

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 4, 2020 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOROUGH

Meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:03 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

ROLL CALL: LINDA KIRK, present; KELLY BELIN, present; JOE HARTZELL, present; KELLY MAXWELL, present; PAULA SHURGOT, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPGHEN SHURGOT, present; MAYOR GREGORY JAKUB was also present.

J. HARTZELL/P. SHURGOT TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 6, 2020 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS:

NANCY RONALLO, PAT MEWS DRIVE: I have a complaint about the garbage in Lilac Alley; it's been going on for over a year. I've told Caroline and Al several times. I talked to Al last week about it and they are still doing it, they put the garbage out Thursday afternoon.

A. HUSSEY: I did go over and have a conversation with them and she said the times set for them were prior to 6 p.m. so I educated them with hopes they would comply. It is on the report that was given today

S. SHURGOT: when was the last time you met with them?

A. HUSSEY: It should be on the report.

N. RONALLO: I looked and there is nothing on the report about it. This goes on all the time.

S. SHURGOT: can we send them a certified letter with return receipt then we can move to the citation.

EDITH BARRETT, HERMAN AVENUE: Can we post a speed limit sign on Herman, the buses are getting ridiculous. They line up around Herman and block our driveways and the PAT busses tear right through there. Students and teachers are parking on the street and I understand the Mr. Graff has given them permission to use his lots.

S. SHURGOT: Inspector to say someone is speeding we would have to put lines down correct?

INSPECTOR KEARNS: in order to charge them with speeding you would have a timing device or follow them for an appropriate amount of time.

S. SHURGOT: we are going to check and see what the current speed limit is. If we need t to change it to 15 mph we will have to do an Ordinance.

K. MAXWELL: We have been trying to get Port Authority to change their route because of the school.

S. SHURGOT: Inspector, looking at our ordinances there are some street with a specific speed limit and that is not one of them so what would the speed limit be?

INSPECTOR KEARNS: It would be 25.

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G. JAKUB: I thought we had decided that they needed to change their route for the buses.

K. MAXWELL: we have asked several times with no luck.

C. LANG: I will send another letter with Steve's signature, maybe it will help.

J. HARTZELL: so do you want to make that area permit parking for residents only?

S. SHURGOT: then there will be parking issues for any activity going on in the park. We can also talk about it at workshop.

K. MAXWELL: can we send a letter to them as well explaining what is going on as see if we can get them to move.

CORRESPONDENCE

NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SAFETY - L. KIRK: The fire Department had 27 calls. 14 were in town, 13 out of town, 3 work details, 3 trainings, and 16 equipment hours. The EMS had 52 calls. The average emergency response time was 7.0 minutes and the average non-emergency was 12.2 minutes.

INSPECTOR KEARNS: We had 312 events for the month including 1 animal complaint, 1 burglary, 11 domestic disputes, 5 harassment, 4 motor vehicle crashes, 1 mounted detail, 1 narcotics, 4 PFA's, 3 thefts, 118 traffic stops, and 5 warrants. There were a total of 19 arrests made. 1 altered/forged document, 1 burglary, 4 disorderly conduct, 3 fugitive arrests, 1 habitual offender, 1 narcotics charge, 1 receiving stolen property, 2 simple assaults, 4 theft, 1 unauthorized entry onto a school bus.

J. HARTZELL: Are you aware that we have an ordinance about 3 strikes and you can't rent anymore?

INSPECTOR KEARNS: yes the 979 ordinance, we work with Al on that.

J. HARTZELL: I know from Crime Watch that you have been to the 400 block of Caldwell twice. Did they get a notice from us for the second one?

INSPECTOR KEARNS: they were a victim of a crime; we don't charge the 979 for that.

G. JAKUB: are we tracking the 979?

INSPECTOR KEARNS: Al tracks them.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – AL HUSSEY: we had 15 Occupancy inspections for the month, 9 passed and 6 failed. We had 5 Temporary Occupancies.

PUBLIC WORKS – P. SHURGOT: They got cold patch and filled some of the potholes, RJ has donated blocks for us to build a cold patch bin behind the salt shed, they cleaned and reorganized the garage, built some new shelving, began

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painting the office in the public works garage, and began repairs on the trailer. Our laborer, Cole, resigned so we will be looking for a new laborer.

S. SHURGOT: since we put the new windows in has it helped with the moisture in the garage?

J. THOMAS: I haven't asked him about it but have not heard anymore reports of the ceiling falling.

ENGINEERS REPORT – A. PRINCE: Dave wants to set up another meeting with PA Soil & Rock on the slide site to determine the best way to spend the grant money. The project should be advertised in late February or March. The Ice Plant Hill road drainage application for GROW is due in March and we will submit the application for this project.

P. SHURGOT: is this the one we are going to work with East McKeesport, North Versailles, and Allegheny County working together?

A. PRINCE: yes, I spoke to Bob Zischkau and he is in the process of getting a meeting set up for everyone to meet and determine their roles in the project. Herman Avenue Sewer Separation is scheduled to start in March.

G. JAKUB: to we have a finalized date yet?

A. PRINCE: no but I will let Caroline know as soon as we have the date.

L. KIRK: will this affect the school and resident parking?

G. JAKUB: yes, I was trying to work with them but the past principal did not want to hear it.

J. HARTZELL: I thought Mr. Graff was allowing them to use his lots.

K. MAXWELL: yes but we have a problem with the buses, can they come down Commerce and line up there?

S. SHURGOT: does anyone know how many students they have?

E. BARRETT: 220.

A. PRINCE: we televised the storm sewer on Bluff and Commerce because it points right toward the garage before it elbows but the pipe is in perfect condition. Dave put out some feeler quotes for the cross drain but we have not heard anything yet.

P. SHURGOT: The project we did in front of Alfieri's with the blocks, would that help with the water coming down?

A. PRINCE: It is very hit or miss. It depends on the sub soil. The 2019 Storm Inlet project will be started in February/March depending on the weather. The GTRP grant period opened. These are recreation projects, Mrs. Maxwell brought up about using this for the center of the Park, redoing the electrical and the center piece.

L. KIRK: can you also add in the fencing around the Airbrake playground?

A. PRINCE: yes we will look at it. If you think of anything else just let us know.

J. HARTZELL: what about the basketball court at the Community Center?

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K. MAXWELL: I'm working on seeing if the Community Center can apply for that grant even though it's our property.

S. SHURGOT: are there other revenue streams opening up now, we can't apply for 5 projects with this one grant. We have been talking about 2 projects up at the field like a track around the outside of the baseball field and the basketball court.

A. PRINCE: I will talk to Dave and see what else is available.

K. BELIN: while we are talking about the redoing of the court are we talking about the cracks in the wall. There is really no reason to put in something nice if the whole foundation is bad.

S. SHURGOT: We can have the engineer go out and look at it and see if there are any concerns.

A. PRINCE: I will add that to my notes and let Dave know. Last thing, Dave had drafted a letter regarding the Morningside slide. He recommended having a soil study done and you mentioned about moving the road.

S. SHURGOT: I suggested where we tore down the house moving the road over there but his thought was by the time we move the dirt and build a wall it would be just as costly as the other way so it's still up in the air.

COG REPORT – J. HARTZELL: There was no meeting.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – K. MAXWELL: Tony had to have Elk come and look at the heat in the garage; they just needed to clean the sensor. I would like to have an inventory of all the Borough equipment with possible purchase dates. I would also like the fire department do an inventory and a member listing with their level of training. I called BC Electric to come in and look at updating the electric in the park. I gave everybody a copy of some chairs that I found. The electronic sign quote is still good to have it updated to wireless.

S. SHURGOT: there is a problem with the sign, the wiring is broke and the wires are all taped up. The cost is \$95.00/hr. for them to come and look at it. I talked to Sandy, the other chairman of the festival committee, and we would be willing to donate money to get the sign electronic. The only other cost not included is the internet service monthly.

K. MAXWELL: to purchase the modem it is \$1500.00 and to install it the cost is \$250.00 and we have to purchase a sim card. Then we would have to add it onto the internet services. So do we have to do the repairs?

S. SHURGOT: I will have Caroline call them and see if we need the repairs.

UTILITIES – J. HARTZELL: If we want to finish Westinghouse Avenue with the LES's, we could go up Westinghouse onto John and Glenn and there are about 10 lights. If we go to do Airbrake it would be 15.

J. HARTZELL TO FINISH THE LIGHTS ON WESTINGHOUSE, 1 LIGHT ON ICE PLANT, LIGHTS ON JOHN, GLENN AND FLORENCE.

P. SHURGOT: it should be the other side of town this year.

K. MAXWELL: what did we do last year?

C. LANG: from the Borough line on Sprague down Station.

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S. SHURGOT: is there a second to Joe's motion? No then the motion dies.

P. SHURGOT: Do we have the funds to do more then 10 at a time?

J. THOMAS: yes we have the money and is Duquesne Light going to offer more than 10 to us.

P. SHURGOT: I would be in agreement to finish Airbrake if we can.

S. SHURGOT: Joe can you contact them and see if we can do 15 and we can discuss it at workshop.

SOLICITOR - G. EVASHAVIK: last month council passed a motion to reopen the budget. It is my understanding that there are no changes so we will need to adopt the budget.

J. THOMAS/K. MAXWELL TO ADOPT THE BUDGET AND TAX ORDINANCE THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED IN DECEMBER 2019 WITHOUT AMENDMENT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

G. EVASHAVIK: The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Service mandates that every municipality keeps a current Emergency Operations plan. This gets done annually and will need to approve Resolution 2020-1 approving, adopting and placing into effect the Emergency Operations plan of the borough.

K. MAXWELL/ P. SHURGOT TO APPROVE, ADOPT AND PLACE INTO IMMEDIATE EFFECT THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN OF THE BOROUGH OF WILMERDING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

G. EVASHAVIK: Just following up on the lease for WCC, is that signed?

K. MAXWELL: yes it was signed.

J. THOMAS: have we got any feedback from RIDC on the sale of the land and bridge?

G. EVASHAVIK: The Bridge is part of the transfer and the purchaser, American Wire, will be accepting full responsibility. The information was all sent to Joyce.

K. BELIN: the paperwork was submitted to the County and we are waiting on the approval.

C. LANG: the fee was paid and they sent an email today, which I forwarded to Dave, to set up a meeting to finalize.

PLANNING – K. BELIN: They are continuing to work on their 5 year plan and I have some questions that I would like to discuss at the workshop. They would like to work with the Wilmerding Community Center on grants for the land there and the wall as well. They are continuing to talk about what to do with the vacant lots.

S. SHURGOT: demolition grant funds have been cut to the lowest figures of all time.

FINANCE – J. THOMAS:

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

J. THOMAS: I talked to Marcy at Maiello, Brungo & Maiello who asked me to check on the municipal liens.

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C. LANG: we sent them over at the same time as the garbage judgements.

J. THOMAS: Steve have you contacted Mr. McCain?

S. SHURGOT: I left a message for him to contact me.

RECREATION – K. BELIN: Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

S. SHURGOT: last year we have had issues with our auditor. Caroline went through Amanda at COG and got some names and contacts and some pricing. All the prices are significantly higher that what we are paying now.

C. LANG: these prices also go off of their budget and whatever other entities they may have. If you have a municipal authority that collects money the cost will be higher. There are forms that need to be filed and they will give you a quote. Once that is done they will be able to set up meetings.

P. SHURGOT/ J. THOMAS TO ALLOW COUNCIL MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE ALOM CONFERENCE AT 7 SPRINGS. THEY HAVE TO PAY UP FRONT AND BE REIMBURSED BY THE BOROUGH. THEY MUST ALSO HAVE THEIR TAXES AND GARBAGE PAID UP TO DATE TO BE ELIGIBLE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

P. SHURGOT/L. KIRK TO ADVERTISE FOR A NEW LABORER NOT TO EXCEED \$900.00. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MAYOR'S REMARKS – G. JAKUB: Do we know who gave permission for the Waste Management dumpster in the middle of our parking lot behind the Park House?

C. LANG: no but I will make a call about it.

J. THOMAS TO ADJORN MEETING AT 8:00 P.M.