

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING  
MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 2018 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; KELLY MAXWELL, present; PAULA SHURGOT, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPHEN SHURGOT, present; LINDA KIRK, present. MAYOR GREGORY JAKUB WAS ALSO PRESENT.**

**REV. REEVES / L. KIRK TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 3, 2018 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**S. SHURGOT:** at this time I will turn the meeting over to our Solicitor Mallory Gold.

**M. GOLD:** we will need a motion to advertise the ordinance addressing the abandonment of property; requiring registration and maintenance of property by mortgagees.

**K. PETERSON/J. THOMAS TO ADVERTISE THE ORDINANCE ADDRESSING THE ABANDONMENT AND MAINTANENCE OF PROPERTIES BY THE MORTGAGEES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**M. GOLD:** we will now hold the Condemnation Hearing on the property at 654 Middle Avenue.

The hearing was recorded by a court reporter.

**J. THOMAS/REV. REEVES TO CONDEM AND RAZE THE STRUCTURE AT 654 MIDDLE AVENUE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**PETITIONS & MEMORIALS**

**P. WALSH CALDWELL AVE:** Why are we not in the land bank?

**J. THOMAS:** it's the school board; we can't go in unless the school board goes in.

**S. ZIEBRAT AIRBRAKE AVE:** I just wanted to clarify that address of the condemnation.

**S. SHURGOT:** it is 654 Middle Avenue next to the Regan property.

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Everyone received an invitation to attend the parade on June 6, 2018.

2. "Autistic Child at Play" sign for the 500 block of Westinghouse.

**P. SHURGOT:** is this the stop sign at Ice Plant?

**C. LANG:** it is the stop sign at Ice Plant.

**J. THOMAS:** Tony has discussed this with them and I believe he is aware where to place it.

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**P. SHURGOT/ K. PETERSON TO INSTALL AUTISTIC CHILD SIGN FOR 533 WESTINGHOUSE AVENUE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

3. Concurring Resolution to confirm that we have formally requested a grant with the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County (RAAC) in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the 2018 Comprehensive Improvements Project.

**K. PETERSON/P. SHURGOT TO PASS THE CONCURRING RESOLUTION FOT THE GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE RAAC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.00. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0**

**D. GILLILAND:** this is for the sidewalk on Station, lighting in the park, storm sewers throughout the Borough, fire hydrant at the YMCA, and street lights.

4. Resolution to adopt the National Incident Management System (NIMS)

**D. GILLILAND:** this is required for the application we made for the repairs on Orient through PEMA.

**K. PETERSON/P. SHURGOT TO PASS THE RESOLUTION FOR IMPLEMENTIN THE NATIONAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PUBLIC SAFETY – L. KIRK:** for the month of April Eastern Area Pre-Hospital Services responded to 41 calls and made 24 transports. Their average response time for emergencies was 7.2 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 9.7 minutes. The fire department responded to 29 calls, 11 in town and 18 out of town. There were 2 work details, 4 trainings, and 8 maintenance hours. Unfortunately they did not get the Grant they applied for but they will be having a Gun Bash in June to raise some money. Crime watch had their active shooter workshop and there was a nice turnout. They will be continuing the Cops, Kids, and Soccer program for the summer on Tuesdays starting June 12<sup>th</sup> at the Wilmerding YMCA. There will also be another safety child seat check Monday June 11, 2018 from 3-7 at Eastern Area.

**INSPECTOR KEARNS:** for the month of April we responded to 351 calls. They included 2 abandoned vehicle, 12 animal complaints, 5 assaults, 1 community relations event, 1 criminal mischief, 12 domestics, 3 DUI, 5 escort, 3 fugitive arrests, 14 local ordinance, 3 missing persons, 6 motor vehicle crash, 2 motor vehicle theft, 9 narcotics, 1 recovered stolen property, 3 theft, 75 traffic stops, 7 warrants, and 2 weapons. There were 32 arrests made that included 5 fugitive arrests, 3 aggravated assault, 5 simple assaults, 8 narcotic charges, 3 DUI, 1 tampering with evidence, 1 disorderly conduct, 1 false ID, 1 identity theft, 1 public drunkenness, 1 theft, 1 burglary, and 1 harassment. Also, we received information that a blue and white flatbed dumped a car on the 700 block of Maple. If anybody sees that around give us a call.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** there are copies of the report out for the public.

**PUBLIC WORKS – P. SHURGOT:** We took a phone vote because the laborer we originally hired did not work out. We hired Christopher Risher as a part time laborer at \$12.00/hr.

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**P. SHURGOT/J.THOMAS TO HIRE CHRISTOPHER RISHER AS A PART TIME LABORER, WITH THE OPTION TO GO FULL TIME, AT \$12.00/HR. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL 7-0.**

In the middle of May he will get the 2 summer help workers. Sean Marcoz and Chris Bukar

**P. SHURGOT/J. THOMAS TO HAVE SEAN MARCOZ RETURN AS A SUMMER LABORER AND HIRE CHRISTOPHER BUKAR BOTH AT \$9.00/HR. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

The street department began cleaning the park and picking up garbage through town. They removed the salt spreaders, finished up maintenance on the summer equipment, cleaned up at Pete's garden and the viaduct, and started to replace some of the faded street signs. He requested to purchase a pole trimmer and a chainsaw. They will be 20% off original price on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**P. SHURGOT/REV. REEVES TO PURCHASE NEW EQUIPMENT ON MAY 18, 2018 WITH THE 20% DISCOUNT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0**

**K. MAXWELL:** how are we going to ensure the property does not disappear?

**P. SHURGOT:** we will have Public Works inventory their equipment at the end of every season. They can give the Borough Secretary the model, make and serial number for all equipment. Also, he has a problem with spraying and the weed around the park. He does not have the class to do the spraying as of yet. He has contacted Tru Green to do the recommended 4 application at \$135.00 each.

**K. MAXWELL:** should we have it done after the carnival?

**G. JAKUB:** I think the weed class comes up in late summer.

**P. SHURGOT/REV. REEVES TO HAVE TRU GREEN SPRAY THE PARK 4 TIMES AT A COST OF \$135.00 PER APPLICATION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**P. SHURGOT:** one last thing, he needs a portable sprayer to kill all the weeds around town. He has found a 25 gallon portable sprayer for \$279.12

**P. SHURGOT/K. MAXWELL TO PURCHASE A 25 GALLON PORTABLE SPOT SPRAYER AT A COST OF \$279.12. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**ENGINEER – D. GILLILAND:** The CITF Demolition project is in progress. They started and are 90% done on Orient Avenue and Watkins Avenue. The contractor and I had a concern with 532 Airbrake Avenue; it was built as one (1) house and if you take down half the remaining half will not be structurally sound. The house we previously removed from the demolition list, 428 Airbrake, had a porch collapse and we just condemned 654 Middle. The contractor and I agreed to remove 532 Airbrake from the list and substitute the front porch of 428 Airbrake and 654 Middle after the appeal period.

**K. PETERSON:** what will happen with the one we are removing?

**D. GILLILAND:** its structurally sound we would just have to board it up and make sure it's secure. The other half is occupied and kept in good condition. There is no firewall between them and probably will not stand on its own if you take half.

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**K. PETERSON/L. KIRK TO REMOVE 532 AIRBRAKE AVENUE FROM THE DEMOLITION PROJECT AND REPLACE IT WITH THE FRONT PORCH OF 428 AIRBRAKE AND THE DEMOLITION OF 654 MIDDLE AFTER THE APPEAL TIME EXPIRES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**D. GILLILAND:** the other thing is 345 and 349 Welsh Avenue have been demolished and land completed.

**G. JAKUB:** any more progression to Orient?

**D. GILLILAND:** I got the report from Pennsylvania Soil and Rock and their recommendation is to construct a wall at the cost of \$150,000-\$200,000. We applied for the emergency Assistance to repair this.

**BOROUGH PROPERTY – L. KIRK:** We have discussed time for Tony to paint the community room and Caroline's office. Maybe once the summer help comes we can get it done.

**UTILITIES – K. PETERSON:** none

**SOLICITOR – M. GOLD:** update on 318 Middle Avenue. In January the property hired a lawyer to help her pursue an insurance claim; Greg Evashavik has spoken with the firm today. The attorney that had the claim quit the firm and a new attorney has taken it over so as of today we were told they are going after the insurance company for damages. Greg does not want to wait long but does want to give them a chance.

**K. MAXWELL/L.KIRK TO GIVE 30 DAY FROM THE APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> LETTER TO GET THIS RESOLVED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**FINANCE – J. THOMAS**

**J. THOMAS / P. SHURGOT TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.**

**J. THOMAS:** we have received about 1/3 of our real estate tax dollars in under discount for the month of April and Caroline told me today that our collection on our delinquent real estate and garbage has increased tremendously due to the fear of going to court.

**RECREATION – K. MAXWELL:** Saturday we will be having a hanging basket sale on Station Street for the Recreation Committee to go toward the cost of National Night Out and Christmas. We will be planting flowers in the park and I am finalizing the ban for National Night Out.

**PLANNING – REV. D. REEVES:** none

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**S. SHURGOT:** everyone has a copy of a Code Violation Ticket, many months ago we adopted an ordinance that in lieu of citing people we would give them a ticket with a \$25.00 cost, if they paid the ticket and corrected the problem everything was good but if they ignored the ticket we would issue a citation. Look it over and let me know if you have any questions, if everything is good I would like to get it printed up and sent to COG to start immediately.

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**K. PETERSON:** I'm torn because there are a lot of elderly people in our community and I'm concerned because we are asking for money immediately. I think if we did a true warning then if they didn't comply issue the ticket.

**S. SHURGOT:** the reason for this, going back to when this happened, the citizens were mad about the amount of warning letters given. But we can talk about that at the workshop. The other thing is about a month ago we met with the CIAC to discuss a plan for the Faller Building. I called the attorney and he has spoken to Mr. Pittman, they will be discussing the meeting just to make sure we are all on the same page.

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**MAYOR'S REMARKS – G. JAKUB:** On May 19<sup>th</sup> the school will have a festival celebration from 10-2. On June 1<sup>st</sup> they are going to have a "Teen Suicide Prevention Walk". They will walk around the park and try to educate and bring information on teen suicides. June 8<sup>th</sup> will be the graduation for 2 students. They will participate in a program "Stop the Bleed", staff and administration will learn how to apply tourniquets and things of that nature. I have been asked by the partnership that owns the school building to be the coordinator for and economic development committee. I was asked to contact different groups in the town and besides myself, council will be represented by Mr. Shurgot and Ms. Kirk, John Graff from the Priory and the Castle, an entrepreneur from town, Michael Giacchino from Shiring and Mr. Pittman from Compass Bank and the CIAC. The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting should be in June. This could be very positive for the community. Based on that I made a call to Mr. Pelly, owner of the Park House, he is willing to work with us and he is determined to get the building where it needs to be and inspections have already started. The filming permit committee has gotten together and is making progress, we have the check list down and the requirement for production, we just need to finalize everything. The ordinance committee also met and we made some progress on several stages of ordinances, we will continue to work on that.

**J. THOMAS:** the graduation at the school on June 8<sup>th</sup> is not going to conflict with our festival.

**G. JAKUB:** it will be on the Castle lawn in the morning.

**K. PETERSON/REV. REEVES TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 7:51 P.M**