

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by President S. Shurgot.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Council met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel issues.

ROLL CALL: M. TRKULA, present; C. SPICUZZA, present; K. PETERSON, present; G. JAKUB, absent; S. VOLPE, present; C. TUSCAN, present; S. SHURGOT, present.
Mayor D. POMPOSELLI was also present.

C. SPICUZZA / M. TRKULA TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE JAN. 7, 2008 MEETINGS.
MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MRS. T. HICKMAN, AIRBRAKE AVE.: about a month or so ago I was very pleased to see the clean up on Middle Ave., although it is getting trashy again. Also, I have reported this, that there are political signs of two judges that have been out since November and I think it is about time that somebody removes them. They are on both ends of the bridge.

MR. M. TRKULA: we took the ones out of the island.

MRS. T. HICKMAN: these are on both ends of the bridge.

MR. M. TRKULA: that is county property but we will get them.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. COG Annual Membership meeting will be held at the Churchill Country Club on Friday Feb. 29th.
Senator Sean Logan will be the guest speaker.

C. TUSCAN / C. SPICUZZA TO SEND ANY BOROUGH OFFICIAL THAT WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

2. received a notice from Paladin Law offices that the property at 115 Watkins Avenue, which was purchased by the three taxing bodies at Sheriff Sale, that an offer of \$1,000 was made to purchase the property. They would like to offer it at sealed bid sale on behalf of the three taxing bodies. It is the intent of the interested party to demolish the building and make it a parking lot.

C. SPICUZZA / M. TRKULA TO APPROVE THE SALE OF 115 WATKINS AVE. AT SEALED BID.
MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

3. about a month or so ago we received a letter from Trinity Development wishing to donate property at Middle and Third to the borough. We received a memo indicating what we need to do if we want to accept this property.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MR. M. TRKULA: do we want to maintain it. We would have grass to cut, plow it.

C. TUSCAN / C. SPICUZZA TO TABLE THIS UNTIL WE CAN LOOK FURTHER INTO THIS.

MRS. S. ZIBRAT, AIRBRAKE AVE.: for several years the borough has been taking care of that property. Not only did you pave it but you cut the grass and that.

MR. M. TRKULA: we have never cut the grass there.

MRS. S. ZIBRAT: why wouldn't you want it.

MR. M. TRKULA: why would we want it.

MRS. S. ZIBRAT: so you could have parking for the residents. It is used for parking right now.

MR. C. SPICUZZA: if we accept it then we would have the liability in the event something would happen there.

MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL TO TABLE IT, 6-0.

4. received an application for a handicap sign at 214 Third Street. All the paper work is in order.

K. PETERSON / S. VOLPE TO GRANT THE REQUEST FOR A HANDICAP SIGN AT 214 THIRD STREET. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

5. received an application for a handicap sign at 100 St. Joseph Drive. All the paper work is in order.

MR. S. SHURGOT: St. Joseph's parking lot is private property and we can't grant them that request. They can do it on their own. That is not under our jurisdiction. It is not a public street.

C. TUSCAN / S. VOLPE TO SEND THEM A LETTER STATING THAT IT IS PRIVATE PROPERTY AND THEY CAN ERECT THEIR OWN SIGN. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

MAYOR D. POMPOSELLI: I would like to direct something to the Chief. Up on Card Avenue there is a handicap sign that was requested and put up by the borough. Now there is a stranger coming and parking in that spot and he has a handicap placard.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: there is nothing that we can do.

MAYOR D. POMPOSELLI: I remember, and I will bring you the proof from PennDOT, that nobody can park there except the person that requested the sign. The gentleman who has the sign asked the officer who that gentleman was and the officer said that he couldn't tell him. You can find out if he is a resident or not.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: even if he is not a resident there is nothing we can do. He is parked legally and he is a handicap person.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MR. S. SHURGOT: if this guy is a handicap person, why wouldn't he park in front of his house so that he wouldn't have to walk further than he has to.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: I agree with you. We have the same problem in the township.

5. received a letter from the Fire Department informing us of the new line officers and would also like to set up a meeting with the Public Safety Committee.

MR. S. SHURGOT: since the Fire Department is governed by the borough we would have to approve their officers.

MR. C. SPICUZZA: didn't we talk about the officers needing training.

C. TUSCAN / S. VOLPE TO MEET WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BEFORE ACCEPTING THEIR LINE OFFICERS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

PUBLIC SAFETY - C. TUSCAN: we will have Chief Comunale give us his report first.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: I missed January's meeting, I think there was a conflict that night, so I will give you December and January reports. For the month of December there were 259 calls, 51 citations and 7 parking tickets issued. For the month of January there were 275 calls, 22 citations and 3 parking tickets issued. There was nothing out of the ordinary going on but there is some other work going on. I gave you a chart and it shows the yearly comparisons. There were 2,067 calls in 2002 and in 2007 there were 3,359 calls.

MR. S. SHURGOT: has the Township seen an increase also or was it just Wilmerding.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: we went up the same amount as you did from 2002 to 2006. But you had a big increase from 2006 to 2007 and we did not. It is about forty percent higher. The next chart shows the arrests. In 2005 there were 117 arrests, in 2006 127 and in 2007 there were 162 arrests. The next chart show the citations issued. In 2005 there were 340 citations issued, in 2006 476 and in 2007 499. The next chart shows parking tickets that were issued. In 2005 there were 115, in 2006 137 and in 2007 there were 91 tickets issued. Also, I sent letters out to all of the areas in Wilmerding that are considered shelters. On February 26th at 7:00 p.m. we are going to have a shelter meeting. The Red Cross will be there to explain what the shelter does and any Council member is welcome to attend. The meeting will take place at the North Versailles Township building in the Commissioners Chambers.

MR. C. TUSCAN: we received the reports from the ambulance and fire departments.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Brian Maloney from Eastern Area Ambulance couldn't make it tonight. On Friday Sen. Logan introduced CPR Anywhere campaign. What it is is a inflatable CPR torso and a twenty-two minute video that you can teach yourself CPR. There will be a sign up sheet in the Secretary's office for anyone who is interested.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

CODE ENFORCEMENT - J. NALEVANKO: in my report I have that the debris was cleaned up in the 600 block of Middle Avenue. Other than that I did not see any other problems on Middle Ave. Concerning the dumpsters at the Parkhouse and Faller Buildings. We talked to Waste Management and they came down to the site and met with Sean Kerrigan, Steve from Pasquale's Pizza and myself. We spent about three hours there, in and out of the building, to find out what would be most reasonable for the tenants, most reasonable for the property owner and most reasonable for the borough. It is going to take time to see how those dumpsters are utilized. Mr. Kerrigan also has a building manager to keep an eye on this. Mr. Kerrigan has been working with me to correct the problem.

PUBLIC WORKS - S. VOLPE: we just had a piece of equipment break down and we are working on that. We are going to use the one ton sparingly.

COG REPORT - C. TUSCAN: I attended the meeting and there was noting for Wilmerding.

ENGINEER - D. GILLILAND: we have not had any response from PennDOT on our latest submission for the Safe Route to School Project. We are still hoping to advertise this spring.

The Phase 2 Significant Deficiency Repair Project is complete except for one site, Patton Street, which will be done in March. We have an invoice from Lawson Excavating for the work that he has done. We are holding back a ten percent retainage until the project is completed.

The removal of water service lines bored through our sewer pipe at three locations on Card Avenue has been completed.

A sewer problem was discovered at 426 Airbrake Ave. similar to the problem at 422 Airbrake Ave. discovered several months ago.

We received a report of water runoff at a vacant lot on Welsh Ave. across from Florence St. We have sent the owner a letter ordering her to submit a corrective action plan within twenty days, by Feb. 11th. No response has been received yet. We also had no response from a letter sent to the property owner at 421 Welsh Ave. directing him to connect his roof drains to our pipe in the vacant lot next to his property to eliminate the drainage problem at that location. If so directed we will submit information to Code Enforcer Nalevanko to file a citation against the property owner.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Glenn Engineering is recommending to file a citation against the property owner at 421 Welsh Ave. for failure to eliminate the drainage problem coming from his property.

C. SPICUZZA / K. PETERSON TO FILE A CITATION AGAINST THE PROPERTY OWNER AT 421 WELSH AVE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we were presented with an invoice for \$539.97 for sewer work at 426 Airbrake Ave.

C. TUSCAN / K. PETERSON TO PAY THE INVOICE OUT OF THE SEWER FUND. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MR. S. SHURGOT: we also have an invoice from Lawson Excavating in the amount of \$3,860.00 for work that was done in the Phase 2 Significant Sewer Deficiency Repairs.

C. TUSCAN / S. VOLPE TO PAY THE LAWSON EXCAVATING INVOICE OUT OF THE SEWER FUND. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

UTILITIES - M. TRKULA: Verizon is now offering FIOS cable in Wilmerding.

MR. C. TUSCAN: I talked to the new guy from Comcast and he would like to set up a meeting with us to discuss a new contract.

SOLICITOR - N. EVASHAVIK: no report.

FINANCE - C. TUSCAN: when the Committee Chair spends up to \$250 we need some kind of paperwork, whether it is a p.o., to keep track of the of who approved the spending when the bills come in. Also, the Chairman should let the rest of the committee know what was approved.

C. TUSCAN / C. SPICUZZA TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL EXCEPT S. VOLPE WHO ABSTAINED, 5-0-1.

BOROUGH PROPERTY - S. VOLPE: we are looking into buying some paint and joint compound so that we can fix up and paint the historical room and the recreation room downstairs.

RECREATION - K. PETERSON: we are planning for the Easter festivities and we will be meeting soon to discuss this. We have set the date for March 15th starting at noon.

K. PETERSON / C. SPICUZZA TO DONATE \$300 TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTER FESTIVITIES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

PLANNING COMMITTEE - K. PETERSON: no report.

PERSONNEL - C. SPICUZZA: we will be meeting sometime this week or next.

OLD BUSINESS

MR. S. SHURGOT: I talked to Maureen Edmiston, our Auditor, and the GASB report is not required since we opted out. She would like to get started with the audit because it has to be completed by the end of April.

C. TUSCAN / S. VOLPE TO HIRE MAUREEN EDMISTON TO DO OUR AUDIT AT A COST OF \$4,200. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Mike, was the parking issue resolved over at Pat Mews.

MR. M. TRKULA: yes.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

NEW BUSINESS

MR. C. TUSCAN: we met concerning the health insurance for the employees. Our new rate is an 18% increase. We are recommending the Premier PPO with \$20 and \$40 co-pays. This will only be a 10.6% increase.

C. TUSCAN / K. PETERSON TO RENEW THE HEALTH INSURANCE WITH THE \$20 AND \$40 CO-PAYS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL EXCEPT M. TRKULA WHO ABSTAINED, 5-0-1.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we talked about our town clean up to coincide with Earth Against Litter Day, which will be May 18-20. We received a letter from the Allegheny CleanWays and they will be holding a training workshop. They also provide bags, gloves and vests. The workshop will be on Feb. 28th at 6:30 p.m. at the Wilkesburg Municipal Building.

MAYOR'S REMARKS - D. POMPOSELLI: keep in mind that summer time is coming and the kids will be out. Sometimes you don't accomplish anything by yelling at them. Take the time to talk to them and you will find out you will have less problems.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.