

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING  
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 5, 2012 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; REV. DOROTHY REEVES, present; KAREN PETERSON, present; SANDRA SMITH, present; JOHN MASON, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPHEN SHURGOT, present. MAYOR DOMINIC PARISI was also present.

M. TRKULA / J. MASON TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 2012 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MR. P. LIVERATTI, AIRBRAKE AVE.: there was a letter sent out directed to the residents on Airbrake Avenue to cut their weeds and grass. How can you send these to people when you do not even take care of your own property. You take care of the park but you forget about the other places. That piece of ground on Middle and the playground below that are overgrown with weeds. The borough should take care of their property before they send out letters like this.

MR. J. MASON: we will take care of it.

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MRS. T. HICKMAN, AIRBRAKE AVE.: I would like to congratulate Sandy Smith, John Thomas and everyone else who helped with the work in the park. It really looks nice and I hope it can stay that way. Also, the Memorial Day Service was very well attended.

MS. S. SMITH: Andy Pricener did the park originally and the Pricener family was a big part of that project. There were also a lot of other council members involved.

MRS. T. HICKMAN: the police have to make sure the kids are doing what they are supposed to be doing. Also, there is a lot of graffiti in town. Is anything being done about this.

MAYOR D. PARISI: I contacted Representative Paul Costa's office and they told me that it would be taken care of by PennDOT. There was a work order put in on May 24<sup>th</sup>. That is not borough property.

MRS. T. HICKMAN: I know it is not borough property but why can't we do something about it. Even the traffic signs have graffiti on them.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we can't take care of this with our budget. We know there is a problem with graffiti but it is expensive to remove. We have been fighting the county over who is responsible with the bridge.

MRS. T. HICKMAN: are we getting the right amount of money from these people for taxes.

MR. J. THOMAS: our 2013 assessment value went up. All of the commercial property went up.

MRS. T. HICKMAN: Mr. Kerrigan owns a lot of houses in town. Is he paying his taxes.

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MR. J. THOMAS: most of his properties have mortgages on them and the bank is paying the taxes. He also is making payments on his delinquent taxes.

MRS. T. HICKMAN: another problem is that the kids will not get off the street. They defy you to hit them. Can the police stop and talk to them and tell them to get off the street when cars are coming.

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MRS. S. ZIBRAT, AIRBRAKE AVE.: at 710 Middle Avenue, he put tar on the steps and he also put tar on the block wall in the front of his property.

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MR. N. McCARRELL, COMMERCE ST.: I would like to see more minority working more in the borough.

MR. S. SHURGOT: all they have to do is apply for employment.

MS. S. SMITH: usually we hire students for summer work.

MR. N. McCARRELL: is there anything that you can do about the store down the street. His prices are too high for people on a fixed income.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we know his prices are high but unfortunately there is nothing we can do.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. received a letter concerning the updating of the Borough's Code book. Our last update was in 2003. He would like to give us a quote for updating our code book so that we can include it in our budget for next year.
2. received a letter from Agape Fellowship Christian Community Center requesting permission to have a neighborhood block party on Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 8 pm. They would like to block off Caldwell Avenue from Herman Avenue to Clara Street.  
  
S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO GRANT THEM PERMISSION TO BLOCK OFF THE STREET TO HOLD A BLOCK PARTY. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.
3. since we are in a complex sewershed as determined by ALCOSAN, they are requesting that we pass a resolution that we are considering the current preferred alternatives to the Wet Weather Plan. Also, we agree that the County will prepare these plans which are due by July 31, 2013.  
  
J. THOMAS / K. PETERSON TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION FOR THE FEASIBILITY STUDY CONCERNING THE COMPLEX SEWERSHED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY - M. TRKULA: for the month of May the fire department responded to 16 calls and assisted other companies twice. Two people completed the essentials fire fighting class. They had 2 training session and 1 community detail.

For the month of May Eastern Area ambulance responded to 45 calls and 31 were transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 7.1 minutes and for non-emergencies was 9.6 minutes.

Chief DiCenzo will give the police report.

CHIEF V. DiCENZO: for the month of May we had 243 calls with 8 arrests. A breakdown of some of the calls were, 2 assaults, 3 burglary, 7 criminal mischief, 5 disorderly conduct, 14 domestics, 1 drug investigation, 9 harassment, 14 juvenile related calls, 2 neighbor disputes, 4 thefts and 3 traffic accidents.

We had an incident on Middle Avenue where there was a burglary in progress. One of my officers had to wrestle this gentleman to the ground. Several of the neighbors told us that this same gentleman has been in a lot of their houses in the past few weeks. This was the second time that he was in this house within two weeks. The police are out there doing their job. If you see something call us. You need to take action when the incident occurs.

PUBLIC WORKS - J. MASON: bids were opened on May 31<sup>st</sup> to install a concrete slab for the salt bin. We received four proposals and the lowest bid came from J. L. Urban for \$5,800.

J. MASON / TO AWARD THE SALT BIN PROJECT TO J. L. URBAN.

MR. S. SHURGOT: the other three bids show a 4" base and the low bidder doesn't show any base being installed. I don't think it is the same bid.

M. TRKULA / S. SMITH TO AWARD THE PROJECT TO SPERANZO CONSTRUCTION FOR \$6,426. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

MS. S. SMITH: does it state that he has to finish the project within 60 or 90 days after it is awarded.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I think that we only do that when we tear a house down.

MR. J. MASON: as most of you saw there was a dumpster from the hi rise by the bus stop. I went in and talked to the manager that they have to much garbage and need to schedule an additional pickup. She told me that she would arrange to have two pickups instead of one.

ENGINEER - D. GILLILAND: gave his report at the workshop.

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COG REPORT - J. MASON: no report.

UTILITIES - REV. D. REEVES: there are some children that live across the street from me and they want to play on my sidewalk. Who is responsible for the sidewalk. The parents argue with me that the sidewalk does not belong to me.

MR. S. SHURGOT: you are responsible if someone would get hurt. We will try to get you a document that explains to the parents that the sidewalk belongs to the homeowner and they have to maintain it.

SOLICITOR - N. EVASHAVIK: I gave my report earlier at the workshop.

PLANNING - REV. D. REEVES: the Local Government Academy has some classes on grants.

PERSONNEL - S. SMITH:

S. SMITH / J. MASON TO HIRE TYLER LEONARD, DOMINIC ZUCARRELLI AND DOMINIC MEYER FOR THE SUMMER STARTING JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> AND ENDING AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup> PENDING THAT THEY PASS THE DRUG SCREEN. THEY WILL BE PAID THE MINIMUM WAGE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MS. S. SMITH: I will bring the handbook to the workshop so that we can finish it up.

FINANCE - J. THOMAS:

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

MR. J. THOMAS: so far 83% of the taxes for 2012 have been collected. The discount period ended on May 31<sup>ST</sup>.

Our delinquent collector, Maiello Brungo and Maiello, collected \$2,156.33 in delinquent taxes and \$460.67 in delinquent garbage.

BOROUGH PROPERTY - K. PETERSON: did we get any quotes to light up the Wilmerding sign.

MS. S. SMITH: we were going to piggy back on the grant money that we received for the park. The Engineer did not get a quote from the people who are working in the park so now he has to put it out to bid.

RECREATION - S. SMITH: the Memorial Day Services went very well. We are working on our night out activities. The entertainment will be provide by Lee Alverson.

TAX COLLECTION - J. THOMAS: we are seeing the money from the earned income tax and local services tax coming in every week.

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NEW BUSINESS

J. MASON / S. SMITH TO MOVE THE JULY 3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING FROM 7:30 PM TO 6:30 PM SINCE WE HAVE THE CONDEMNATION HEARING SCHEDULED FOR 7:30 PM. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

MS. S. SMITH: the baby swing for the Avenue U playground is in and our guys will put that up this week.

Dumpsters will be here June 15, 16 and 17 for our clean up. We had to move it to June since there was a mix up delivering the dumpsters in April.

MAYOR'S REMARKS - D. PARISI: I received a lot of calls about the dumpster that was by the bus stop on Station Street. Between Jack and myself making a lot of calls we got the issue resolved.

I would like to thank Sandy Smith and Steve Shurgot for the excellent program that they arranged for the Memorial Day services.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.