

BOROUGH OF WILKINSBURG COUNCIL MEETING
Planning Session
September 7, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

President Moore called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal Building, 605 Ross Ave., Wilkesburg, PA.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, Mr. Cohn, and President Moore. Also present were Marla P. Marcinko, Borough Manager, and Matt Racunas, Esquire from the Law Offices of Patricia McGrail, L.L.C. Borough Solicitor. Absent were Ms. Ervin, Mr. Lewis, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin and Mayor John Thompson. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of all victims of violent crime; with a tribute to military personnel and announcing the upcoming memorial to honor and not forget September 11, 2001.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Recognition – Wilkesburg Youth Police Academy

President Moore introduced Chief Coleman. Chief Ophelia Coleman praised the fourteen youth who participated for two weeks in the Youth Police Academy for their dedication, commitment, and good behavior. Chief Coleman introduced Sergeant Wayne McKenith who presented the certificates of completion. Chief Ophelia Coleman thanked Council for its support and added a special thanks to the Teamsters Local 205 for a contribution of \$160.00.

President Moore announced that Council is looking for youth who are interested in serving as Junior Council members.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Law – 908 Wood St. – Commented that she has heard of an after hours club operating on Penn Ave with liquor on the premises. Ms. Law questioned what is being done with the space formerly occupied by the Weed & Seed Site Coordinator. President Moore advised that the space is being occupied by the Wilkesburg Police Department. Ms. Law commented that there is a group of residents interested in office space for the purpose of planning community events.

Mr. Cohn commented that the former Weed & Seed office has been a polling place and inquired as to the plans to continue that use. Ms. Law commented on the amount of space needed for the poll and configuration for that purpose. It was suggested to check with the Elections Division for options.

John Ward – 1221 Swissvale Ave. – Commented on the upcoming anniversary of 9/11 and the memorial event planned in Wilkinsburg. Chief Coleman commented that she was approached by Betsey Swartz of the Wilkinsburg Library to assist with coordination of a ceremony. Mr. Ward has arranged to have the Marine Color Guard conduct the ceremony. Mr. Ward stated that a flag will be donated to Wilkinsburg which had flown over a combat zone in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom which was presented to him and Mrs. Ward. The ceremony will be held on Friday September 9, 2011 beginning at 10:00 AM.

David Wilson Eastern Area Pre-Hospital Service – Mr. Wilson provided the August report for EAPS. There were a total of 327 calls, with 224 patient transports. Response times have improved as follows: E-0's at 6.7 minutes and E-1's at 6.4 minutes. Average lights and sirens response times were recorded at 6.7 minutes. A blood pressure clinic was held at the Wallace Avenue Soup Kitchen with another one planned for September 30, 2011 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Mr. Wilson commented that no flu clinics have been scheduled yet. President Moore questioned how operations are going in their new space at the DPW Park Ave garage. Mr. Wilson stated that things were going well and he believes the new location has assisted in improving response times.

Chief Ophelia Coleman commented on the Public Safety Forum in progress in the auditorium with Swissvale, Edgewood, Regent Square, City of Pittsburgh and Wilkinsburg.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

Ordinance No. 2874

Repealing Ordinance 2858 relating to one-way traffic restrictions on Hill Avenue and Mill Street.

Moved: Ms. Trice

Seconded by: Mr. Lefebvre

Yes: Mr. Cohn, Ms. Trice, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, President Moore

Motion carried

RESOLUTIONS

11-077

Authorizing the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments to award the CD 36 demolition contract to Canon-Mac Demolition in the amount of \$44,907.00.

Moved: Ms. Trice

Seconded by: Ms. Evans

Yes: Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Lefebvre, President Moore

Motion carried

11-078

Authorizing the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments to award the CD 37 demolition contract to A.W. McNabb in the amount of \$51,600.

Moved: Mr. Cohn

Seconded by: Ms. Trice

Yes: Ms. Trice, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, President Moore

11-079

Authorizing the execution of an agreement between the Borough of Wilkinsburg and Delta Development Group, Inc. to complete the zoning ordinance update, zoning map and Official Map in accordance with the proposal submitted on July 14, 2011 for a total project cost of \$34,000.

Moved: Ms. Evans

Seconded by: Mr. Cohn

Yes: Mr. Cohn, Ms. Trice, Ms. Evans, Mr. Lefebvre, President Moore

Motion carried

REPORT FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

President Moore reported:

- The E-network is upgrading internet speed. Wilkinsburg has been selected as a hub site. No installation date has been set.
- 9/11 Memorial Service will be held at the Municipal Building on September 9, 2011 at 10:00 AM. The movie "Remembering 911" will be shown in Council Chambers at 11:00 AM and again at 1:00 PM.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Finance Committee – Mr. Cohn reported:

- There will be a number of matters to discuss at upcoming meetings related to the bond issue.
- The next Finance Committee meeting will be held September 15, 2011 at 9:30 AM.
- The Joint Committee on Administrative Process to Reclaim Vacant Property will be held on September 26, 2011 at 5:30 PM.

President Moore questioned the dates for the budget work sessions. Mr. Cohn advised that the meetings will be held the second and fourth Wednesdays in October at 7:00 PM and are open to the public.

Personnel Committee – Ms. Trice reported:

- The committee met on August 10, 2011 and reviewed the Borough Manager's performance evaluation. The Borough Manager is to provide her comments to the Committee and then an executive session of Council will be scheduled.
- The next meeting will be held on September 14, 2011 at 6:00 PM and is not an open meeting for the public.

Ms. Trice reported that the TCVCOG will return to their regular meeting schedule on the last Thursdays of the month. Ms. Trice will be attending those meetings.

Public Safety Committee Report – Mr. Lefebvre reported:

- The next meeting will be held on September 21, 2011 at 5:30 PM.

President Moore commented on the nice job on the WCDC Annual Report.

Ms. Evans announced:

- The Wilkinsburg Municipal Authority and the Wilkinsburg Commercial and Industrial Development Authority is holding a special meeting to discuss refinancing a bond issue on September 8, 2011 at 6:00 PM at the request of Winchester Thurston.
- The Business District Safety Meetings are continuing.
- New Department Directors added to Borough staff have been positive additions with Code Enforcement conducting block by block inspections of the business district and infrastructure work being performed by DPW. Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 8:30 AM.
- The WCDC will have an additional staff person this year through PULSE, a small group of interns who work with non profits throughout the region for 11 months. The intern will be assisting with the commercial business district recycling project and other business development initiatives.

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- Banners have been installed with additional banners yet to be installed.
- Additional new litter receptacles will be installed by the end of September.
- The decorative light posts in the business district are being refurbished.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, on motion by Mr. Cohn seconded by Mr. Lefebvre, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:50 PM.

Eugenia Moore, Council President