

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE OCT. 4, 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 JOHN MASON was also present.

MINUTES

MR. J. THOMAS: on page 4 one of the addresses is listed as 715 Airbrake Avenue. According to the county website it is 715 Middle Avenue. It is the same house. I think we should go by the lot and block.

M. TRKULA / S. SMITH TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES WITH THE CORRECTION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MRS. M. DOLESSANDRO, ORIENT AVE: I am here to complain about the property next to mine. I have some pictures here to show you what kind of condition it is in.

MR. S. SHURGOT: did you contact our code office.

MRS. M. DOLESSANDRO: no I haven't. The house is abandoned and the owner comes every so often and dumps on the side of his house. There is a shed there that is busted and the windows are broken. The yard has not been mowed and the porch is falling down in the back. There are no utilities there and it is a fire hazard.

MR. S. SHURGOT: can we keep these pictures. We will give to our code officer.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. the police CD is up for renewal on Oct. 12th. I would like to renew it for six months for \$125,000.

J. THOMAS / M. TRKULA TO RENEW THE POLICE PENSION CD FOR SIX MONTHS FOR \$125,000. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

2. received a mutual aid agreement from the North Versailles Township Sanitary Authority. The solicitor talked about this in the workshop.

M. TRKULA / G. JAKUB TO ENTER INTO MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING WITH NORTH VERSAILLES TOWNSHIP SANITARY AUTHORITY FOR THE USE OF THEIR JET TRUCK AND CAMERA TRUCK. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

3. received a letter from Joyce Tomasic, who's term on the Planning Committee expires on Dec. 31, 2011, stating that she would like to remain on the committee.

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S. SMITH / M. TRKULA TO APPOINT JOYCE TOMASIC TO A FOUR YEAR TERM ON THE PLANNING COMMITTEE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

4. received a letter from Larry Sobek, who's term on the Zoning Board expires on Dec. 31, 2011, stating that he would like to remain on the board.

K. PETERSON / J. THOMAS TO APPOINT LARRY SOBEK TO A FOUR YEAR TERM ON THE ZONING BOARD. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY - J. FILIA: everyone should have the July and August reports from the fire department. I have not received the report from September. For the month of September Eastern Area Ambulance responded to 40 calls and 31 were transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 6.3 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 8.1 minutes. They also included their third quarter report. For the third quarter they responded to 126 calls and had 90 transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 6.5 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 8.1 minutes. The Chief will now give the police report.

CHIEF V. DICENZO: on Oct. 14th Amen Corner will be honoring thirteen people and the four police officers that assisted at the fire on Patton Street will be in that group. The ceremonies start at 12 noon at the Sheraton at Station Square and tickets are \$30 each. If any one would like to go please let me know.

For the month of September there 190 calls and 15 arrests. Some of the calls included 2 animal and dog complaints, 3 burglary calls, 6 criminal mischief, 8 disorderly conducts or loud noise, 5 harassment, 10 juvenile related calls, 3 PFA papers served, 2 public intoxication, 8 suspicious activities and 3 traffic accidents.

Last Wednesday two new police cars were put into service. They are black and white with blue lettering.

MR. S. SHURGOT: the residents at 672 Airbrake Avenue had three violations of the 979 ordinance and the landlord is going to evict them.

PUBLIC WORKS - G. JAKUB: the spreader is going to Zoresco for some work.

We are going to weld a plate on the dump for leaf cleaning.

COG is trying to promote brine. This would be used to pre-treat the streets before the snow. East McKeesport is going to try it. I don't like it because you would have to pay your guys to pre-treat the street and then pay them again to salt the streets.

COG - G. JAKUB: there is a resolution to close out the joint recreation plan.

They are looking for ways to increase the money coming into COG by providing more services. There is less money coming in from the Federal Government.

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They are also looking into shared services with the fire, police and EMS. I believe that the police are already doing this. CCAC has brought back their fire safety course.

CHIEF V. DICENZO: the police are doing it with civil service testing. We are also looking at radios. By going together we can get a better price.

Turtle Creek COG, Steel Valley COG and Twin Rivers COG are working on blighted areas and vacant properties to see what can be done with them. We received \$10,089 for demolition this year, which is not enough to do the four houses, and we are just waiting for the legal clearances so that we can start.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we have the option of not using the money this year and give it to someone else then we would get their money next year.

MR. J. FILIA: how much does each town get.

MR. G. JAKUB: it depends on the number of blighted and vacant buildings.

Salt this year will be \$55.85 a ton, up a little bit from last year.

ENGINEER

MR. S. SHURGOT: Dave had to leave but there are a couple of items that we need to act on. The Duquesne Light grant for \$24,600 has been approved. Council needs to authorize Glenn Engineering to prepare bid documents and advertise for this project.

G. JAKUB / J. FILIA TO HAVE GLENN ENGINEERING DRAW UP THE BID DOCUMENTS AND THEN ADVERTISE THE PROJECT FOR BIDS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. S. SHURGOT: the other item is the garbage bids. The bids were opened yesterday. There were three bids submitted, Waste Management, Nickolich and Big's. The bids were from one year to five years. There were a few discrepancies in one bid and they are outlined in the letter from Glenn Engineering. The low bid was from Nickolich Sanitation ranging from \$7.96 per unit the first year to \$8.82 in year five. You can act on this now or wait and review the bids at our workshop.

J. THOMAS / G. JAKUB TO REVIEW THE BIDS AT OUR WORKSHOP AND DECIDE WHAT WE WANT TO DO. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

UTILITIES - K. PETERSON: the Direct Energy Program is offering discount rates to the residents. I told them that Council does not endorse any company.

MR. S. SHURGOT: they have the right to market our community.

SOLICITOR - G. EVASHAVIK: report given at workshop.

PERSONNEL - J. FILIA: no report.

MS. S. SMITH: Jim, did you give Brandon the personnel handbook.

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MR. J. FILIA: no I didn't.

MS. S. SMITH: we will meet with him to give him the book.

FINANCE - J. THOMAS: I am doing some budget work and let me know what your committee would need in 2012.

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

BOROUGH PROPERTY - M. TRKULA: the whole building was retrofitted with new lights inside and out. These are more energy efficient. This was done at no cost to the borough. There are still a few items that they have to finish.

RECREATION - S. SMITH: trick or treat will be held on Monday Oct. 31st from 6 to 8 pm. We will have judging of Halloween costumes on Oct. 31st with registration from 5 to 5:30 pm followed by the judging of the costumes.

Veteran's Day will be on Friday Nov. 11th at 11 am here at the borough building. Mr. Parisi has volunteered to be Master of Ceremonies.

PLANNING - K. PETERSON: the committee was wondering how much money COG gives us each year for demolition and is there a way to increase the amount.

Review the new flood plain map and adopt an ordinance with any changes. Everyone can buy flood insurance not just the residents in the flood plain.

Concerned about the monument at the school and what is going to happen to it when the school is sold.

Everyone should have received the report on the findings of wind power here at the borough building.

MS. S. SMITH: also on the solar panels.

We also received notice that there is a grant out there for any projects that exceed \$500,000. Can the Planning Commission look into this and see what they can do.

OLD BUSINESS

MR. J. THOMAS: we have a local businessman who wants to expand and build a building on a vacant lot. We signed off on this back in July or August and the Solicitor from the school district is holding on to it. He has called the school and county and no one has returned his calls. We agreed to sell it free and clear of all liens. He wants to put up a building but it seems that the school district is holding this up. Can we have the Solicitor contact the school Solicitor to see what the hold up is.

MR. J. FILIA: there is one parcel left and he is waiting for the school district to respond.

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MS. K. PETERSON: can we send a letter to Dr. Martoni and have him come out to see what he can do about the trucks getting hung up going into Wall.

I am receiving numerous complaints about raccoons.

MAYOR'S REMARK'S - J. MASON: I am receiving calls about different problems and I am turning them over to the proper department. I tell them to come to a council meeting and present it to see what we can do to correct the problem.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.