do it but it actually plays a song. Basically, we are not the only ones using a curfew and it is an effective tool for the community.

MR. C. TUSCAN: public safety will take a look at it. The curfew whistle only sounds in the summer, from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

MR. R. POWELL: I would like you to consider an alternative method.

MRS. A. BRUCE: I do think it gives a warning to the kids and they know it is time to go home. In raising kids, after a while the kids get used to it, and it becomes a routine for them. You will also get used to it.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. received a letter from St. Jude the Apostle Church requesting permission to hold their annual festival on Thursday July 5th to Saturday July 7th. They are also requesting police protection from 7:00 p.m to 11:00 p.m. and to block off Westinghouse Avenue from the Forest Hills Medical Associates office to Clara Street.

S. SHURGOT / L. FIASCO TO GRANT THEM PERMISSION TO BLOCK OFF THE STREET BUT LET THEM KNOW THAT WE DO NOT PROVIDE POLICE PROTECTION AND THEY WOULD HAVE TO TALK TO THE CHIEF ABOUT THAT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

2. received a letter from the East Allegheny Soccer Boosters requesting a donation for an ad in their program book. A full page ad is \$40, a half page ad is \$25, a quarter page ad is \$15 and to be listed as a patron costs \$3.

L. FIASCO / G. JAKUB TO PURCHASE A HALF PAGE AD. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 4-0-1 WITH S. SHURGOT ABSTAINING.

3. received our audit report for the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan and one of their observations was to designate a Chief Administrator for the plan.

S. SHURGOT/ G. JAKUB TO DESIGNATE THE BOROUGH SECRETARY AS THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MR. C. TUSCAN: COG is negotiating a contract with a lawyer to represent the municipalities in COG to negotiate with Verizon. Originally they allocated \$24,000 but the bids from the law firms came in a lot higher. Since that time COG has come up with some extra money, I believe it is \$47,000, and it would cover all the municipalities except Wall.

L. FIASCO / S. VOLPE TO HAVE COG NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT ON OUR BEHALF WITH VERIZON. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MR. C. TUSCAN: a couple of other things that have come up since our last meeting. The pick up truck went in for inspection and we took a phone vote to have it inspected and for some other work to be done on it. The estimate was about \$800 and from the phone vote Council was in favor of getting it done.

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S. SHURGOT / S. VOLPE TO GET THE PICK UP TRUCK INSPECTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MR. C. TUSCAN: the other thing that we took a phone vote on was the cement work that we had done on the steps on Station Street and repairing the sidewalk on Westinghouse and repairing some curbs at various locations. The cost of the project was \$2,200 and was done by Robert Sonovick.

S. SHURGOT / L. FIASCO TO PAY ROBERT SONOVICK FOR THE CEMENT WORK THAT HE DID AND TO AFFIRM THE PHONE VOTE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 4-1 WITH S. VOLPE DISSENTING.

MR. C. TUSCAN: at the last meeting we had applications from three people for our summer workers. We referred it to the Finance Committee to see if there was money available to hire them. Finance met and approved them. It was then turned over to the Personnel Committee.

MR. G. JAKUB: the committee met and we sent them for the drug test and everything came back okay. The three people are Phil Trkula, Joe Ruggerio and Andrew Tylka. We can start them immediately at minimum wage.

G. JAKUB / S. VOLPE TO HIRE THE THREE APPLICANTS FOR THE SUMMER. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MAYOR D. POMPOSELLI: where do we get the money for this. Does it come from the Federal Government, the County or from our taxpayers.

MR. C. TUSCAN: we included those workers in our budget.

MR. G. JAKUB: we are going to have them fill out a form acknowledging that they have received and reviewed the handbook. Not the whole handbook, but only the parts that would pertain to them.

MR. C. TUSCAN: we also advertised for a temporary foreman position and I believe we received one application.

MR. G. JAKUB: I just received it today and I will contact him to set up an interview.

MR. C. TUSCAN: at the last meeting we received the resignation from Council from Joe Clemenic. We advertised this meeting to act on that.

L. FIASCO / TO TABLE THE APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE VACANT COUNCIL POSITION UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

MR. N. EVASHAVIK: if you table it and it goes past the thirty days then the appointment automatically goes to the Vacancy Board.

MR. S. SHURGOT: what happens next if the Vacancy Board does not fill the position.

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MR. N. EVASHAVIK: it would then go to Common Pleas Court. You would petition the court to have someone appointed.

MR. S. SHURGOT: who would petition the court.

MR. N. EVASHAVIK: the borough would. You would give the court the names.

MR. S. SHURGOT: what if the borough does not have anybody.

MR. N. EVASHAVIK: if no one becomes available then you do without one. You cannot force someone to take the job.

MR. S. SHURGOT: since there is about two and half years left on his term, is there a possibility of getting a name on the ballot.

MR. N. EVASHAVIK: no.

/ S. SHURGOT TO TABLE THE NOMINATIONS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MAYOR D. POMPOSELLI: those three youngsters that you hired, who will they take orders from.

MR. C. TUSCAN: from Mike Trkula.

MAYOR D. POMPOSELLI: if you hire someone then it would revert back to them.

MR. C. TUSCAN: yes.

MR. S. SHURGOT: the Fire Department gave me a note that the fire truck needs some preventive maintenance work on it. The estimate is about \$750.

S. SHURGOT / S. VOLPE TO GET THE WORK DONE WITH THE MONEY COMING OUT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MR. S. VOLPE: does the Crime Watch still want that room back there.

MR. C. TUSCAN: I am not sure.

MR. S. SHURGOT: maybe Borough Property can meet with Crime Watch to see what they want. Also, I would like the Secretary to send a letter to the Fire Department that Public Safety and Personnel would like to meet with them on July 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.