

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2017 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:05 pm.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Council met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss a legal and personnel matter.

ROLL CALL: REV. DOROTHY REEVES, present; KAREN PETERSON, present; LINDA KIRK, present; SANDRA SMITH, present; PAULA SHURGOT, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPHEN SHURGOT, present. MAYOR GREG JAKUB was also present.

REV. D. REEVES / K. PETERSON TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3, 2017 MEETING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MRS. E. BARRETT, HERMAN AVE.: I want to address the lighting on Herman Avenue. There is not one street light on Westinghouse Avenue all the way down to Commerce Street. The only lights that we have are from the park, which is very poor. Also, when are the police going to start tagging some of these cars that are parked illegally, especially around the park where they back in and they block the crosswalks? Maybe in the spring you can paint the diagonal lines around the park so that people know they need to park on an angle. Some of the lights around the park are a different shade than the others.

MR. S. SHURGOT: can the Utilities Committee take a look and see where we can put in the street lights. We are going to put brighter lights on the Commerce Street side.

MRS. M. MEIGHAN, FOURTH ST. NORTH VERSAILLES: I would like to thank the members of Council for their support on the sale of the Westinghouse school.

116 Card Avenue, there are people in the house without it passing inspections. I also heard it did not pass a fire inspection. If that is the case why aren't those people evicted because they are still living there.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I know that COG is working on some houses up in that area.

MRS. M. MEIGHAN: has Mr. Kerrigan paid any of the money that he owes for garbage.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we are in the process of handling the whole lump sum, garbage and taxes.

MR. J. THOMAS: I haven't received the report for January, but he did make payments in November and December. We are going to go through the District Magistrate for the delinquent garbage and if there are any delinquent taxes they are liened.

MR. S. VOLPE, CARD AVE.: are you sending anything out like you did annually to pay for garbage for the year for the discount.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2017 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

MR. S. SHURGOT: there was a newsletter that went out in December about paying that by the end of January.

MR. S. VOLPE: I guess the Building Inspector is working on me instead of 116. He wrote me up for a piece of siding that was missing from the rear of one of my apartments. That is taken care of. He also wrote me up for illegal occupancy of second floor apartment. Way back when Buskirk was here I sent checks in for both apartments to get an inspection done. He never called me back and I think it was near the end of his appointment. I called Louise and told her I paid but it was never done. I talked to Jesse and told him as soon as I finish painting my apartment downstairs he can do both of them. Also, if you go around town you will see that there is garbage everywhere. There is still the one house that East Haven bought on Airbrake and someone took the windows out and it looks like crap over there. Shouldn't he be concentrating on some of these other structures?

There will be a meeting on the sale of the school on Monday and I have no clue of what is going on. The way it is now I would say it is still 5 to 4 against the sale.

MS. L. KIRK: I did meet with Mr. Paradine and Mr. Savinda to discuss this and we had a very good conversation. Both of them said that they have not seen anything in writing.

MRS. S. ZIBRAT, AIRBRAKE AVE: don't they realize that there is going to be a school in the area regardless if the school is sold or not.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH, WELSH AVE.: the votes they have up at the school we have nothing to say about them down here, they answer to North Versailles Township. They have been talking about raising school taxes again, is that still on the agenda? Very few people up in North Versailles barely know what is going on with that school. The sale of this school may mean the difference of taxes being raised or not being raised.

MRS. S. ZIBRAT: I would like to thank the County Police. Years ago I asked North Versailles to make some rounds on Monday night because of our bingo and where it is because it is usually dark there. I asked the County Police one time and they have been checking on us every Monday since they started.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Proclamation recognizing the month of April as Pennsylvania 8-1-1 Safe Digging Month.

S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF APRIL AT PENNSYLVANIA 8-1-1 SAFE DIGGING MONTH. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

2. Received a request for a handicap sign for 450 Caldwell Avenue. All the necessary paperwork was submitted with the application.

K. PETERSON / P. SHURGOT TO GRANT A HANDICAP SIGN FOR 450 CALDWELL AVENUE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2017 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

3. We have a resolution for CITF Grants for \$150,000 for the Wall Street Infrastructure Demonstration Project.

P. SHURGOT / K. PETERSON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR A CITF GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000 TO DO THE WALL STREET INFRASTRUCTURE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

4. We have a resolution for a CITF Grant for \$81,333 for 2017 Demolition Project.

P. SHURGOT / K. PETERSON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR A CITF GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$81,333 FOR THE 2017 DEMOLITION PROJECT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

5. Received a request for a handicap sign for 270 Welsh Avenue. All the necessary paperwork was submitted with the application.

K. PETERSON / REV. D. REEVES TO GRANT A HANDICAP SIGN FOR 270 WELSH AVENUE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

6. Received an agreement from Sable Kennels to provide dog catching services to the borough.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: I reviewed the agreement and there were some issues. Generally the agreement is okay the way it is but I have prepared an addendum on some of the issues that I felt needed addressed.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I asked Joe to schedule a meeting with the dog catcher for our workshop on the 21st so we can get all of our questions answered before we approve the agreement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY – L. KIRK: for the month of January Eastern Area Ambulance responded to 55 calls and had 39 transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 7.4 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 8.2 minutes.

The fire department responded to 33 calls, 14 were in town and 19 were out of town.

INSPECTOR KEARNS: for the month of January there were 476 events for the borough. A brief summary of the calls were as follows: 8 abandoned vehicles, 2 animal complaints, 1 assault, 58 assists to other police departments, 4 burglaries, 7 criminal mischief, 1 curfew/loitering, 4 disorderly conduct, 8 domestics, 5 DUI, 8 motor vehicle crashes, 3 theft from a motor vehicle, 3 overdose, 3 PFA, 3 public drunkenness, 22 suspicious persons, 14 thefts, 137 traffic stops, and 1 warrant. There were 21 arrests and an additional arrest by the Narcotics Impact Unit.

MS. S. SMITH: I know that your officers have made visits to both financial institutions and also to the dollar store. I have heard nothing but positive comments about the police. Thank you very much.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2017 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

COG REPORT – K. PETERSON: no report.

UTILITIES – K. PETERSON: there was some concerns brought up tonight about the lights on Westinghouse. I also received a letter from Duquesne Light that anyone that is going to apply for LIHEP they have to apply by the end of March.

PUBLIC WORKS – P. SHURGOT: the guys were busy filling in pot holes, they installed two handicap signs, they cleaned up the garage downstairs, they took down the rest of the Christmas decorations, they cleaned up a lot of bulbs in the park, they fixed the flag in the park and replaced the toilet paper holders in the bathroom up here and downstairs.

P. SHURGOT / K. PETERSON TO MAKE OUR PART TIME PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE, CHRIS RUSSO, FULL TIME. HE HAS BEEN WORKING SINCE DEC. 21ST. HE WILL BE ON A 90 DAY PROBATION BEFORE HE RECEIVES THE HEALTH BENEFITS, STARTING APRIL 1ST, AND HIS WAGE WILL BE \$12.00 AN HOUR EFFECTIVE TOMORROW FEB. 8, 2017. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

ENGINEER – D. GILLILAND:

1. Proposals were opened on January 17th for the installation of a swale on Ice Plant Hill. The lowest quote was from Lutterman Excavating for \$5,700.

K. PETERSON / P. SHURGOT TO AWARD THE BID TO LUTTERMAN EXCAVATING TO INSTALL A SWALE ON ICE PLANT HILL. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

2. The paving project on Summit Street is completed with the installation of the handrail.
3. Mr. Glenn will submit a report on the public works garage water seepage issue.
4. Likar will begin the hose tower project as soon as the weather is consistently warm enough.
5. COG has advertised for the CD 42 Demolition Project and bids will be opened March 4th for the following sites; 401 and 409 Welsh and 345 and 349 Welsh as alternate demolitions.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – S. SMITH: we are waiting for Likar to begin on the hose tower and a report from Mr. Glenn on the public works garage.

MR. J. THOMAS: the problem we had with the compressor down in the fire department has been repaired but now it is leaking oil. I am going to call the gentleman back and have him come and take a look at that to see if he can repair the leak.

SOLICITOR – G. EVASHAVIK: we ordered a title search for 70 Morningside Ave. to start the condemnation process. The other ones we are moving on are 401 and 409 Orient Ave. which is owned by the three taxing bodies. We started this two years ago and we have heard from the school district but we have not heard from the county. Today I received an e-mail from the county and they said they are going to be sending someone out to take a look at this property.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2017 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

FINANCE – J. THOMAS:

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

We discussed raising the salary of the Tax Collector effective January 2018. If we want to raise it then it has to be done in February of this year. We want to increase it to \$5,000 but the Solicitor wants to take a look at this to see how much we can raise it under state law.

J. THOMAS / REV. D. REEVES TO INCREASE THE TAX COLLECTOR SALARY TO \$5,000 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2018 PENDING THE APPROVAL FROM THE SOLICITOR. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

RECREATION – P. SHURGOT: we are getting ready for the Easter Egg Hunt which will take place in April.

PLANNING – REV. D. REEVES: we met on December 28th and we discussed solar panels. We invited a gentleman to come to our meeting on Feb. 22nd to explain to us all that is required if someone wants to install this panels. We also asked the Allegheny County Housing Authority to come and talk to us about their plans for renovating the hi-rise building and want they are going to do. The public is invited to come to the meeting on Feb. 22nd at 7 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

P. SHURGOT / K. PETERSON TO CHANGE THE MEETING DATE IN MARCH TO THE SECOND TUESDAY, MARCH 14TH. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MAYOR'S REMARKS – G. JAKUB: I would like to thank the citizens for the support on the sale of the school and we will do everything in our power to get this hopefully sold. I would also like to thank the Inspector and the Assistant Superintendent for the excellent work that the police are doing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.