

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

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 / P. SHURGOT MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 3, 2016 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MRS. J. TOMASIC, WESTINGHOUSE AVE.: I have a problem with my next door neighbor, he never cuts the grass. A notice was sent by Louise a month ago and why didn't anyone follow up on this. It was supposed to be done by May 13th.

MR. M. JAKUB: he was cited two weeks ago.

MRS. M. MEIGHAN, FOURTH ST., N. VERSAILLES: I requested an inspection of an apartment I have on May 13th to COG and they did not return my call. I called again on May 17th and the secretary told me that he was very busy. On May 25th John called and left a message. My husband and I called back to schedule an appointment and as of today it still is not inspected. I have someone that wants to move in.

MR. S. SHURGOT: one person resigned un-expectedly and they subcontracted some of the work out. I will call Amanda tomorrow morning about this.

MRS. M. MEIGHAN: was there a cost study done, for the administration and enforcement of these inspections.

MR. S. SHURGOT: the fee for the inspections is what COG charges; we do not see any of that money. We only get the money for the rental licenses which is \$35.

MRS. M. MEIGHAN: how did you come up with that fee?

MR. S. SHURGOT: the administration costs, the postage fees, etc.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: the fee does not cover all the costs.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH, WELSH AVE.: there was a court case downtown for 18 violations for Sean Kerrigan, what was the outcome.

MR. S. SHURGOT: there is one case in litigation and we are not at liberty to discuss it. I do not know what case you are referring to.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: I was told that a deal was made with Mr. Kerrigan.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: it is litigation that is still pending. The court has told us to work something out and we are trying to come to a resolution and it still is not finalized. There was a strong push by the Judge saying he did not want to sit for a week when we had all of these cases for the same person.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: is there any time limit on this or is there a set date.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: we can't get into details because it is pending litigation. If it is worked out then we would have to proceed in steps. There is still a possibility that this may fall apart.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: regarding the same person, he owns 277 Welsh Avenue and he has a tenant in there without an occupancy permit and the grass is three feet high. Can anything be done with that property? I went into the code enforcement office and asked about this and I got a few different answers.

MR. M. JAKUB: that property was cited last week.

MRS. M. MEIGHAN: how does he get a rental license?

MR. S. SHURGOT: right now there is nothing in place for us to deny him the rental license. Act 90, which we will be adopting later, will give us more enforcement against these property owners.

MR. S. VOLPE, CARD AVE.: I think a lot of problems may be solved if you put a spread sheet on line on who got cited or who was sent a notice of violation. I think this would solve the problem because no one knows what is going on in their neighborhood.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will try to get it on line.

MR. S. VOLPE: are you going to vote on the fire inspection ordinance tonight.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we are not ready to take any action on the ordinance. Before we can do anything the ordinance would have to be advertised and we are not at that point.

MR. S. VOLPE: how are the building permit fees calculated? Does that money go to COG as well?

MR. S. SHURGOT: I am not sure, but those fees come to the borough. COG only get the occupancy inspection fees.

MR. P. LIVERATTI, AIRBRAKE AVE.: have we done anything on the delinquent tax collections. I am particularly interested in Banquets Unlimited. They owe over \$3,000.

MR. J. THOMAS: they are making payments. We have to go through the legal process to collect these taxes. I will get you what they owe.

MRS. E. BARRETT, HERMAN AVE.: do the landlords get a blanket rental license for all their properties or do they get one for each property.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: they get one for each rental unit.

MRS. E. BARRETT: is there a law that you can revoke their rental license until the property is brought up to code.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: we can, but that is after a lengthy process of notices, opportunities to correct and hearings.

MRS. M. MEIGHAN: you have to apply for this license every year in January. If their property is not up to code then do not issue them a rental license.

MR. S. SHURGOT: every meeting we hear this gentleman's name. We are doing everything that the law allows.

MRS. K. MAXWELL, HERMAN AVE.: the information is not there for us to find it. If we had the information the more the residents would know what is going on.

MRS. T. HICKMAN: at last month's meeting Karen mentioned that there is a program that would supply worker's for the town to clean it up. Why not have Wilmerding people do this work, if it is high school kids or the unemployed. The only problem would be the insurance. I think we have many high school kids in town that are able to do the work that these other people are doing.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

MS. K. PETERSON: with this program there is no cost to the borough. They send out a supervisor and they have their own insurance.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received a letter from the Allegheny County Conservation District to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding in the administration of Chapter 102, Erosion and Sedimentation Program and the management of Chapter 105, Water Obstructions and Encroachment Permitting Program. The Conservation District administered on our behalf not only projects that were over an acre in size, but under an acre as well. This document represents an opportunity to help better understand the role of the Conservation District but also provides a platform for us to work together more closely and help MS4 communities meet their permit requirements.

S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO ADOPT THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

2. We have an ordinance adopting and accepting all benefits and rights as created by the legislature in Act 90 in session in 2010; including any and all amendments.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: at this time we will hold a public hearing on the adoption of Act 90. This ordinance gives us the tools to go after delinquent landlords. Does anyone have any comments or questions on this ordinance?

K. PETERSON / P. SHURGOT TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE FOR THE ENACTMENT OF ACT 90. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY – L. KIRK: for the month of May the fire department responded to 24 calls, 10 were in town and 14 were out of town. Eastern Area ambulance responded to 38 calls in May and made 26 transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 7.5 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 9.1 minutes.

CHIEF MATRAZZO: for the month of May the police responded to 175 calls and made 3 arrests. A summary of the calls are: 2 criminal mischief, 7 disturbances, 13 domestics, 1 driving under the influence, 3 gunshots, 8 juvenile complaints, 5 loud music, 2 neighbor disputes, 1 open burning, 4 parking complaints, 1 public intoxication, 1 retail theft, 4 suspicious incidents, 5 thefts, 2 traffic accidents, 2 wanted persons and 9 tow tagged vehicles.

MS. L. KIRK: I would like to thank the Chief for his prompt response to the problem down at Dorr’s Moving and Storage.

S. SHURGOT: they moved their trucks down to Fifth Street in the chain link fence area. Those trucks do not have valid inspections.

CHIEF MATRAZZO: what they are doing is taking the boxes off of the frames and he is getting new frames. Give him time to do it. If he is not finished in a couple of months then I will start taking them out of there.

PUBLIC WORKS – P. SHURGOT:

P. SHURGOT / K. PETERSON TO HIRE THE TWO SUMMER WORKERS FROM LAST YEAR, SEAN MARCOZ AND DOMINIC COLWELL AND TO HIRE ONE MORE FOR THE SUMMER, MARK EDWARDS AT \$8.00 AN HOUR. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MRS. P. SHURGOT: for the month of May they did their weekly checks of the vehicles, taken care of the weeds, started cutting some of the vacant properties, patched the pot holes, installed a handicap sign and put up new flags.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – D. GILLILAND:

1. Don is scheduling a pre-construction meeting with the contractor to review the scope of work on Ice Plant Hill prior to the start of construction. Meanwhile COG is getting the contracts, bonds and insurance in place. The contractor has asked for a 180 extension of the deadline for completion.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

2. The public works door has been installed. It is a wider door than was specified and it is to our advantage.
3. The Station Street sidewalks proposals were opened on May 23rd and the lowest bidder was Satira Construction in the amount of \$11,276.75, with the tree pits, or \$12,485.50 without the tree pits. It is our recommendation that you award the bid for whatever option you would like.
4. Contracts have been issued to Victor Paving and A. Liberoni for the paving projects. Once these are signed and the bonds and insurance are filed work will be scheduled, likely in July.

MR. J. THOMAS: is there a time frame on awarding the bids for the sidewalk project. I am trying to find money for this.

MR. D. GILLILAND: they were proposals so there is no time frame. The price is good for 60 or 90 days, I do not have the specs with me.

MR. J. THOMAS: Steve talked to you about doing the alley between the hi-rise and the Faller Building. How do we do that?

MR. D. GILLILAND: we would just issue a change order to do that.

MR. J. THOMAS: the other issue is Summit Street. Instead of concrete we would use asphalt.

MR. D. GILLILAND: we can take the unit prices from Victor Paving and apply it to that. If you want to go with the asphalt option you would take the concrete there and pulverize it so it would act as gravel. If you pave over Summit Street the way it is now, I guarantee you that after the first freeze - thaw cycle you will have cracks. I am not sure that we can do that. Greg, is it legal to do this. We did not include the pulverizing in the bid.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: since you are changing the specs I would say no.

**J. THOMAS / REV. REEVES TO PAVE THE ALLEY BETWEEN THE HI-RISE AND THE FALLER BUILDING AT A COST OF \$7,505.00.
MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

COG REPORT – REV. D. REEVES: they discussed the CD applications.

PLANNING – D. REEVES: we are adding four more years on to our plan, instead of a five year plan it is going to be a ten year plan. We also talked about all the vacant property in town.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – S. SMITH: the Station Street door is fixed again. It seems like the new lock is the ticket, we have not had any complications. The door at the public works is completed. We are waiting on an estimate for the two flag poles to be painted, the one in the park and the one right outside the building. It was brought to my attention tonight that the Commerce Street door needs some attention. It seems like there is a hydraulic issue and I talked to Michael and he think he can fix it.

UTILITIES – K. PETERSON: there are a lot of letters being sent about the discount on your electricity. Make sure you read them thoroughly.

MAYOR G. JAKUB: I noticed in the past two months that we have had door to door solicitation from different vendors requesting to look at your last electric bill. I would recommend to everyone in town, do not give them your bill. Always ask if they have a permit from the borough.

MS. K. PETERSON: Duquesne Light will always contact you by mail.

MR. J. THOMAS: every member of Council got the list of street lights that I put together to be changed over to the LED lights. The cost is \$109 per light and you have to do a minimum of ten. This year we are going to do the north side of town starting at the Fan Club all the way down to the old viaduct.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

J. THOMAS / P. SHURGOT TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF TEN LED STREET LIGHTS ON AIRBRAKE AVENUE FROM THE FAN CLUB TO THE OLD VIADUCT AT A TOTAL COST OF \$1,090. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

SOLICITOR – G. EVASHAVIK: we had title searches done for 532 Airbrake and 652-654 Middle. We discovered that there is an I.R.S. lien for 652 Middle. We now have to wait 60 days, from May 20th, so I would suggest that we schedule these hearings for the August meeting.

K. PETERSON / J. THOMAS TO ADVERTISE FOR THE CONDEMNATION HEARING FOR 532 AIRBRAKE AND 652-654 MIDDLE FOR AUGUST 9TH AT 7:00 P.M. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

FINANCE – J. THOMAS

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

RECREATION – P. SHURGOT: our next event is the National Night Out on August 2nd at 7 p.m. in the park.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

MS. S. SMITH: we have been discussing the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the County to provide police services to the borough.

S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO ACCEPT THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY TO BEGIN JAN. 1, 2017 AND TO CONTINUE FOR FIVE YEARS AS OUTLINED IN THE AGREEMENT.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we are going to be voting on a five year contract with the county to provide police services to the borough at a cost of \$250,000 with a three percent increase over the five years. There is a one year option if we do not like the service to pull out of that.

MR. M. JAKUB: what does the coverage guarantee?

MR. S. SHURGOT: twenty four hour coverage seven days a week with one officer in town. They will be entering into mutual aid agreements with other communities. They are going to have their offices in the hi-rise and they are also going to be operating their impact squad out of that building.

MRS. S. ZIBRAT: they are not going to be using the building here for an office.

MR. S. SHURGOT: they have room at the hi-rise and it fits their needs better.

MS. S. SMITH: our room downstairs required a major upgrade.

MR. S. VOLPE: how much did you say it was per year?

MR. S. SHURGOT: \$250,000 with a three percent increase every year.

MRS. S. ZIBRAT: what was the contract with anybody else?

MR. S. SHURGOT: this is what we are paying North Versailles right now.

MR. M. JAKUB: if they would arrest somebody and they have to take them downtown would we still have coverage.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

MR. S. SHURGOT: they would call another officer to transport them.

MRS. S. ZIBRAT: did you ever find out how much it would cost from the state to provide our own police force.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we looked to the best of our ability and examined everything that was out there.

MAYOR G. JAKUB: when we went to apply for a grant there was no guarantee that there would money available for this year let alone in the future. The State does not even have a budget for this year so we are sort of behind the eight ball.

MR. S. VOLPE: what would be the cost saving per year if you go with the county. Right now it doesn't seem like there is any real benefit by switching.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we had a conversation with one of the commissioners and they told us we are getting off dirt cheap. He said that if you take the police budget and divide it between the residents of North Versailles and Wilmerding the residents in North Versailles are paying more for the same police coverage and they want it to be equal. He said we are under about \$100 per resident. He said that they are providing the same police service in Wilmerding as they are in North Versailles and why should we be paying less.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: Mrs. Zibrat asked if there was a study done to get our own police department.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we looked at the startup costs of getting a police car and paying the officers dirt cheap at a cost of \$255,000 with one full time officer and the rest part time. We looked at the liability insurance for the officers, the insurance for a vehicle and the cost of worker's comp plus benefits for the full time officer.

MR. M. JAKUB: was there ever a long term contract discussed with North Versailles.

MS. S. SMITH: we tried way back in July of last year and one of the commissioners told us to look elsewhere, so we did. At that point we went out to the surrounding communities to see if they would provide police services.

MRS. J. TOMASIC: we have a lot of small towns in the county that do not have police. What they are trying to do is alleviate some of the burden off of these policemen. What they are trying to do is to consolidate these towns using one police department.

MS. K. PETERSON: what Joyce is saying is true but keep in mind that this is the first one in this area.

MR. M. JAKUB: everyone in this room is familiar with the North Versailles phone number. Now we would have to go through the 9-1-1 center or are they going to have their own number at the hi-rise.

MRS. P. SHURGOT: you would call 9-1-1. Right now if you call 9-1-1 for North Versailles they have a ring down, what we are going to do is eliminate that ring down.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: whenever this first started there was a statement made from North Versailles that they would not lose any officers if Wilmerding goes elsewhere. The \$246,000 that you are paying them now is like a bonus to them.

MR. S. SHURGOT: there is one commissioner up there that wants us to pay over \$300,000. We met with their committees and this is what they are telling us.

**ROLL CALL: REV. D. REEVES, yes; K. PETERSON, yes; L. KIRK, yes; S. SMITH, yes; P. SHURGOT, yes; J. THOMAS, yes; S. SHURGOT, yes.
MOTION PASSED TO ACCEPT THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH ALLEGHENY COUNTY TO PROVIDE POLICE SERVICE TO THE BOROUGH, 7-0.**

MAYOR'S REMARKS – G. JAKUB: we would like to thank Sen. Brewster for the new flag in the park. I would also like to thank the Chief and Mr. Hartzell for their combined efforts in getting reimbursed, \$550, for damages to the barriers from the accident on Ice Plant Hill.

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MR. S. SHURGOT: at this time Borough Council would like to recognize our Borough Secretary, Joe Hartzell, on completing 30 years of service with the borough on June 1st. We are presenting him a plaque in appreciation of thirty years of service to the Borough of Wilmerding.

MR. J. HARTZELL: I would like to thank Council for putting up with me this long. It has been a pleasure working with all the different council members over the years.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.