

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE DEC. 1, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF 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; J. FILIA, present; K. PETERSON, present; S. SMITH, present; G. JAKUB, present; J. THOMAS, present; S. SHURGOT, present.
Mayor D. POMPOSELLI was also present.

S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE NOV. 10, 2009 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. G. JAKUB: I have one question from the minutes. On page 7 it states that Joe was to contact the County Assessor's office to put the Shaw Avenue garage back on the tax rolls. Was that done.

MR. J. HARTZELL: yes.

MR. J. THOMAS: I checked the county website and it shows that it is taxable.

MR. S. SHURGOT: at this time we advertised to open bids on various equipment that we are selling. I will now turn it over to Mr. Trkula who will open and read the sealed bids.

MR. M. TRKULA: the first bids we will open will be for the pick up truck.

Matthew Aubele - \$2,259 Sulli Motors - \$2,686 Speranzo Construction - \$6,400

Thomas Wratcher - \$2,501

M. TRKULA / G. JAKUB TO AWARD THE BID TO SPERANZO CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,400 FOR THE PICK UP TRUCK, WHICH INCLUDES THE PLOW AND SPREADER. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. M. TRKULA: we will now open the bids for the tar kettle.

Matthew Aubele - \$250 Thomas Wratcher - \$251

M. TRKULA / S. SMITH TO AWARD THE BID TO THOMAS WRATCHER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$251 FOR THE TAR KETTLE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. M. TRKULA: we will now open the bids for the leaf machine.

Matthew Aubele - \$309 Michael Prozan - \$425 Gilbert Aubele - \$129

M.J.C. Landscaping - \$650

M. TRKULA / K. PETERSON TO AWARD THE BID TO M.J.C. LANDSCAPING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$650 FOR THE LEAF MACHINE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE DEC. 1, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

1. the dog catcher contract is up for renewal and we received two proposals, one from Ferree Kennels and the other one from Hoffman Boarding Kennels. Last month we gave the Solicitor the contract from Ferree to review.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: we have reviewed the contract from Ferree and we drew up an addendum to the contract. It is a basic agreement that has been signed by other animal control officers.

K. PETERSON / J. THOMAS TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT PROPOSAL FROM FERREE KENNELS TO INCLUDE THE ADDENDUM. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

2. received an application for a handicap sign at 324 Commerce Street. This is the Faller Building and in his letter he says that there used to be one in front of the building and that we can put it there. He currently has a handicap sign where he lives now, 514 Middle Ave., and that can be taken down since he recently moved in there.

J. THOMAS / S. SMITH TO HAVE THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE INVESTIGATE THAT AND MAKE A RECOMMENDATION AT THE DEC. 15TH MEETING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY - G. JAKUB: I will have the Chief give his report first.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: for the month of November there was 105 calls for service, and there were 15 citations and 1 parking ticket issued.

MS. K. PETERSON: a couple of people have questioned me about some break ins on Card and Caldwell.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: they are being investigated and we do have some leads. Through various means that have developed there are several suspects. I can tell you this much there are arrests pending. Also, I guess you have already heard from some of the neighbors that we brought a SWAT team out to hit a house on Middle Avenue and there will be more arrests coming with that. Two burglaries from Middle Avenue were solved by hitting that house because some of the stolen items were in the house.

MS. S. SMITH: what is going on with the dog.

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: we are going to start the process in January and the training will not start until late spring. We are hopefully going to purchase the dog by late February. Right now it is still in our budget.

MR. G. JAKUB: Chief, do you have a finalized copy of the contract for us to review.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE DEC. 1, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

CHIEF J. COMUNALE: I don't have it with me but I can get it to you by the end of the week.

MR. G. JAKUB: Eastern Area ambulance responded to 45 calls with 32 transports in November. Their average response time to emergency calls was 6.15 minutes and to non emergency calls it was 9.44 minutes. The fire department responded to 16 calls in November with 22 man hours. There was 1 training class and 1 community detail. There were also several assists to other companies. I was contacted by a resident to check on some property where there is issues with trash and weeds above Welsh Avenue in the alley way circle. I will have Dave check on that and also the Fire Chief. Also, PennDOT was out here Saturday and this week to change all the traffic signals with the new LED lights with no cost to the borough. Our costs should go down to operate these. John is going to contact Duquesne Light.

PUBLIC WORKS - G. JAKUB: we are still picking up leaves and I hope this is the last phase. I don't know if we ever picked leaves up in December before. All the Christmas lights were put up for light up night. I have just been told that the lights on the other side are not working and there is some type of problem. Also, we have about 125 tons of salt and we should be good for awhile.

COG REPORT - G. JAKUB: there was no meeting. The meeting is next Wednesday because of Thanksgiving. I will try to get more information on the new vector program.

MR. J. THOMAS: I thought there was a deadline where we had to sign up if we wanted to participate in the program.

MR. G. JAKUB: there is no deadline yet.

ENGINEER'S REPORT - D. GILLILAND:

PennDOT plans to advertise the Safe Route to School project in December and the bids will be opened on January 14, 2010.

The CD35 Significant Deficiency Sewer Repair Project bid opening is set for December 9, 2009.

The CD35 demolition project should be under way within two weeks. The county has not given the COG permission to start demolition of 353 Marguerite yet because they have not received the "Historic Clearance".

Equitable Gas has not completed the repair of our storm sewer at Caldwell and Brown. They said that it should be completed this week.

We have researched the complaints in the 400 block of Airbrake that was mentioned at last month's meeting. The Health Department states that there are chemicals in the sewers in this area and that ALCOSAN is conducting further tests to locate the source. WPJWA found no contaminants in their water.

A meeting will be held on December 10, 2009 at 1:30 here at the borough building with ALCOSAN to discuss the sewer line that runs under the Airbrake plant.

UTILITIES - J. FILIA: no report.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE DEC. 1, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

SOLICITOR - G. EVASHAVIK: you asked that we start a condemnation process and the notices were prepared. If you are ready to move forward you need to make a motion to schedule a hearing and advertise it. This is 418 Westinghouse Avenue.

MR. D. MILLER: can we add 710 Middle Avenue.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: are you ready to have the hearing on the first one or do you want to do them at the same time.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we can do them at the same time.

MR. J. THOMAS: Dave, you said that we cannot apply for the grant until May.

MR. D. GILLILAND: yes, so you have plenty of time. I will get you a report for 710 Middle Ave.

FINANCE - J. THOMAS:

J. THOMAS /K. PETERSON TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 70.

MR. J. THOMAS: as we have discussed before we received a proposal from Maiello, Brungo and Maiello to collect our delinquent real estate taxes and garbage. The Solicitor has reviewed the contract and finds it acceptable.

J. THOMAS / K. PETERSON TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM MAIELLO, BRUNGO AND MAIELLO TO COLLECT OUR DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE AND GARBAGE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. J. THOMAS: everyone has received a copy of the 2010 budget. Our proposed budget for 2010 is \$788,114 which includes a tax increase of 1.95 mills which will bring our millage up to 8 mills.

J. THOMAS / K. PETERSON TO ADVERTISE THE 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET AND THE ORDINANCE FOR SETTING THE TAX MILLAGE AND ALSO ADVERTISE FOR A SPECIAL MEETING TO ADOPT THE BUDGET AND ANY OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS ON DECEMBER 15TH AT 7 PM. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

BOROUGH PROPERTY - M. TRKULA: no report. We opened bids for the sale of equipment earlier.

RECREATION - S. SMITH: the Children's Christmas Party will be held on December 12th at 1 pm at the Castle. We will be having the house decorating contest again this year and the houses will be judged on Dec. 19th.

PLANNING - K. PETERSON: no report.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE DEC. 1, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

M. TRKULA / G. JAKUB TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED PERMIT AND FEE SCHEDULE.

MS. S. SMITH: we were talking about a shed permit for anything under 100 square feet.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: these are already fees that you have in the borough and you are just changing the amount.

MR. D. MILLER: these are the permits that are required under the Uniform Construction Code on the ordinance that we passed. The first page is our current permit and fees and the second page is the list of the new permit and fees.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: so that section at the top of page two we do not have any ordinances previously enacted authorizing those fees so we cannot establish those except by ordinance. All the other ones we can change the fee amount by simple resolution since we already adopted those ordinances and those fees are allowed by ordinance.

MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL TO ADOPT THE NEW FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE EXISTING PERMITS, 7-0

G. JAKUB / M. TRKULA TO HAVE THE SOLICITOR PREPARE AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE NEW PERMIT AND THE FEES RECOMMENDED UNDER THE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. G. JAKUB: there is going to be a new act, the Medicare Ambulance Access Preservation Act, which is HR1066.

MR. S. SHURGOT: basically, they are trying to reduce the Medicare rates that they put on the ambulance services. We are asking the municipalities to send a letter to Sen. Casey and Sen. Specter to support this bill.

G. JAKUB / S. SMITH TO SEND A LETTER TO SEN. CASEY AND SEN. SPECTER TO ASK THEIR SUPPORT ON THIS BILL. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MAYOR'S REMARKS - D. POMPOSELLI: I mentioned this twice before. The cement is coming loose around the manhole on the steps by my property. Now the cement is all over the steps and someone is going to fall down the steps. It needs to be taken care of as quickly as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.