

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE NOV. 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

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

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 JACK MASON was also present.

M. TRKULA / G. JAKUB TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE OCT. 4, 2011 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MR. P. LIVERATTI - AIRBRAKE AVE.: what is the status of 428 Airbrake Avenue.

MR. J. THOMAS: East Haven owns it.

MS. B. JURICH - HARRISON CITY: I am here because my mother in law received a letter from the Building Inspector concerning the condition of her house. She lives at 258 Welsh Avenue. She is afraid that she is going to lose her house because she has no money to make the repairs that he wants. I talked to Mr. Miller about this and asked him to give her time to make the repairs.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: the procedure is to talk to the Building Inspector and try to work things out with him. This body does not get involved with the violations, the answers need to come from Mr. Miller. He is a reasonable man and I am sure that he will give you a fair amount of time to make any repairs.

MS. B. JURICH: I have a date to meet Mr. Miller at the house to see what he wants done first. Like I said, my mother in law has no money to do everything that he wants done and she thinks she is going to lose her house.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. received three proposals to install a manhole before the ALCOSAN connection on WABTEC property. The low quote was from Soli Construction for \$7,950.

S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO AWARD THE PROJECT TO SOLI CONSTRUCTION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

2. received a letter from Ms. Pauline Walsh that she would like to continue to serve on the Planning Commission after her term expires on Dec. 31, 2011.

M. TRKULA / K. PETERSON TO RE-APPOINT MS. WALSH TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

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MINUTES OF THE NOV. 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

3. receive a notice from the Allegheny County Borough's Association on their general membership meeting to be held on Thursday Dec. 1, 2011 at the Churchill Valley Country Club. The cost is free to the voting delegates and \$25 for anyone else that wants to attend. They are also requesting donations for Toys for Tots and also for a door prize.

MR. S. SHURGOT: in the past we have donated a toy. We would spend around \$25 for the toy. We also donated a gift certificate for a door prize.

M. TRKULA / S. SMITH TO SEND THE DELEGATES AND TO DONATE A TOY AND GIFT CERTIFICATE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. S. SHURGOT: at this time we would like to present a plaque to Mr. Pomposelli thanking him for his service to the community as Mayor and Notary Public. Karen Peterson will see that he receives this.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY - J. FILIA: for the month of October the fire department responded to 16 calls. They also had 3 training sessions, 1 work detail and 2 community details.

Eastern Area ambulance responded to 50 calls in October with 36 of them transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 6.4 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 10.5 minutes. Chief DiCenzo will give us the police report.

CHIEF V. DICENZO: for the month of October there were 186 calls and 6 arrests. A brief summary of the calls, there were 5 assaults, 7 criminal mischiefs, 6 domestics, 3 drug investigations, 4 juvenile related calls, 4 neighbor disputes, 1 public intoxication, 1 retail theft, 4 suspicious persons, 9 traffic accidents, 5 thefts and 2 wanted persons and warrants served.

MS. K. PETERSON: there seems to be a lot of out of state license plates in town. Do they have to change the plate.

CHIEF DICENZO: no, only if they are moving here then they have 60 days to get new plates

MR. J. FILIA: I want to thank the police, fire department and ambulance service for their safety patrols on Halloween night.

CODE ENFORCEMENT - D. MILLER: everyone has received a copy of my report. Also, it looks like the hi-rise situation may finally come to an end.

PUBLIC WORKS - G. JAKUB: the leaf pick up is in progress. We are getting ready for the winter season.

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MINUTES OF THE NOV. 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MR. D. MILLER: can we consider issuing citations against Stone Crest Opportunities for their property. It is becoming a nuisance and they are not paying their taxes.

MR. G. JAKUB: we can turn that over to our delinquent collector.

MR. J. FILIA: can we condemn the property.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: if we condemn it we do not take ownership of the property. You could file a lien against the property.

MR. J. THOMAS: I can talk to Maiello about this. They are in the process of doing judgements.

ENGINEER

MS. S. SMITH: before Dave left he told us that there was extra money available to tear down the two houses and it would not cost the borough anything.

M. TRKULA / J. FILIA TO ACCEPT THE LOW BID OF \$14,950 FROM W & J CONTRACTORS FOR THE DEMOLITION OF 418 WESTINGHOUSE AVENUE AND 125 WATKINS AVENUE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

COG REPORT - G. JAKUB: Swissvale Fire Department received a \$175,000 CITF grant to construct a new fire station. There will be no meeting in November. They are trying to create a UCC Board to handle appeals. Something like this may be helpful.

UTILITIES - K. PETERSON: no report.

SOLICITOR - G. EVASHAVIK: we have prepared an ordinance to amend the Earned Income Tax Ordinance to reflect the changes of Act 32 effective Jan. 1, 2012. It should be advertised and you can take action on it at the next meeting.

J. THOMAS / G. JAKUB TO ADVERTISE THE EARNED INCOME TAX ORDINANCE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I don't know who is supposed to tell the residents that they have to notify their employers who their earned income tax collector is. Can we call Keystone to see what they are planning to do.

MR. J. THOMAS: I will give them a call.

PERSONNEL - J. FILIA: no report.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE NOV. 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

FINANCE - J. THOMAS:

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

J. THOMAS / TO AWARD THE GARBAGE CONTRACT TO WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR 2012.

MR. J. FILIA: we are only doing it for one year.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: you can exercise that option for each year.

/ M. TRKULA TO AWARD THE GARBAGE CONTRACT TO WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR ONE YEAR. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

MR. J. THOMAS: since the bid came in lower we are seeing some savings and I would like to pass those savings on to our residents who pay on time. I am proposing that if they are current on their 2011 bill at the end of the year they would be entitled to the savings. They would pay \$130 for the whole year. This payment must be received by January 31, 2012 otherwise they will be billed the regular amount of \$36 each quarter.

J. THOMAS / S. SMITH TO GIVE THE RESIDENTS A DISCOUNT ON THEIR GARBAGE BILL FOR 2012 IF THEY ARE PAID IN FULL BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

MR. J. FILIA: that would be about a ten percent discount for the 2012 bills.

MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL 7-0 TO GIVE THE DISCOUNT IF THEY ARE PAID IN FULL FOR 2011.

BOROUGH PROPERTY - M. TRKULA: at the workshop we discussed the letter from Duquesne Light about charging us to put up any decorations on their poles. I don't think we should put them up this year and wait and see what Duquesne Light is going to do.

MR. G. JAKUB: is that lights also.

MR. M. TRKULA: yes.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I don't see why we shouldn't put them up. We paid all that money for the banners. We should put them up until Duquesne Light says to take them down.

MR. M. TRKULA: I think we should wait and see what they are going to do. We paid \$2,500 for those banners and we can sell them to someone at the same cost if they are new.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE NOV. 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

M. TRKULA / J. THOMAS TO NOT PUT UP THE BANNERS THIS YEAR .

ROLL CALL: M. TRKULA, yes; J. FILIA, abstain;

MR. J. FILIA: I have mixed feeling about this.

K. PETERSON, no;

S. SMITH: if the poles are on our property can we bill them for these poles.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: no, they obtained easements to put the poles up.

S. SMITH, no; G. JAKUB, yes; J. THOMAS, yes; S. SHURGOT, no.

The vote was 3-3-1 and therefore no majority. The Mayor would need to break the tie.

MAYOR J. MASON: yes. The banners will not be put up by a vote of 4-3-1.

MR. G. JAKUB: are we going to put lights up around the building.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we have a few lights for the building.

RECREATION - S. SMITH: we had 22 children for our costume judging and 95% of them were from Wilmerding.

We will be having Veteran's Day services here at the borough building on Nov. 11th at 11 am. Mr. Parisi will be the Master of Ceremonies and there will be light refreshments.

The children's Christmas party will be on Dec. 10th from 1 to 3 pm.

S. SMITH / J. THOMAS TO DONATE \$300 TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR HALLOWEEN. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

PLANNING - K. PETERSON: we are getting a lot of transient people in town with out of state plates. The concern is do they have to apply for an occupancy permit if they are renting and how many people can stay in each apartment.

MR. D. MILLER: you can only regulate how many people are allowed for commercial buildings.

MR. S. SHURGOT: even if it is single family.

MR. D. MILLER: they can have any amount.

MR. J. FILIA: the lease can limit the number of people that are allowed.

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MINUTES OF THE NOV. 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MS. K. PETERSON: the Planning Commission wants to know when the meeting with Council and the Engineer will be.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we are waiting for Dave Gilliland to get back to us.

MS. K. PETERSON: is the borough going to send out letters on the status of the floodplain.

MR. S. SHURGOT: if we have to we will.

TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE - J. THOMAS: no report.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will be working on the budget with the new council members.

MR. J. THOMAS: they are welcome to come to the workshop on Nov. 22nd.

MAYOR'S REMARKS - J. MASON: I have been going to different functions representing the borough.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.