

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEB. 1, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:16 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Council met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel matters.

ROLL CALL: REV. DOROTHY REEVES, present; KAREN PETERSON, absent; SANDRA SMITH, present; PAULA SHURGOT, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPHEN SHURGOT, present. MAYOR GREGORY JAKUB WAS ALSO PRESENT.

REV. D. REEVES / S. SMITH TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JAN. 4, 2016 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MS. A. TUCKER, LYDIA STREET: there is a street light out at the corner of Lydia and the alley. Also, there is one out on Sprague Street. How can we get these fixed?

MR. S. SHURGOT: if you can get us the pole number then we will contact Duquesne Light.

MS. S. GAINER, PRESIDENT WILMERDING APARTMENTS: we are having problems with the North Versailles Police with incidents that occur at the apartments. They do not write out any complaints and this hinders us from pursuing action against the tenant at the Magistrate's office. These are serious problems and we need stated documents to pursue evictions of these nuisance tenants.

CHIEF MATRAZZO: we answer all calls and we take the necessary information and then turn it over to the Housing Authority Police. We only handle emergency calls and everything else goes to the Housing Authority Police. We give them the information that we get on the initial call.

MR. S. SHURGOT: the Housing Authority Police has jurisdiction and you should be contacting them for that information.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH, WELSH AVE.: does the Petitions and Memorials have to be at the beginning of the meeting. Is that standard procedure?

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: yes.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: does it have to be that way.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: no.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: can you consider changing it to the end of meeting. This way we can question you on the actions that you take during the meeting.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEB. 1, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received a notice from the Allegheny League of Municipalities on their annual Spring Educational Conference to be held at Seven Springs from April 7-10.

MS. S. SMITH: how much is in the budget for the conference.

MR. J. THOMAS: \$1,800

MS. S. SMITH: the registration fee is \$395 and the lodging fee is \$593. With the \$1,800 budget only 2 people can attend.

S. SMITH / J. THOMAS TO SEND 2 REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONFERENCE AND ANYONE ELSE WOULD HAVE TO PAY THEIR OWN WAY. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MS. S. SMITH: how do we decide on who goes.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will discuss that at our workshop.

2. We have an ordinance increasing the indebtedness of the borough by the issue of a General Obligation Note in the amount of \$200,000 for upgrading and repairing borough streets, making a covenant for the payment of the debt and for providing for the filing of the required documentation and providing for a sinking fund depository.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: at this time we will conduct a public hearing on the ordinance. The ordinance authorizes the borough to borrow \$200,000 from PennDOT for street improvements at an interest rate of 1.625% and to contract with Compass Savings Bank for its services as the sinking fund depository.

P. SHURGOT / REV. D. REEVES TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE INCREASING THE INDEBTEDNESS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: also, there is a packet of documents and a resolution authorizing Borough Council to enter into a loan agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Department of Transportation.

S. SMITH / P. SHURGOT TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

3. Received a letter from Ms. Lydia Marcoz, of Caldwell Ave., that she is interested in the open position on the Vacancy Board.

MR. S. SHURGOT: each January Council has to appoint someone to a one year term on the Vacancy Board.

S. SMITH / J. THOMAS TO APPOINT LYDIA MARCOZ TO THE VACANCY BOARD FOR ONE YEAR TERM. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

4. Resolution adopting the Allegheny County 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan as the borough's official Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEB. 1, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

MR. S. SHURGOT: it would cost us between \$20,000 and \$30,000 to do our own plan so that is why all the municipalities are piggybacking on the Allegheny County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

P. SHURGOT / REV. D. REEVES TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION PIGGYBACKING ON THE 2015 ALLEGHENY COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

5. Promulgation updating the Emergency Management Plan.

S. SMITH / J. THOMAS TO ADOPT THE UPDATED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY – S. SMITH: for the month of January Eastern Area Pre-Hospital Services responded to 55 calls and made 35 transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 7.8 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 9.6 minutes.

CHIEF MATRAZZO: for the month of January we responded to 166 calls and made 7 arrests. There were 4 assaults, 2 burglaries, 2 criminal mischief, 2 disorderly conduct, 11 domestics, 1 gunshot, 2 juvenile complaints, 1 neighbor dispute, 4 parking complaints, 1 shooting incident, 3 suspicious persons, 8 thefts, 7 traffic accidents and 3 tow tagged vehicles.

MS. S. SMITH: also, in January they used the K-9 2 times for officer protection in Wilmerding, 2 building searches and 1 narcotics vehicle search.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT – S. SMITH: in January Dave Buskirk worked a total of 49 hours. Inspected and issued occupancy permits for 8 units at St. Joseph Apartments, issued 4 occupancy permits for the Caldwell Station Apartments, issued 6 occupancy permits for the hi rise and attended hearings at the Magistrate for citations issued. Also, in Louise's report for January she mailed the rental licenses out the week of Jan. 10th.

PUBLIC WORKS – P. SHURGOT: they boarded up a house on Watkins Avenue, they are constantly putting the stop sign back up on Ice Plant Hill, removed the 125th sign off of the Wilmerding sign, checking and maintaining the equipment, ordered more salt and took all the Christmas decorations down.

MS. S. SMITH: they also did an excellent job on snow removal.

ENGINEER – D. GILLILAND: the County has not yet responded to our request for additional funds, however, Mr. Glenn has been in contact with them. They were requesting a letter from the school district, which they now have, and we should expect a decision soon.

The 2016 sewer project will be starting soon, weather permitting.

Bids will be opened for the demolition of 104 State Street on Feb. 25th at COG.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – S. SMITH: Brunner is going to take a look at the door lock downstairs and we will get it resolved.

I would like to have our Engineer send out request for proposals to replace the public works door.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEB. 1, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

The ceiling in the stairway still needs some work done on it. We will not start that project until the hose tower roof is repaired.

SOLICITOR – G. EVASHAVIK: I received a call from the code enforcement office telling me that we do not have a height limit on grass and weeds. I have prepared a resolution and Council has to decide on the maximum height for grass to include in the section of the International Property Maintenance Code.

S. SMITH / J. THOMAS TO SET EIGHT INCHES AS THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT FOR GRASS AND WEEDS AND TO INSERT THIS INTO THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 4-1 WITH P. SHURGOT OPPOSED.

FINANCE – J. THOMAS

J. THOMAS / S. SMITH TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0

The 2015 Tax Collector's Report on the delinquents is going to Maiello. We collected a total of \$381,000 in taxes but we had to make some refunds due to tax appeals.

The WABTEC assessment is back to the 2012 value. We are paying them back over five years

MAYOR G. JAKUB: is the \$381,000 average for taxes.

MR. J. THOMAS: yes, but it should be around \$320,000 this year due to the WABTEC appeal.

RECREATION – P. SHURGOT:

P. SHURGOT / S. SMITH TO DONATE \$400 TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR THEIR EASTER ACTIVITIES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MS. S. SMITH: Paula, would you like me to reserve Holy Angels Church Hall for the second Saturday in December for the Children's Christmas Party.

MRS. P. SHURGOT: yes.

PLANNING – REV. D. REEVES: we discussed the garage on Westinghouse Avenue. There are several businesses going on there and you can't even walk on the sidewalk because cars are parked everywhere.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we had to cancel the hearing because the issuance of an occupancy permit was handled poorly. We could not prove that the garage was not in use for six months. Most of the issues are police matters. We will be meeting with the owner and tenant to discuss the problems.

MAYOR G. JAKUB: I talked to the owner and he understood our concerns. There has not been too many deliveries late at night and it seems the idling of the trucks has subsided.

REV. D. REEVES: we would like to attend some planning classes in March. The course is over three days. Also, we are almost done with our five year plan.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEB. 1, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: the report that you get from the Code Enforcement Officer, is that acceptable to you the way it is given.

MR. S. SHURGOT: no, I will call him and tell him what we are looking for. He needs to have more details in his report.

MRS. J. TOMASIC: this loan to repair the streets, how long do you have to pay it back.

MR. J. THOMAS: ten years.

MR. M. JAKUB: did the garage at 501 Westinghouse Avenue get a temporary occupancy permit.

MR. S. SHURGOT: yes

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: they passed all of the inspection requirements.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we received two letters of interest to fill the vacant council seat of Michael Trkula. The letters were from Mr. Michael Jakub and Ms. Linda Kirk. Everyone should have a copy of their letter of interest. At this time I will accept nominations to fill the vacant council seat.

MS. S. SMITH: I would like to nominate Linda Kirk to fill the seat of Michael Trkula.

ROLL CALL: REV. D. REEVES, Linda Kirk; S. SMITH, Linda Kirk, P. SHURGOT, Linda Kirk; J. THOMAS, Linda Kirk; S. SHURGOT, Linda Kirk. Linda Kirk was appointed, 5-0, to fill the vacant council seat of Michael Trkula until the next election.

MAYOR G. JAKUB SWORE IN LINDA KIRK AS A NEW MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

NEW BUSINESS

MS. S. SMITH: the residents at the hi rise asked that the Green Grocer set up at their building. The manager has not pursued this idea and it will still be in front of the school.

MS. S. SMITH: I was asked if we could install a street light on St. Joseph Drive by Hennigan's Studio. The people who live back in the apartments walk there in the evening and it is dark. There is a pole there but it does not have a light on it.

MR. J. THOMAS: I will contact Duquesne Light to see what they can do.

MRS. P. SHURGOT: i agree that the Petitions and Memorials should be at the end of the meeting. How can we change that?

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: you can always ask for comments when you are voting on something.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEB. 1, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MRS. P. SHURGOT: can we put extra agenda's in the back so that the people know what we are going to be voting on. Then they could question us before it comes up for a vote.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: certainly you can do that.

MR. S. SHURGOT: there are two openings on the Planning Commission. If anyone is interested they can submit their name to Council.

MR. S. SHURGOT: since the Daily News closed, which was our official newspaper, the Times Express will publish any item of interest for the borough.

REV. D. REEVES: there will be a prayer at my church every Wednesday at noon for the community.

MR. J. THOMAS: who should hold the file for the garage at 501 Westinghouse.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: it is a borough file so it should stay in the borough office.

MAYOR'S REMARKS – G. JAKUB: I would like to thank the public works, the police and everyone that helped out during the snow storm.

I attended a forum that Sen. Brewster had on Domestic Violence.

REV. D. REEVES / S. SMITH TO ADJOURN. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:22 P.M