

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH
Council Work Session
July 10, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President McCarthy-Johnson called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal building, 605 Ross Ave., Wilkinsburg, PA.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, Ms. Moore, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin (via telephone), and President Cohn (via telephone). Also present was Marla Marcinko, Borough Manager and Borough Solicitor Michael Witherel. Ms. Ervin, Ms. Trice, Ms. Goodman and Mayor John Thompson were absent. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, a moment of silence was observed to remember victims of violent crime.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kate Luxemburg – 432 Rebecca Ave. – Commented on the conviction and sentencing of a person related to the dog fighting ring on Bessica Street. She also commented on Council's decision to not issue an RFP for delinquent tax collection services. She commented that Council had not considered different collection models percentage based and fee based, and their effectiveness in addressing different types of delinquencies. She commented that the fee model is regressive and not appropriate for the Wilkinsburg tax base. She stated that she would like to present information to the Finance Committee Chairperson, Mr. Lefebvre, demonstrating that for every delinquent tax dollar owed in the Borough, 36% goes to Portnoff Law Associates.

Vice-President McCarthy-Johnson stated that, due to dangerous weather conditions, Council only address action items at this meeting and defer the discussion items until the next meeting of Council.

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Approving Council Meeting Minutes of 6/5, 6/12 and 6/19/13.**

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Moore

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

- 2. Approving June checks issued:**

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|--|---------------|
| Regular Disbursements 06/01 – 06/30/13 | \$ 715,039.87 |
| Payroll Disbursements | 254,024.76 |
| Voided Checks | <u>175.00</u> |

Total Disbursement \$ 968,889.63

Moved: Ms. Moore

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

3. Adopting Ordinance No. 2907 – Amending Animals related to Poultry.

Moved: Ms. Evans

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

Mr. Lefebvre questioned whether the ordinance should address the type of structure required to house hens and chicks. President Cohn suggested that if it is found that such a provision is needed, the ordinance can be amended at a later time. Concerns were raised that overregulation increases enforcement issues.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

4. Authorizing the advertisement of Ordinance No. 2908 – Assessment of administrative fee for Municipal Service Fees.

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Evans

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

5. Authorizing the advertisement of Ordinance No. 2909 – Establishing Handicap Parking Space – 1619 Laketon Road.

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Moore

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

6. Authorizing the advertisement of ordinance No. 2910 – Establishing Handicap Parking Space – 535 Mifflin Avenue.

Moved: Ms. Evans

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

7. Authorizing the advertisement of Ordinance No. 2911 – Removing Handicap Parking Space – 1339 Woodlawn Avenue.

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Moore

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

8. Approving Resolution No. 13-059 – Awarding Library Air Conditioning Project to Gerard Plumbing and Heating.

Ms. Macklin inquired as to whether the plumbing and heating company was located. Ms. Marcinko was not certain about the location of their place of business but did recall that it was not located in Wilksburg.

Moved: Ms. Evans

Second: Ms. Moore

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

9. Approving Resolution No. 13-060 – Preliminary and final subdivision approval – 723 Wallace Avenue.

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Evans

Ms. Macklin questioned whether the plan had been reviewed by the Planning Commission and was advised that it had.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

10. Approving Resolution No. 13-061 – Approving Street Closure – Mifflin Ave. United Methodist Church.

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Moore

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion – Review of proposed change orders to Police Department Renovations Project.

Vice-President McCarthy-Johnson questioned whether needed approvals are time-sensitive. Ms. Marcinko responded that they were not.

Ms. Macklin inquired as to whether summer seasonal laborers had been hired. Ms. Marcinko reported that two out of four candidates successfully completed and passed the physical

examination process. Roy Clark, Director, is very happy with four workers from the Bridge of Pittsburgh whose salaries are paid by that organization. The department now has six seasonal workers.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, on motion by Mr. Lefebvre, second by President Cohn, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:17 P.M.

Jason Cohn, Council President