

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JAN. 13, 2015 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:10 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

ROLL CALL: MICHAEL TRKULA, present; REV. DOROTHY REEVES, present; KAREN PETERSON, present; SANDRA SMITH, present; WILLIAM PRICENER, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPHEN SHURGOT, present. MAYOR HENRY SLACZKA was also present.

M. TRKULA / REV. D. REEVES TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE DEC. 2ND & DEC. 16TH MEETINGS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received a letter from Mr. Ronald Reagan to fill the vacant position on the Planning Commission.

MS. S. SMITH: this gentleman is delinquent in garbage and taxes. Does this have any bearing on appointing him to that position?

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: it is Council discretion if they want to appoint him or not.

MS. K. PETERSON: is there a specific time frame to fill that position.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: there is no time frame to fill that position.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we can discuss that at our workshop next week.

2. Received an application for a handicap sign at 148 State Street. All the necessary paperwork has been submitted and everything is in order.

M. TRKULA / K. PETERSON TO GRANT A HANDICAP SIGN FOR 148 STATE STREET. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

3. Received a notice on the annual conference for the Allegheny League of Municipalities to be held at Seven Springs on April 9-12.

M. TRKULA / J. THOMAS ANY COUNCILMEMBER AND THE MAYOR MAY ATTEND AS LONG AS THEY ARE CURRENT WITH THEIR TAXES AND GARBAGE FEES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JAN. 13, 2015 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

4. Resolution 2015-1 stating that the year 2015 is hereby proclaimed as the "WILMERDING QUASQUICENTENNIAL".

S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2015-1 PROCLAIMIN 2015 AS THE WILMERDING QUASQUICENTENNIAL. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

5. Resolution 2015-2 recognizing the Wilmerding Community Days as a non-profit organization within the context of the small games of chance act.

MAYOR H. SLACZKA: what is the liability factor that may come from any potential problem?

S. SHURGOT: as long as we let our insurance company know in advance we would be covered under the borough's insurance policy.

K. PETERSON / W. PRICENER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2015-2 RECOGNIZING THE WILMERDING COMMUNITY DAYS AS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

6. Received a letter from the Turtle Creek Valley COG seeking sponsorship on initiatives that strengthen our communities and improve the quality of life for residents. The Bronze Sponsorship is \$200 and recognition is given at the Hospitality Suite and the ALOM Conference. The Silver Sponsorship is \$500 and recognition is given at the annual dinner and at the Hospitality Suite. The Gold Sponsorship is \$1,000 and recognition is given at the annual dinner with the borough name prominently displayed and included in the event program and at the Hospitality Suite.

J. THOMAS / K. PETERSON TO PURCHASE THE SILVER SPONSORSHIP AT \$500. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY – M. TRKULA: the parking lot for Our Place Homemade needs the curbs painted yellow. There are cars blocking the lot and cars cannot get in and out.

M. TRKULA / W. PRICENER TO HAVE THE CURBS PAINTED YELLOW AROUND THE PARKING LOT FOR OUR PLACE HOMEMADE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

CHIEF MATRAZZO: there are no curbs there it is just a driveway where the cars pull in and out. Cars are not allowed to block a driveway.

M. TRKULA / REV. D. REEVES THAT THE MONEY WE COLLECTED FOR THE POLICE DOG BE DONATED TO THE TOWNSHIP FOR MAINTAINING THE ESSENTIALS FOR THE DOG. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-1 WITH S. SMITH OPPOSED.

M. TRKULA: for the month of December Eastern Area Pre-Hospital Services responded to 63 calls and made 43 transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 7.8 minutes and for

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JAN. 13, 2015 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

non-emergencies it was 8.4 minutes. For 2014 they had 589 calls and made 398 transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 7.1 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 7.6 min. **CHIEF MATRAZZO:** for the month of December we responded to 175 calls and made 3 arrests. A breakdown of the calls, 2 building K-9 search, 2 criminal mischief, 12 domestics, 1 drug investigation, 1 fraud, 4 harassment, 1 identity theft, 4 juvenile complaints, 1 missing person, 2 narcotics search K-9, 9 parking complaints, 4 protection from abuse, 1 public intoxication, 7 suspicious persons, 4 thefts, 2 traffic accidents and 1 landlord ordinance.

MR. M. TRKULA: we did not receive a report from the fire department. Also, where the walking trail ends at the bus stop, can we put a pedestrian crossing sign up.

PUBLIC WORKS – W. PRICENER: the guys are picking up trash daily, they have all the trucks and equipment winterized and are ready for salting and plowing. They undercoated the skid steer. Put up a no trespassing sign at the salt bin. The hot water tank was replaced. The stop sign was moved at the Ukrainian club and they are cleaning catch basins. All the decorations were put up for Christmas and now it is time to take them down. We are looking at getting electricity at the triangle by Banquets Unlimited. Permit parking signs were put up on Marguerite and a 125th sign was put up on top of the Wilmerding sign.

MAYOR H. SLACZKA: can we ask WABTEC if they could put up a plaque at the triangle to honor George Westinghouse.

MS. K. PETERSON: I can contact the Pittsburgh History and Landmark Foundation to see if they could put a sign there.

ENGINEER – D. GILLILAND: the report was given at the workshop.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – K. PETERSON: specs were given out for the door on Station Street and we are still looking into moving Louise's office.

UTILITIES – REV. D. REEVES: no report.

PLANNING – REV. D. REEVES: the Planning Commission would like to recommend Mr. Ronald Reagan to serve on the board. Also, we are looking into grants for a playground.

SOLICITOR – G. EVASHAVIK: at this time we will hold a public hearing on the tower ordinance that we have discussed in previous meetings and the Engineer has commented on. This ordinance would limit the locations of where towers can be located.

MR. W. PRICENER: this is only for public property. Can a private owner lease space for this.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: it is not allowed on private property. This ordinance states that the towers can only be erected on borough property and public right of ways.

W. PRICENER / M. TRKULA TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE REGULATING THE ERECTION OF TOWERS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JAN. 13, 2015 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: the school district is in support of the LERTA Ordinance and they will adopt a similar ordinance.

We have prevailed on all the lawsuits against Mr. Altman. The courts have agreed in our favor and Mr. Altman has thirty days from the ruling to appeal.

FINANCE – J. THOMAS:

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

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MR. J. THOMAS: the school district is also getting an appraisal on the WABTEC property.

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J. THOMAS / K. PETERSON TO APPLY FOR A SHARE LOAN NOT TO EXCEED \$120,000. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

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MR. M. TRKULA: on the bills there is one from Quality Lock, what is that for?

MR. J. THOMAS: it is for the door locks for the fire department office.

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MR. M. TRKULA: what is this RAD money that we are paying to COG.?

MR. J. THOMAS: that is the one percent sales tax that we received. Anything over the amount that we received last year we have to pay COG 25% of that. When they passed the extra one percent sales tax for Allegheny County the state mandated that we pay COG 25% of any increase.

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MR. M. TRKULA: what are the shade trees?

MR. J. THOMAS: that is trees that were taken down.

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MR. M. TRKULA: why is AFLAC on here?

MR. J. HARTZELL: it was an error. The employees contribute to AFLAC and it is paid out of a separate fund.

RECREATION – S. SMITH: no report.

OLD BUSINESS

MR. M. TRKULA: what is going on with the sale of the school?

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JAN. 13, 2015 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

MR. S. SHURGOT: I have not heard anything.

MS. K. PETERSON: I heard it went through.

MR. M. TRKULA: what is going on with the castle? Is the gentleman still going to buy it? Should we as Borough Council look for buyers?

MR. W. PRICENER: he is still trying to line up some investors. He is still optimistic.

MS. K. PETERSON: do we have to make a council change.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: you only reorganize after an election. But if Council desires they can make a change anytime.

MS. K. PETERSON: I NOMINATE SANDY SMITH AS PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL.

MR. M. TRKULA: I NOMINATE STEVE SHURGOT AS PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL.

ROLL CALL: M. TRKULA, S. SHURGOT; REV. D. REEVES, S. SMITH; K. PETERSON, S. SMITH; S. SMITH, S. SMITH; W. PRICENER, S. SMITH; J. THOMAS, S. SHURGOT; S. SHURGOT, S. SHURGOT. MEMBERS VOTED 4-3 IN FAVOR OF S. SMITH AS PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL.

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MR. W. PRICENER: I NOMINATE KAREN PETERSON AS VICE PRESIDENT.

MR. M. TRKULA: I NOMINATE STEVE SHURGOT AS VICE PRESIDENT.

ROLL CALL: M. TRKULA, S. SHURGOT; REV. D. REEVES, S. SHURGOT; K. PETERSON, K. PETERSON; S. SMITH, K. PETERSON; W. PRICENER, K. PETERSON; J. THOMAS, S. SHURGOT; S. SHURGOT, S. SHURGOT. MEMBERS VOTED 4-3 IN FAVOR OF S. SHURGOT AS VICE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL.

MAYOR'S REMARKS – H. SLACZKA: there are a lot of challenges ahead and I have a passionate desire to see some accomplishments in this town. There have been problems over the years and we are not doing what we should be doing to solve these problems. I feel strongly about this community and hope that we can get together to make a difference.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JAN. 13, 2015 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**