

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 12, 2018 REGULAR MEETING OF BOROUGH 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

S. SHURGOT: Please remain standing for a moment of silence for the tragic loss of life at the Jewish Synagogue. Also, I would like to acknowledge all the veterans here today. Thank you for your service.

ROLL CALL: REV. DOROTHY REEVES, absent; KAREN PETERSON, present; LINDA KIRK, present; KELLY MAXWELL, present; PAULA SHURGOT, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPHEN SHURGOT, present; MAYOR GREGORY JAKUB was also present.

P.SHURGOT/K.PETERSON TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2018 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

S. SHURGOT: At this time we will have a hearing on the Stormwater Water Management Ordinance.

G. EVASHAVIK: I've spoke of this several times over the last few months. This is mandatory and affects all municipalities and we have to have a stormwater management ordinance in place no later than December 1, 2018. This had been advertised for consideration tonight. This ordinance is rather lengthy and there are requirements that the county requires all municipalities to implement. They provided a form and we made some minor changes to the content to better suit Wilmerding. This applies largely to new development and regulates the stormwater runoff.

K. PETERSON/K. MAXWELL TO ADOPT THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS:

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. We received an application for a handicap sign at 526 Westinghouse Avenue, all the paperwork has been received and is order.

K. PETERSON/L. KIRK TO APPROVE HANDICAP SIGN AT 526 WESTINGHOUSE AVENUE APARTMENT #1. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

2. Joseph Hartzell is interested in filling the open vacancy board position due to the passing of Mr. Frydrych.

K. PETERSON/P. SHURGOT TO APPOINT MR. JOSEPH HARTZELL TO THE VACENCY BOARD. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

3. Barbara Richardson is interested in filling the vacant seat on the Planning Commission.

J. THOMAS/L. KIRK TO ACCEPT MRS. BARBARA RICHARDSON'S LETTER TO FILL THE VACANT POSITION ON THE PLANNING COMMISION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY – L. KIRK: the EMS report FOR October shows there were 36 calls with 26 transports. The average emergency response time was 6.7 minutes and noon-emergency response time was 11.7 minutes. I did not get a fire department report for the month.

SARGENT MCCLELLAND: There were 304 events for the month. They included 19 abandoned vehicles, 1 burglary, 9 disturbances, 5 domestic disputes, 1DUI, 1 fugitive arrests, 5 motor vehicle crashes, 1 narcotics, 5 PFA's, 49 traffic stops, 18 warrants, and 1 weapons. There were 32 arrests for the month, 6 fugitives, 4 narcotics, 9 harassment, 1 terroristic threat, 1 DUI, 2 simple assault, 3 theft, 1 EWOC, 1 false report to LE, 1 criminal trespass, 1 aggravated assault, and 2 disorderly conduct.

L. KIRK: tomorrow is the monthly Crime Watch meeting; we will discuss package delivery safety.

P. SHURGOT: can you talk to the fire department and have them get something done with the squad.

L. KIRK: when I spoke with Tom he said there was a mechanic in the department that was going to do something with it.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – TCVCOG: reports were on the table for the public.

S. SHURGOT: The trailers parked on the streets are now gone due to the ordinance and the houses we tore down and the one other individuals had taken down, on Middle Avenue, are cleaned up finally.

PUBLIC WORKS – P. SHURGOT: The new laborer started and they are preparing for the winter months. We need to buy 4 skid tires.

P. SHURGOT/ K. PETERSON TO PURCHASE 4 SKID TIRES NOT TO EXCEED \$1800.00. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

P. SHURGOT/K. PETERSON TO SERVICE THE DUMP TRUCK AND THE PICK UP TRUCK NOT TO EXCEED \$1800.00. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

They helped set up and tear down for Octoberfest, they have been doing leaf clean-up around town, and the sewer guys came in and cleaned the catch basins.

ENGINEER – D. GILLILAND: CITF demolition project has been completed, 413 Welsh/Orient slide, we have applied for a CD grant and will apply for a CITF grant as well. CD 44, paving of Caldwell Avenue, is likely not being done this year due to the weather. CD 45 project applications were submitted for Station Street sidewalk, Orient Avenue slide, and Caldwell Avenue paving from Lydia to Brown. ALCOSAN has expressed a strong interest in funding 85% of the cost to repair Ice Plant hill drainage issues. We will be presenting a scope of work this month to them. 2018 Inlet project has been scheduled to start either the week of November 26th or December 3rd. The basins can be replaced during winter however the asphalt around may not be completed until spring.

J. THOMAS: the Ice plant Hill project is with 3 communities that you are a part of so will you be taking the lead and discussing this with those communities as well?

D. GILLILAND: yes I will be taking the lead with all 3 municipalities, Allegheny County, and Brandywine.

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COG REPORT – KAREN PETERSON: they passed their budget for 2019.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – L. KIRK: The recreation room was painted and the new tables are in. The fireman garage has 2 bad ballasts; Tony is getting quotes for the repairs and to change them over to LED's.

SOLICITOR – G. EVASHAVIK: Nothing aside from the ordinance.

FINANCE – J. THOMAS:

J. THOMAS /P. SHURGOT TO PAY ALL APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL 6-0.

J. THOMAS/K. PETERSON TO ADVERTISE BUDGET FOR 2019, MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

J. THOMAS/P. SHURGOT TO INCREASE THE REAL ESTATE BY 1 MIL MAKING IT 11 MIL FOR 2019 FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT PURPOSES.

K. MAXWELL: what will be covered with the taxes is this in part because of the police?

J. THOMAS: That's part of it but the taxes aren't coming in and at 10 mil. Out of \$328,000.00 we haven't even reached \$300,000.00. People are not paying their taxes, we are going to court but we still need to run the Borough. The police are going to be up in a few years and we really need to look ahead so we don't have to raise it 3 mil's in a year.

PRESIDENT SHURGOT CALLED FOR A ROOL CALL VOTE:

L. KIRK – YES

K. PETERSON – YES

K. MAXWELL – NO

P. SHURGOT – YES

J. THOMAS – YES

S. SHURGOT – YES

RECREATION – K. MAXWELL: I want to thank everyone that helped with Octoberfest although the weather did not cooperate. Saturday the 17th we have a kids craft in the Recreation Room. We have letters to Santa for Wilmerding Children up to the age of 10, can put a letter in the mailbox in the Borough building and receive a present from Santa at the Hometown Christmas. I have it set up like a giving tree where recreation will cover some but we are looking for donations to help. December 8 is the Hometown Christmas in the Park from 6-8. Santa will be there along with some other activities. We are selling Luminaries to light up the town on Christmas Eve; they are 5 for \$5.00.

S. SHURGOT: the luminaries this year are a little different; they are battery operated lights not candles so the bags will not burn.

K. MAXWELL: all you need to do is out a few rocks in the bag. We have a few events we are working on for the beginning of the year. January 19 Senior Soup & Social, February 3rd will be a Super bowl Party, and tentatively April 13th for the Easter party.

K. MAXWELL/K. PETERSON TO RELEASE THE \$400.00 TO RECREATION FOR CHRISTMAS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

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S. SHURGOT: I also want to say the school is definitely here to stay and they are proud to be a part of our community. They decorated the halls and the kids came out on their own to help us celebrate. It was really nice to see how much they did.

PLANNING – REV. REEVES: none

OLD BUSINESS:

P. SHURGOT: Caroline did you contact them about the garbage on 5th Street.

C. LANG: yes. Kyle also put letters on the doors and spoke with one of the tenants who stated they had put their garbage out on time. I spoke to Big's who has photographic evidence that the garbage was not put out it was still sitting on the side of the house.

P. SHURGOT: what is going on with the repair on Airbrake Avenue?

C. LANG: it should be repaired within the next two weeks. It will take approximately 2 to 3 day to do the entire repair.

P. SHURGOT/ J. THOMAS TO CANCEL WORKSOP FOR NOVEMBER. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

P. SHURGOT: I would like to thank the council and Caroline for all their hard work getting the county and the railroad to work together and get our bridge fixed.

K. MAXWELL: The school has come to me and asked if it is possible to move their bus pick up to Herman Avenue. If we do that can we get the Pat buses to stop going through there?

S. SHURGOT: can we send Port Authority a letter to remove the stop at Westinghouse and change the route to go down Commerce?

P. SHURGOT: now what about the paving project in front of the school? We can grant it now but once that project starts they will have to move back to Marguerite.

NEW BUSINESS:

K. MAXWELL/L. KIRK TO INSTALL A SIGN ON SUMMIT HILL STATING THAT NOVEMBER THRU APRIL THERE IS NO PARKING ON STREET DUE TO SNOW AND ICE, ALOS FOR CAROLINE TO SEND A LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

S. SHURGOT: CIAC has been trying to get the Faller Building out of the hands of the creditor. He sent a letter on October 7th asking them to donate it but there has been no response. We are hoping they get that to happen and any support the Borough can give, we will. Also, I've been asked to give an update on the YMCA. The mayor and a few council members have been meeting with them for a few months to try and have a group come in and lease the building through the YMCA. There were some stumbling blocks throughout the meetings and although the group would lease the building there was still maintenance costs that we felt should not be the responsibility of the new group. Then PNC bank got involved and they wanted to sell the building. Years ago we tried to give that parcel back to the school district but they never got back to us so that parcel is still owned by Wilmerding Borough and with that there was a clause in the deed that stated the building must be used for recreational purposes. If not used within 30 day we have the right to foreclose on that lease which the Borough did. On November 14th at midnight the Borough will take over the building

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and the group is trying to get in there to manage it and we are trying to get the Wilmerding Recreation Center opened up. We did run into some problems and the YMCA removed some items for use elsewhere. There are no lockers, no benches, no pool pump or heater. The borough has to eat the cost of utilities until the group can get it opened. If you know anyone looking for office or rental space refer them to Caroline and she can pass the information onto the group. We will be opening things up piece by piece as we can.

MAYOR'S REMARKS – G. JAKUB: following up on what Mr. Shurgot has said, we started in late June and we met most of the top governing body of the YMCA, we were promised from day one that they wanted to make this happen. Every time we asked them to sign something that they wanted to progress with this, it never happened. We were finally told by PNC that they had no intent to work with us. We have asked about buying or leasing the top lot and still cannot get an answer from them. The committee that was formed has previous board members from the YMCA, past employees, and some council members. You should see a sign soon that will say Wilmerding Community Center. I did have a meeting with John Graff the gentleman who purchased the castle. He had a money issue and was trying to raise capital and as of this past week he is working with a financial institution that may give him a line of credit as early as December 1st. He will keep me updated but it appears that he is going to progress with this.

Meeting adjourned 7:39 p.m.