

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President S. Shurgot.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

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

K. PETERSON / S. VOLPE TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2008 AS PRESENTED.
MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MS. SANDY SMITH - PAT MEWS DRIVE: I have two questions, the first one pertains to the grass on the other side of the bridge by Avenue U. Who is responsible for maintaining that. It is like eighteen inches high.

MR. M. TRKULA: that is the County's responsibility. They were here and cut this side so I am assuming that they will be over there to cut that.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will call the County to see what they are going to do.

MS. S. SMITH: the other issue is with the parking. My townhouse faces Avenue U and I was wondering if you could paint parking lines painted on the street. It looks like there is ample parking for three cars but the way the residents and their visitors are parking there is never more space than for two cars.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we can have Dave take a look at that.

MS. SYLVIA ZIBRAT, AIRBRAKE AVENUE: is there a chance in changing our Code Enforcement to somebody from out of town. Being that our Code Enforcement is doing a good job but can't get anything done because if he cites someone then they approach somebody else and their hands are tied. In other words, anytime our Code Enforcement does anything it seems that he ends up paying twice the amount with vandalism to his property and he can't get anything done. Why I am saying this is because one of the other towns, and I know some of you are familiar with the town I am talking about, they did away with the Code Enforcement that lives in the town because of that reason. They were able to clean up their town and it is doing a lot better now. We can make them take care of their properties. These properties are not being taking care of and people are moving in and out at the end of the month, over on Middle Avenue and Airbrake Avenue, without their place being inspected. If we can make this really worthwhile and get somebody to do this. I am talking about Trafford and their Code Enforcement goes around all the time and if he sees a problem it is taken care of in so many days, not like here. We are citing people over and over again and nothing is getting done. It is not our Code Enforcement's fault and I think the best thing to do is get somebody from the outside.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will take that under advisement.

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MR. JOHN TOMASEVICH, MORNINGSIDE AVENUE: I was here two months ago and things have not improved. I stopped up there today and this is all work and job of North Versailles Police Department. Everything is taken out of the house. There was an old washer there and it was dragged out of the house. It is impossible for a stranger to come in there and go twenty-four steps outside carrying the washer. That job was done with the cooperation of the North Versailles Police Department, it was done by the next door neighbor. They have put powdery poison there, and I was a victim of that. I went to the hospital and to the doctor's for a couple of months. I have enormous bills to pay and it was either that or die. The doctor's saved my life, for how long, I don't know because there is no anti-drug for that type of poison. When I bought the property I was going to fix it and move in. I haven't been there since I came here two months ago. I was there today and that powdery substance was sprinkled all over the kitchen floor. I believe it is a fake because it would kill you on the spot if it was real. I would like anyone to come and see what they have done to my house, it is unbelievable. They increased my taxes, and I am not complaining because I put new window in. The house is ten times worse than when I bought it. I would like to suggest that you eliminate the North Versailles Police Department from the Borough of Wilmerding and finding some other source. The worse thing is a police officer turning criminal and we have plenty of them in North Versailles Police Department. I asked before on how to detoxify my house and I was told to call the County Health Department. I did call and they were looking into that. I called them again and they told me to call North Versailles Police Department because they don't know anything about it. I am at a dead end and I do not want to go into the house because it might be a deathtrap. I would ask anyone to come and see what has been done because it is hard to imagine something like that.

MR. S. SHURGOT: when are you there in case someone wants to look at it.

MR. J. TOMASEVICH: it would have to be by appointment because I cannot stay there.

MR. S. VOLPE: I think we should send the Fire Chief up there, it may be haz-mat.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will send our Fire Chief up to take a look at that.

MR. HENRY SLACZKA, CARD AVENUE: my concern is the Parkhouse Building. On the first floor it is commercial and I noticed over the past few weeks that the commercial aspect may have been abandoned for warehousing. It is obvious that when you walk past there it looks like a storage area. I was wondering since there was a lot of money spent in this community relative to rehabilitation. I am afraid that it will deteriorate a little at a time. I am encouraging you to try and rectify this problem. If I was living next to that mess I surely wouldn't appreciate it at all. I am trying to maintain my property to the best of my ability and frankly it is beginning to be a problem in my neighborhood. There has also been some social unrest up there, people chasing people and threatening to beat them up. The police have been called there numerous times. The place is going to the dogs.

MR. S. VOLPE: we are working on a store front ordinance that has guidelines on what you can put on the store front and to keep it clean so that it is presentable.

MR. H. SLACZKA: I appreciate that. I did see, that at someone's initiative, that the park benches have been removed and some of the residents felt intimidated by the youthful element. I also noticed that all the traffic signs have graffiti on them beyond recognition and also the George Westinghouse signs have graffiti on them. It seems like everything is being destroyed. Even the Wilmerding sign in park has three or four letters missing. There is a serious problem in the community.

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MR. S. SHURGOT: we agree with you.

MS. ANNA MARIE TUCKER, CARD AVENUE: like Henry was saying there is an issue with Card Ave. One of the houses there has a lot of traffic coming in and out. Cars pulling up and going in and coming out two minutes later. I have been writing license plate numbers down and I don't know if that would help. You have the same cars coming through weekend after weekend. I have a question as far as occupancy permits and building permits. If there is somebody working on a house and there is no building permit, who does the stop work order on it.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we can ask them to stop.

MS. A. M. TUCKER: who do you call for that.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Code Enforcement.

MS. A. M. TUCKER: how can someone go in a house, and live, and move in with no occupancy permit and no building permit. How can they live there. This is happening all over town. I have called John about 220 Card Avenue that they were doing work in the house and he told me it is not his job to issue a stop work order and to call Steve.

MR. S. SHURGOT: they are allowed to do some work without a building permit. It is my understanding that Code Enforcement would go up there and ask them if they have a building permit and if they say no and he tells them that they have to stop working. If he does that and they do not stop working there is no recourse, the police cannot go and arrest him.

MS. A. M. TUCKER: there have been a lot of calls up at that house. You are telling me that the police can't do anything. The police have been there ten times or more at the same house.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Chief, what can we do.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: it is not a violation of the 979 ordinance.

MR. S. VOLPE: yes it is, it is 220. I checked the application and it only has one unit on there and only one person's name on it. There are least 15 people in there. That particular building, the night we had this meeting with the property owner, myself, the Chief and Solicitor, he was aware that he needed occupancy permits and building permits for his buildings. He has not gotten any yet.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: give us until next month to look into this. We will try to get you some kind of answer by the next meeting.

MS. A. M. TUCKER: at 244 Card, the weeds and grass are high and there are kids running across the street without supervision. Something has to be done with the people in the community.

MR. S. VOLPE: that one has an occupancy permit.

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MS. A. M. TUCKER: yes, but something has to be done with the people in the community. The weeds need cleaned up in the town. They should get one notice then a citation, don't give anybody a chance. This is for everybody in town. They should get one notice to cut the grass and weeds and if they don't do it within ten days or how many days the ordinance says then issue them a citation.

MS. JANET DARBY, PAT MEWS DRIVE: I would like to comment on the Earth Day clean up. The public works department did a good job coming around and picking up all the trash bags. Our team had cleaned up and filled about two rolls of garbage bags along Pat Mews Drive and Avenue U, up on the bridge and from here to across the bridge. It was really successful on our side of the bridge and I don't know what happened over here. It really made a difference. I would like to see no littering signs. I don't know what happened with the ones that were up, I haven't seen them in awhile. Before you couldn't drive on the street without seeing a no litter sign. We need to start paying attention to our community and start cleaning it up. I think we need to take back our town.

MR. TONY FRYDRYCH, WELSH AVENUE: I don't have anything for Council but I would like to ask the people here, the next meeting bring a friend or two friends or three friends, this is the only way that you are going to solve this. The more people the better.

MS. J. DARBY: we need to start taking back our town, it is really out of hand. I have lived here for twenty years and never called the police until these past two years.

MS. S. ZIBRAT: one thing I would like to say about our playground on out side, we do have a sign up there that says children twelve years and younger to be at this playground. There is no way that children twelve years and younger can be at that playground when there are people over there playing basketball, foul language and just monopolizing the playground over there. I was wondering if there is someway that you can have the police stop and also did you notice that our playground has two big gouges out of the surface and they starting to do it where the merry-go-round was removed.

MR. PETER LIVERATTI, AIRBRAKE AVENUE: there are signs over there for no dogs in the park, they should be bigger, because no one sees them.

MR. HARRY NADER, MARGUERITE AVENUE: there is a business across the street from me, the doctor's office. They are doing minimal work on the maintenance over there. The hedges are covering half of the sidewalk and the back side of the building is covered with graffiti. I talked to them about this and they told me that they were getting bids on painting the building. I even offered to paint the building if they would get the paint and I haven't heard anything more from them.

MS. A. M. TUCKER: the house at 38 Sprague Street is vacant and the back door is open and there are kids that go in and out of there and animals are in the house. Also, the weeds and grass are high. I don't think that the borough should cut that.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I sent a letter last year to the school district, since these properties are owned by the three taxing bodies, to come up with some sort of maintenance schedule. I am going to send them another letter asking them to meet with us to set up a maintenance schedule.

MR. S. VOLPE: why don't we go to COG to get funds for demolition.

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MR. S. SHURGOT: we talked about that in the workshop and we are going to give Dave a list.

MR. S. VOLPE: the Fire Chief should have a list of all the vacant houses. He has to submit that to the County. I don't know if he has it, but he has the two up on Morningside.

MR. P. LIVERATTI: does anyone here know what happened to our war memorial that was in front of the school. It has all the names of the veterans on it. There is a memorial up there now but it does not have any names on it. It has been gone for years.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I will make a call to see what I can find out.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. received a letter from the Westinghouse Elementary School requesting permission to hold their annual picnic in the park on Friday May 30th from 7:45 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. They will be responsible for cleaning up all the litter following the day's activities and they are asking that we block off the circle to traffic.

C. TUSCAN / K. PETERSON TO GRANT WESTINGHOUSE PERMISSION TO HOLD THEIR PICNIC IN THE PARK. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

2. received a letter from SHACOG reminding us that if we want to participate in the option year for rock salt that we need to inform the supplier by June 15, 2008.

G. JAKUB / M. TRKULA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPTION YEAR FOR ROCK SALT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY - C. TUSCAN: received the reports from Eastern Area Ambulance and the fire department. Also, the fire department is asking Council to accept two new members to the department. They are Tom Hartzell and Nick Hartzell.

G. JAKUB / S. VOLPE TO ACCEPT TOM AND NICK HARTZELL AS NEW MEMBERS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

MR. S. VOLPE: have they been getting sworn in.

MAYOR D. POMPOSELLI: they have been coming down. Supposedly, the Fire Chief has the oat of office applications.

MR. C. TUSCAN: the fire department is also requesting a name plate to be installed on the memorial plaque on the front of the building. This would be for Tracy Braverman who died on March 15, 2008.

C. TUSCAN / M. TRKULA TO GRANT THEM PERMISSION TO INSTALL THE NAMEPLATE.

MR. S. VOLPE: how long was she a member.

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MR. C. TUSCAN: I am not sure.

MR. S. VOLPE: I was just wondering if she passed her probationary period.

MR. C. SPICUZZA ENTERED COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 8:08 P.M. AND WAS RECOGNIZED BY THE CHAIR.

MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. C. TUSCAN: I will turn it over to Chief Comunale to give the police report.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: for the month of April there were 277 calls, we issued 19 citations and 4 parking tickets. Out of the 277 calls 22 were for domestics and 38 were juvenile complaints. The township had as many domestics as you did and we about six times as big. As far as the graffiti that someone brought up, we made arrests for all that graffiti, every single one, and a hearing is coming up. Between the township and Wilmerding there is over \$30,000 in damages. Juvenile Court cannot order all that restitution, they have a limit. You can have community service but the problem with that is supervision. I can do it with my road department and maybe you should entertain using your road department for community service. We have been doing it for years and we don't have a problem. Also, there is a crime watch meeting here on May 13th. We need everyone to get involved with this because it is going to get worse before it gets better. It is the demographics of this and I told you about this back in 1999. It is happening everywhere in these small towns. The way around it is not so much the police but the code enforcement. We will do what we can and maybe in the next few weeks we will see some changes. Also, the curfew is still in effect even though the whistle does not sound.

MR. S. SHURGOT: can you have your officers check around the park. The park closes at dusk, regardless of the curfew, and we received some calls today that there has been some problems there after dusk.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: they do that on a routine basis. They do check the churches at night and they also check King's Way. I will remind them to check on the park now that the weather is getting nice.

MR. S. VOLPE: we keep on saying we need more police, maybe camera's and it is a shame that we have to move park benches because of the kids. The whole underlying cause is the people moving into town and that has to do with the landlords. We have to clamp down on them to make life miserable. I own property and I wait six or eight months to get a good tenant. Here is a picture of the playground on Airbrake Avenue and the kids are over the age limit and there is a car parked there.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: I thought the one side was for little kids and the basketball court was for everybody. Didn't we talk about that last year.

MR. G. JAKUB: I thought that was brought up last year, the basketball court was for any age and the playground was under twelve.

MR. C. SPICUZZA: we wanted a bigger fence because we wanted to separate the littler kids from the bigger kids on the basketball court.

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MR. S. SHURGOT: that is right because we were getting prices on the fence and it was too expensive.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: what is the answer. Is it older kids on one side and younger kids on the other. Unfortunately, when that happens and they take a break between games, they go over on the other side and sit on the benches. We can't keep them off the benches.

MR. S. VOLPE: we have some old benches, why can't we put them at the basketball court.

MR. C. TUSCAN: we can't keep chasing them out, where do you want them to go. If they are playing basketball at least you know they are not doing something destructive somewhere else.

MR. S. SHURGOT: but you want a place for the younger kids to go and not have to worry about the bigger kids.

MS. K. PETERSON: right now the answer is that half of it is allowed to be for the bigger kids and the playground is for twelve years and younger. In Turtle Creek they have tot lots and it is just for little kids. I suggested why couldn't we just make the bigger kids just go up to the Y. We need a place for the kids to play no matter what their ages are.

MR. G. JAKUB: can we make the Avenue U a tot lot. There is only one basketball hoop there and it would be less likely for older kids to congregate there.

MS. K. PETERSON: that could be a start.

MR. G. JAKUB: is there anyway that we can restructure the basketball courts up at the Y. Every time it rains it fills up with water.

MR. C. TUSCAN: we can put in for a CD application.

MR. S. SHURGOT: in the interim, what would it cost to make the other half of the tennis court a basketball court.

MR. D. GILLILAND: I will take a look at the old court and the tennis court and put in for a CD grant.

MR. C. SPICUZZA: I understand that the parents want the kids to play. If my kids go down with the bigger kids I will still check on them and make sure everything is all right. If I hear the kids over there cursing, swearing or screaming or acting like fools, I will pick up the phone and call the police. Parents need to step up and take some responsibility and so do all of our residents. Everyone needs to step up and monitor these areas.

MR. J. NALEVANKO: first of all you missed the whole point. We need a place for kids to play, for our residents, and not for kids from out of town. East McKeesport has a playground for kids twelve and under. Wilmerding has no resistance to outside forces coming into this town and destroying our town. People in past years had a higher standard of living. We accepted a lower standard of living in all areas of this town and it is upsetting as a business owner here, as Code Enforcement Officer and as a property owner. I am not going to babysit the park. If there is anybody that sees more than I do of what goes on in this park it is me. It is intolerable.

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MR. C. SPICUZZA: you said you see all this stuff and know all this stuff. I am not telling anyone to babysit. If I see something that is not right I will call the police. Everybody is disgusted of what is happening in town. All the people that take pride in where we live and what to make it better, you all are going to have to be police officers.

MR. J. NALEVANKO: you want to bring in good people, family people and bring their kids down to the playgrounds without listening to profanity.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we know we have a problem in town and we hired a Code Enforcement Officer and a Building Inspector. People are doing what they want to do. We can not stop people from buying houses and rent them to people. Chief Comunale did tell us a few years back that this problem is going to get worse. What we can do, since we have a nice turnout tonight, is have you all come to the crime watch meeting. We need to unite as a town and have people look out for each other. We can't solve these problems but we can take steps to correct them. We are looking into a store front ordinance, we moved the benches from one side to the other and we are talking with the Chief to see if we can put camera's up to act as eyes and ears for the police.

MR. S. VOLPE: at 220 Card Avenue, has there been any misconduct reports issued.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: no.

MR. S. VOLPE: the gentleman who owns the building came in and wanted to know if there were any problems with any of his properties. I told him there was garbage on the front porch and people were coming in all hours of the day and night. There is about fifteen people living there and on the application it only listed one person.

MR. S. SHURGOT: who determines, when somebody moves in, how many people can occupy that building.

MR. S. VOLPE: it would be under the Property Maintenance Code.

MR. C. TUSCAN: aren't they supposed to list who is living there on the application.

MR. G. JAKUB: then we should be citing them.

MR. S. SHURGOT: is there an avenue that we can take.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: you can file a citation and have them prove that it is all one family. Cite them for any violation.

CODE ENFORCEMENT - J. NALEVANKO: prior to me taking over Code Enforcement we did have an out of town person handling this. We had no records of anything in this office, it was in shambles. It took almost a year to get things in order. We have laid the foundation for citations, from a legal standpoint, and sending out letters of notification.

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PUBLIC WORKS - G. JAKUB: I was in contact with Rep. Costa's office this week and I was told there is a ninety-nine percent chance that we will get the grant money for a new truck either by the first of June or mid June. We moved the benches and I think it has helped solve the problem. Our Public Works Department assisted the Y.M.C.A. in demolishing the old playground and getting the stuff out of there. We had a problem trying to locate tires for our hi lift, we finally got those and it will make things a little better to run the hi lift. Currently, we have a make shift bed in the back of the pick up because it has rusted away. There is a potential that we may get a bed donated to the borough. Both vehicles are going to need inspected. The pick up truck needs inspected now in May and I have a quote on what the repairs and inspection will be. It is approximately \$677 for the repair and inspection of the pick up truck.

G. JAKUB / C. TUSCAN TO GET THE PICK UP TRUCK INSPECTED AND REPAIRED AT A COST OF \$677.

MR. S. VOLPE: I think we should get another bid.

MR. G. JAKUB: we did. This was the lowest of the three bids.

MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. G. JAKUB: we have repaired the sign on Deborah Drive as far as the lettering. We have been working with COG to get the sweeper out and we can only get it so many times. We have been working lately trying to get manholes and basins, that are not working right, to get them to drain. I would like to thank our Public Works Department for their help on Earth Day. We had a group from Pat Mews Drive who came and unfortunately there was only one other person who came for bags. I think we are going to have to do something a little different next year and try to promote it more.

MR. S. VOLPE: for the street sweeper. I contacted COG and they said as long as you contact them two weeks in advance to set up a schedule. If we schedule them in advance we can tell people not to park on the street. Last I heard the street sweeper came out and nobody knew it was coming out. I heard that they called us and said that they could come out tomorrow and sweep the street. They were here two days already. I am on the street committee and I didn't know they were coming out. I feel it was a waste of time because they had to go around the cars and really didn't clean close to the curbs. We go through this every year. Also, the old playground equipment at the Y, what happened to it.

MR. G. JAKUB: we agreed at the workshop that it would be trashed.

MR. S. VOLPE: where did it go.

MR. G. JAKUB: to the junkyard I believe.

MR. S. VOLPE: did we take it there.

MR. G. JAKUB: the Y told public works to get rid of it.

MR. S. VOLPE: that is our equipment.

MR. G. JAKUB: what was left of it. It was not usable.

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MR. S. VOLPE: that is borough equipment and we trashed it and took it down to the junk yard we should have gotten the money for it and the receipts and everything should have been given to Joe.

MR. G. JAKUB: your right, I will ask Jimmy about that.

MR. S. VOLPE: I was told there were other contractors up there that help take this equipment out.

MR. G. JAKUB: no. the other contractors that came donated their time to remove the mulch that was left over because our backhoe was just spinning in the mud. There is still some old pieces sitting up there and I told the Y just to have Waste Management come and pick it up. There is a lot of it left.

MR. S. VOLPE: why can't we take it down in our dump and get money for it.

MR. G. JAKUB: it is plastic, you are not going to get anything for it.

MR. S. VOLPE: there was steel up there.

MR. G. JAKUB: not much of it. I'll ask Jimmy to report how much there was. The rest of the plastic is still up there.

MR. S. VOLPE: can't we bust the plastic up and put it in our dumpster down here.

MR. G. JAKUB: I think we have better things for public works to do.

MR. S. VOLPE: I think it is asinine to use the backhoe to clean along the curbs. There is a lot of wear and tear on our equipment. It is unbelievable, I have never seen anything like some of the stuff that is going on. I think we should get an old fifty-five gallon drum and a little buggy, like we used to have, with a shovel and a broom and get some of the summer kids to do it by hand. Why does our foreman scrap along the curb and there is nothing there. I don't understand that one. I am on that committee and I don't know half of the things that are going on.

MAYOR D. POMPOSELLI: you are on that committee and you should have been notified of what is going on.

MR. S. VOLPE: there is a lack of communication. There are rules and regulations, there are procedures and nothing is being followed.

COG REPORT - C. TUSCAN: they are looking into buying a street sweeper for this COG.

ENGINEER - D. GILLILAND: the Phase 2 Significant Deficiency Repair Project has been completed. A final invoice in the amount of \$48,200.00 has been submitted and is recommended for approval. This was the original bid and it also reflects the \$13,000 change order out of the project for the deletion of two sites on Middle Avenue.

C. TUSCAN / C. SPICUZZA TO PAY THE INVOICE OF \$48,200 OUT OF THE SEWER FUND.
MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

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G. JAKUB / C. TUSCAN TO APPROVE THE CHANGE ORDER DELETING THE TWO PROJECTS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

MR. D. GILLILAND: we solicited proposals to replace two storm inlets and connecting the storm pipe at the intersection of Welsh and Clara. We received three proposals and the lowest bid was received from Lawson Excavating for \$6,590.

C. SPICUZZA / S. VOLPE TO ACCEPT THE LOWEST PROPOSAL TO REPAIR TWO CATCH BASINS AT CLARA AND WELSH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,590 FROM LAWSON EXCAVATING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. D. GILLILAND: we received a request from St. Jude the Apostle Church for a curb cut on Clara Street so that they can install a handicap ramp.

C. TUSCAN / S. VOLPE TO GRANT THEM PERMISSION FOR A CURB CUT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. C. TUSCAN: what is the expected amount to do Phase 3 of the sewer deficiency repairs.

MR. D. GILLILAND: about \$70,000.

UTILITIES - M. TRKULA: no report.

SOLICITOR - G. N. EVASHAVIK: no report.

FINANCE - C. TUSCAN:

C. TUSCAN / S. VOLPE TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

BOROUGH PROPERTY - S. VOLPE: I have one bid on fixing the garage across town and I am waiting for two more to come in.

MR. G. JAKUB: I didn't know that we were taking bids to fix the garage. I thought Don's office said that the garage shouldn't have anything done to it.

MR. S. SHURGOT: the Borough Property Committee feels differently and they are getting prices to see what it would cost.

MR. C. TUSCAN: you can get prices but we do not have to take any action on it if we feel that it is too high.

MR. G. JAKUB: I don't want to spin our wheels if it is something that is not structurally safe.

MR. S. VOLPE: I had Don over there a couple of months before this other report came out, and he said that there was nothing wrong with it and that it was structurally sound. I guess after that report the back hoe hit the top of it and the one side and the blocks got dislodged.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2008 REGULAR MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECREATION - K. PETERSON: no report.

PLANNING COMMITTEE - K. PETERSON: I attempted to attend the meeting at East McKeesport but there was no meeting.

PERSONNEL - G. JAKUB: we need to focus on getting our summer help situated. I know we have received three or four applications and it appears to be the same crew that was here last year. Do we want to set a deadline by what date we are going to stop the applications and then start the process of having them tested and so forth.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we have their names here and we can get them ready to go instead of waiting another month. The applications that we have right now are from Joe Ruggiero, Andrew Tylka, Jonathan Trkula and William Crissman.

C. SPICUZZA / S. VOLPE TO HIRE THEM PENDING THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK AND PASSING THE DRUG TESTING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0-1 WITH M. TRKULA ABSTAINING.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

MS. K. PETERSON: I am proposing a project, and it is in the starting stages, and I need community help. We are all looking around and everyone is complaining how the town is not clean and nobody is taking care of their property. It our town and we have to take the responsibility and we have to take it back. What I am proposing is called "The Clean Sweep Program." What I want to do is meet with some folks who are interested this Saturday at 9:00 a.m. here at the borough building. What I would like to do is have groups of people adopt plots of ground and plant flowers and take care of it. If people pay attention then I don't think we will have any issues of vandalism. People are concerned and say, why should I do that, because it is our town. Everybody is complaining that the town is dirty and nobody cares. Lets show the people who don't care that we do and get our town back. It is a start and I am asking for everyone in the community to get involved. I need everyone here to get the word out and lets make this town ours again. Also, I am looking at starting something for the kids. We are worried that there is nothing for the kids to do in the summer. I would like to see if we could start some type of program for the kids to play baseball, softball or something and they would be supervised. I have grand kids in town and all they do is walk around. We need to get our kids active and to show that we care about them and our community. I am going to ask for your help again and I can't do this by myself. We are going to need people for coaching and supervising the activities. We need you to spread the word and try to get this off the ground.

MR. G. JAKUB: for anyone that was not aware, this past Saturday, the Y.M.C.A., in cooperation with other groups, including Wilmerding Council, which of course I was the only one, and Mike came a little bit later in the day, that was involved. I would like to thank everyone for the help that we had up there and everyone needs to take a look at the playground, which is a community playground. It was designed by the school children and it really turned out well.

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MR. M. TRKULA: there are a few letters missing from the sign at the Wilmerding Park.

M. TRKULA / K. PETERSON TO TAKE DOWN THE REST OF THE LETTERS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we discussed earlier in the workshop that we would take down the rest of the letters because we could not get them replaced before the festival. We also talked about trying to get the Art Department at the school to make a metal sign and Karen suggested that we cover it with plexiglass.

MR. C. TUSCAN: the old sign was covered with plexiglass.

MR. S. SHURGOT: on Monday May 26th we will be having Memorial Day services in the park starting at 8:00 a.m.

MAYOR'S REMARKS - D. POMPOSELLI: it is a shame that some people left. During the conversation with the Chief he mentioned that he had something in mind. The Chief and I met four times this month. Due to my health getting a lot better I am going to start riding around in the police car. It might help and it might not help. I am going to try and do something and the Chief has some very good ideas on what we are going to do. If you want your town back you are going to have to work for it, it isn't going to be given to you. Also, I would like to proclaim the week of May 18-24 as Emergency Medical Services Week. Another thing, I received a letter in the mail, unsigned, that we are not doing this and not doing that. I will not act on any unsigned letter. If someone has a complaint please come and see me.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.