

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES FROM JANUARY 2, 2024, REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOROUGH

Meeting was called to order by President Kelly Maxwell at 7:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

ROLL CALL: JOHN MARCOZ, present; TURNER SEIBLES, present.; JOE HARTZELL, present; STEVE VOLPE, present; LEAHMANDA BARNES, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; KELLY MAXWELL, present; MAYOR GREGORY JAKUB was also present.

S.VOLPE/L.BARNES TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2023, MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS:

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY:

K. MAXWELL: everyone has a copy of the police report, and the fire department is here to speak.

N. HARTZELL: I was just voted in as fire chief this year and will be taking over for my father who was the chief for the last 13 years. I'm excited to take on the role and will be giving my contact information to everyone or you can stop down as we are here very often. Tyler Beresford is the new assistant chief, and you can reach out to him with any questions as well.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – A. HUSSEY: I had some emergency surgery and was on light duty, but I have been working on the stuff that we talked about and have done a few inspections. I will be emailing the report over, I had a water issue today and just ran out of time.

ENGINEERS REPORT – B. BRANTHOVER: Commerce paving and trench will happen in the Spring; Card Avenue inlet has been done and they will be returning to perform sealing as the weather permits. I wasn't here for the last meeting, but Caroline reached out about the public works ceiling that is falling apart. I will work with Caroline to arrange a time to check into it. East McKeesport received another \$100,000.00 for Ice Plant Hill. They put the bids out as phased and no one picked it up the first time, the second time the contractors did not review the job and ended up pulling their bid so no they are going to take this additional money and try to but it out for the full project scope. It should be going out for bid in the next few weeks.

SOLICITOR - G. EVASHAVIK: The Turtle Creek Valley Arts Charter school has been approved for tax exempt status. Nick reviewed their application, and they did qualify so he wondered why they did not apply for this years ago. Coincidentally the school district filed an appeal and I think this was in response to that. We also have an ordinance to abolish the planning commission and rescind ordinance 880. Our council president will then need to make a planning committee with 3 members to serve the function and duties as required. If there are no questions on the ordinance, then council is free to vote.

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L. BARNES/T. SEIBLES TO ABOLISH THE PLANNING COMMITTEE AND RESCIND ORDINANCE 880. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

FINANCES --

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

J. THOMAS/L/ BARNES TO PAY BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,971.42 FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND \$7,250.00 FROM THE PLGIT SEWAGE FUND. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

J. THOMAS: I feel that we may need to raise our sewage surcharge, right now it is \$3.50 per 1,000 gallons. I looked at the figures and I feel we should go to \$4.00/1,000 gallons. This money is used for catch basins and other repairs.

J. THOMAS/ J. MARCOZ TO RAISE THE SEWER SURCHARGE FROM \$3.50/1,000 GALLONS TO \$4.00/1,000 GALLONS. ROLL CALL VOTE:

J. MARCOZ: YES

T. SEIBLES: NO

J. HARTZELL: NO

S. VOLPE: NO

L. BARNES: NO

J. THOMAS: YES

MOTION DOES NOT CARRY.

J. HARTZELL: instead of doing this I think we need to go after the delinquencies.

J. THOMAS: I gave that list a year ago and no one got back to me with any input.

J. HARTZELL: I thought we were just going to file against the 10 highest.

J. THOMAS: we can do that, but I think we should look it over and discuss it. The top 10 may not be the best option, I think it needs reviewed and discussed further.

G. JAKUB: can we hold their Rental licenses?

HUSSEY: we do that, but they put them in there anyway.

J. HARTZELL: we can take them to the magistrate then.

A.HUSSEY: we can do that, just discuss it and let me know.

MAYOR JAKUB: the Chief Farally will be out 4-6 weeks for training. They have been trying to crack down on the cars and they have been getting them towed.

L. BARNES/S. VOLPE TO ADJOURN MEETING 7:22 p.m.