

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE MAY 11, 2010 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:40 p.m.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Council met in executive session prior to the meeting to discuss personal matters.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

ROLL CALL: MICHAEL TRKULA, present; JAMES FILIA, present; KAREN PETERSON, present; SANDRA SMITH, present; GREGORY JAKUB, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPHEN SHURGOT, present. MAYOR DOMINICK POMPOSELLI was also present.

G. JAKUB / M. TRKULA TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2010 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MR. K. CHARLES, AIRBRAKE AVE.: we have several problems on our street. A few of us took it upon ourselves to cut the grass. The person who owns the property does nothing with them. The chimney fell down and nothing is being done to him. I think you all know who I am talking about. You need him to start maintaining his property like the rest of us.

MR. S. SHURGOT: have you contacted our code office and gave them the address.

MR. K. CHARLES: yes.

MR. G. JAKUB: I will see our code officer tomorrow night and I will have a discussion with them.

MRS. T. HICKMAN, AIRBRAKE AVE.: is anything being done about the storage shed or POD that is sitting on Airbrake Ave.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we talked about in the workshop and we have an ordinance for that and we will take care of it.

MR. T. FRYDRYCH, WELSH AVE.: I was down here about a month ago talking to the secretary in code enforcement and I wanted to know if there was a log being kept on violations for the 979 ordinance. There were no violations on the books and she was not aware of anything. I went up and asked the Chief and he told me that the first violation was being sent down to her that day. I asked him what was in the log book, because I had called a couple of them in myself, and he told me that there were no violations.

MR. J. FILIA: according to the Chief last month, he said that he was going to keep a log on all 979 violations and give us a report monthly.

MRS. A. BRUCE, AIRBRAKE AVE: about that POD on Airbrake Ave., it has been there for a couple of weeks and the police have been pass there a number of times and they never notified the people about that.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I don't have an answer and the Chief is not here and he probably could answer that.

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MR. G. JAKUB: they would also have to get a permit, just like for a dumpster, and they would need some type of reflectors.

MR. R. DEMUTH, AIRBRAKE AVE.: the story on the POD is that it is one of Sean Kerrigan's tenants and he is moving out of the house. The house was not inspected, has not been inspected or has not passed inspection. He has not lived up to his end of the lease so the tenants took a POD and moved their stuff into it and that is why it is sitting there. Also, at the last meeting I was asked if everything was in order for me to be constable. I am insured, I am good to go and all my credentials are good as far as being a constable. Mr. Jakub has a copy of all that.

MS. A. ROBINSON, MIDDLE AVE.: we filed a complaint about a year ago about the roof next door to us about the gutters. Our basement gets flooded every time it rains. This was before the current Code Officer. The Code Officer was supposed to send a letter to the landlord and I understand that a letter was never sent out. Nothing has ever been done and with the rainy season coming we are concerned that we will be flooded again. He was supposed to contact us and come over and he never did. Also, I know the borough paints a blue line for a handicap parking spot, but when the handicap spot is no longer there and the sign is down but the blue paint is still there, is that an open parking spot.

MR. S. SHURGOT: as far as I know anyone can park there. The sign has to be there for it to be enforced.

MR. G. JAKUB: we usually try to cover it up with black paint.

MS. A. ROBINSON: I parked in front of my building to unload my car and the neighbor a few houses down the street decided to park his car into my car. My question is, are you going to put parking line spaces in.

MR. G. JAKUB: no, there was never any parking lines space there. All we are going to do is eliminate the handicap space.

MS. A. ROBINSON: he said that is where the handicap space stopped and he parked right up to the line

MR. T. FRYDRYCH: just one last question on the 979 ordinance. Is Council satisfied with the way this whole program is being run.

MR. S. SHURGOT: it has to be monitored through the police. Personally, I think there should be more.

MR. T. FRYDRYCH: it is the same recurring incidents. It is the same people. What is the use of having the ordinance if you are not going to enforce it.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will talk to the Chief to see what they plan on doing.

MR. G. JAKUB: we did ask Chief DiCenzo about the three strike rule. That is why you heard about the first one coming down. He is keeping a ledger at this point.

MR. T. FRYDRYCH: about a month ago I told an officer who answered a call that this is strike one and it needs to be filed in the book. No one is doing anything about it.

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MR. G. JAKUB: we hope to make some progress with the new Chief.

MS. S. ZIBRAT, AIRBRAKE AVE.: is Council aware of how many houses are up for sale. We have a lot of good families that are leaving. If Council doesn't do something more families are going to leave. Kids are coming down from East McKeesport, North Versailles and all over and congregating in Wilmerding. They are not only in the park but they are also up on Marguerite Avenue and are all over everybody's property. I left bingo Monday night about 10:15 and there were kids at the corner of Clara and Marguerite waiting for someone to come and pick them up. Kids are running rampant around here and nothing is being done.

MRS. A. BRUCE: are you aware of how many houses have been broken into and the copper pipe has been taken. Something needs to be done. You should alert the scrap yards about these people who are bringing in copper.

MR. G. JAKUB: now you have to put your real name down and show identification. Even when we took our scrap from the borough the guys had to show a drivers license.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. received a request for a handicap sign at 450 Airbrake Avenue. All the necessary paperwork has been submitted.

M. TRKULA / K. PETERSON TO GRANT A HANDICAP SIGN FOR 450 AIRBRAKE AVE.
MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

2. received a request for a clergy sign at 307 Caldwell Avenue for the Agape Fellowship Christian Community Center.

K. PETERSON / S. SMITH TO GRANT A CLERGY SIGN FOR 307 CALDWELL AVE. THE AGAPE FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CENTER.

MR. G. JAKUB: I want to talk to her first to make sure where she wants the sign to go. There was some discrepancy when she brought it up before, on the side street or on Caldwell.

MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL TO GRANT A CLERGY SIGN FOR THE AGAPE FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 7-0.

3. we have a resolution naming Steve Shurgot as our representative to PEMA for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance for the February 2010 snow storms.

J. THOMAS / G. JAKUB TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION NAMING STEVE SHURGOT AS OUR REPRESENTATIVE TO PEMA. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY - J. FILIA: for the month of April the ambulance responded to 43 calls. Of those calls they had 30 transports. Their average response time to emergencies was 6.02 minutes and to non-emergency calls it was 7.05 minutes. The fire department had 11 calls for the month of April with 98 man hours expended. They had one training class and one community detail. The police department had 243 calls for the month of April. A breakdown of a few of those calls, they assisted the ambulance 26 times, 5 animal and dog complaints, 4 assaults, 2 burglary, 27 security checks, 20 juvenile related calls, 8 suspicious activities, 8 thefts and 2 traffic accidents.

PUBLIC WORKS - G. JAKUB: we received our tractor back and we are getting caught up with the grass in between the rain. We are cleaning up the trees around the park and the different areas where they came down during the storm. We are getting the floor of the back hoe repaired so the driver doesn't end up on the ground. We received a letter from Cargill, regarding our salt, and it appears that they declined on the option for the 2010-2011 season. We are going to have to place a new bid. Also, we received a letter from Caterpillar and they want to replace some parts on the back hoe and there will be no charge for that. What are we going to do about the vactor program through COG since the deadline is tomorrow.

MR. J. THOMAS: I thought the Morningside sewer was going to be \$10,000 but is \$21,000. The sewers have to be cleaned. You are obligated to clean the sewers through the consent decree.

MS. K. PETERSON: what is the cost for this.

MR. G. JAKUB: the cost is \$7,500 and it will be split into two payments. We get 14 days of use of the vactor.

G. JAKUB / K. PETERSON TO ACCEPT THE VACTOR PROGRAM THROUGH COG.

MR. M. TRKULA: you said that we do not use it that much.

MR. G. JAKUB: we don't but the problem is that if we don't get it we are going have to be responsible for this at the next audit. There are 300 basins that we are responsible for and if we do 100 every year over the three years it basically pays for itself.

MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0 TO ACCEPT THE VACTOR PROGRAM.

MR. M. TRKULA: last month I asked about the drug test. There were two vehicle accidents in February but only one driver took the drug test.

MR. G. JAKUB: I will look into it.

ENGINEER - D. GLENN: the \$20,000 grant for the walking trail will expire on June 30th. I will contact the County to see if we can get an extension. The low bidder for the Safe Route to Schools project was C H & D. Tri-State Grouting is doing the CD 35 sewer work. They started work on May 3rd and have 60 days to complete the project. The CD 35 demolition is complete. We are holding back 5% on the Tonaluka Club because they still have to remove the tree stumps and repair the sidewalks. Bids were

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opened up on May 10, 2010 for the Morningside Avenue sewer repairs. The low bidder was State Pipe in the amount of \$21,800. The second bidder was from Fleming-Walker in the amount of \$28,790. Insight Pipe did not submit a bid.

K. PETERSON / J. THOMAS TO AWARD THE MORNINGSIDE AVENUE SEWER PROJECT TO THE LOW BIDDER, STATE PIPE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,800. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

MR. D. GLENN: the CD 37 pre-applications are due by May 21, 2010. You all have a list of the projects that were submitted last year but did not receive any funding. I can resubmit them all if you want and any other projects not listed that you want to apply for.

MR. M. TRKULA: I was thinking that we could take off the step reconstruction for Clara Street and Frank Street. Also, we can take off the demolition of the YMCA bleachers.

COG REPORT - S. SMITH: COG is going to submit their name to be one of the tax collectors in the southeast region. One of their biggest selling points is that they are not for profit and they would not have to pay the salaries like the other companies which would help them keep the cost down. When they were talking about hiring people they were talking about hiring them at \$10.55 an hour.

UTILITIES - K. PETERSON: no report.

SOLICITOR - N. EVASHAVIK: no report.

MR. M. TRKULA: can we lien garbage.

MR. N. EVASHAVIK: the delinquent tax collector can do that.

MR. J. FILIA: have you looked further into the parking lot permits.

MR. S. SHURGOT: the last I remember is that we have an ordinance regulating parking and we would just need to add a few places. My question is, if someone owes the borough money, and they don't ask for a no lien letter, is that person responsible for that amount.

MR. N. EVASHAVIK: you would have to file a lien against them. The delinquent collector can do that and it would follow them.

MS. K. PETERSON: when they do a title search they would contact the borough to see if they owe anything.

MR. N. EVASHAVIK: certainly you can pass those amounts on.

MS. K. PETERSON: it costs money to file a lien.

MR. N. EVASHAVIK: it is a safety net. A lien is good for so many years.

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PERSONAL - J. FILIA: we have received applications for summer help. One is from Jonathan Trkula, who worked here last summer and the other one is from Michael Jakub who also worked last summer for us.

S. SMITH / J. FILIA TO HIRE JONATHAN TRKULA AND MICHAEL JAKUB FOR SUMMER HELP AT THE MINIMUM WAGE AND TO START WORK AT THE FOREMAN'S DISCRETION AND THE SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF THE DRUG TEST. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0-2 WITH G. JAKUB AND M. TRKULA ABSTAINING.

FINANCE - J. THOMAS:

J. THOMAS / S. SMITH TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. J. THOMAS: we are getting some results on the delinquent real estate tax plus the delinquent garbage.

J. THOMAS / M. TRKULA TO SEND GARBAGE BILLS TO ALL THE PROPERTIES WHETHER THEY ARE OCCUPIED OR NOT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MS. K. PETERSON: we also discussed in the workshop the delinquent rental licenses, current and past years.

K. PETERSON / G. JAKUB TO HAVE THE SECRETARY NOTIFY THE CODE OFFICIAL TO CITE EVERYONE THAT IS DELINQUENT IN THEIR RENTAL LICENSES, PAST AND PRESENT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

BOROUGH PROPERTY - M. TRKULA: no report.

RECREATION - S. SMITH: we are working on our Memorial Day services in the park and the National Night Out program. I have been in contact with the school and they are ask the fourth, fifth and sixth grades to write a composition on Memorial Day. We will give a prize to the best composition. We are working with the YMCA to start a youth program. Also, Reverend Reeves mentioned that she would like to have a youth revival in the park. She has done this in the past and has gotten a good response. We will discuss this further with her.

PLANNING - K. PETERSON: no report.

TAX COLLECTION - J. THOMAS: we are part of the southeast region of Allegheny County. We should have the Tax Collector appointed sometime in September this year. We are meeting every month in Monroeville, all of the municipalities and school districts. Our next meeting is May 27th.

OLD BUSINESS

MR. G. JAKUB: we discussed options on what to do with traffic control in the event the power went out. We were approached by Mr. Comunale that he would work with us to adapt a generator program on the traffic signals at a cost of \$200.

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G. JAKUB / J. THOMAS TO HAVE MR. COMUNALE ADAPT A GENERATOR PROGRAM ON THE TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN THE EVENT THE POWER IS OUT FOR \$200. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MS. K. PETERSON: someone approached me about a bee hive on Marguerite Avenue. They didn't tell me where it was. Who do we contact about this.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we would contact the property owner.

MS. S. SMITH: at the workshop we talked about the fire department getting a grant for a generator. If you look on this correspondence we received, it says emergency generator. Do you think we can apply for this grant to help our fire department.

MR. J. THOMAS: I went on line to check it and it is for rural areas only and we don't qualify. The key word is rural.

NEW BUSINESS

MR. S. SHURGOT: just a reminder that we will be having Memorial Day Services on May 31st at 8 am in the park. All are encourage to attend.

MAYOR'S REMARKS - D. POMPOSELLI: I am very disappointed about the town hall meeting tomorrow. Who asked for this meeting, I don't know. People are asking me what it is all about. I had about eighteen complaints about landlords, and they wouldn't give me their name, I told them to come to the meeting. Most of the complaints were about one landlord. He is going around and doing this and doing that and telling everyone that he has the Magistrate in his back pocket. I have no proof of that whatsoever. I told them that you need proof that the Magistrate is not doing his job. I don't believe it, I think he is doing his job. Another complaint that I got is about the property that Comunale owns. There is a gate there and I talked to him about the dust and he told me that the borough owns that property.

MR. G. JAKUB: I heard that too, that her car was getting dusty. I can clear up one thing for you. The town hall meeting tomorrow is basically an extension of the crime watch meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.