

**WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Council Legislative Session**  
**Minutes Revised**  
**September 9, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02 pm in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal Building, 605 Ross Avenue, Wilkesburg, PA 15221.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mr. Taiani, Ms. Trice, Ms. Moore, Ms. Grannemann, Mr. Shattuck, Ms. Macklin and President, Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson. Amanda Ford, Interim Borough Manager and Michael J. Witherel, Solicitor were also present. Ms. Garrett, Mr. Lefebvre and Mayor John Thompson were absent. A quorum was established.

\*Ms. Garrett arrived at 7:15 pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Following the pledge of allegiance led by President Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson, a moment of silence was observed to remember victims of violent crime.

**PROCLAMATION**

- Lawrence Focareta – Retirement; 7 years of service.
- Betsey Swartz – Retirement; 20 years of service.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Approving Council Meeting Minutes of 08/05/15.

**Moved: Ms. Trice**

**Second: Ms. Moore**

**A vote in favor of the motion; 6 and 1 abstain.**

2. Approving August Checks Issued:

August 1-31, 2015	\$840,663.98
Payroll Disbursements	\$267,406.08



- Borough Solicitor – Commented that a motion is needed to approve Narcan training to all officers.

**Moved: Ms. Trice**

**Second: Ms. Macklin**

**All voted in favor of the motion; 8 – 0.**

7. Motion to accept the donation of property from Wells Fargo at 821 Woodworth Avenue with the noted items in the discussion.
  - Mr. Shattuck – This item was included in the Capital Planning Meeting Report. Wells Fargo has offered to donate the mentioned property that is currently foreclosed. The program offers some funds negotiated for demolition purposes at no cost to the borough, or to stabilize the property for sale and placed back on the real estate tax roll in someone else’s hand. I recommend that Council authorize Eric Parrish to work on the letter and application and to contact Wells Fargo and negotiate a price.
  - Eric Parrish – Provided information that the property was in fair condition and that the program would serve well to help rid blighted property.

**Moved: Ms. Macklin**

**Second: Ms. Grannemann**

**All voted in favor of the motion; 8 – 0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Leon Haynes – Hosanna House – Executive Director – 807 Wallace Avenue, (handouts).
  - Hosanna House received a CDBG Grant.
  - Hosanna House remaining funds in the amount of \$30,000 from a CDBG Grant and would like an extension to demolish properties located below:

**\*Consensus of Council to authorize a declaration to execute to move forward to demolition of the following property:**

**808 Wallace Avenue  
809-811 Penn Avenue  
821 North Avenue**

**Moved: Mr. Shattuck**

**Second: Ms. Grannemann**

**All voted in favor of the motion; 8 – 0.**

2. Alfred Shields – Resident at 1156 ½ South Avenue - Thanked Council for the approval of the requested Block Party Street Closure permit. All went well, this was a great opportunity in bringing young youths together.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Mr. Taiani – Request for the Solicitor to look into Amending the Ordinance for Commercial Vehicles parked overnight.
- Borough Solicitor – will take care of that request and report back to Council at our next scheduled meeting.
- Ms. Macklin – Pitt Serves Clean-Up, 80 plus students this year. The event is scheduled for October 24, 2015 confirmed \$200.00 in the budget to feed students.
- President McCarthy-Johnson – We can have the Borough Manager check into the fund requested. Funds should still be available in the community event budget line item.
- Borough Manager – I have three (3) items to share with Council:
  - Budget Work Session schedule.
  - A letter from the City of Pittsburgh Legal Department regarding the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and contracted fire protection services will be all in one of the contract.
  - System 4 Cleaning proposed contract for Eastridge Library placed in Council folders for review. Council feels that the proposal is still too high priced.

### **New Business**

- President McCarthy-Johnson – Comments on reviewing the Handicap Parking Ordinance has been reviewed by the Solicitor
- Borough Solicitor – Amanda, ask that I review the ordinance; somehow over the years the Borough started advertising the ordinance for each request for handicap parking. There is no need to advertise this process. The Borough can move forward and just approve by resolution vote.
- Local Government Week to be scheduled in November 2nd through November 6<sup>th</sup> 2015.
- Ms. Macklin – Pitt Serve students will return to hang holiday decorations.
- Ms. Garrett – Recently in the news has been a hot topic regarding fracking to commence on the grounds of Churchill Country Club. This is a time to have your voices heard. Churchill Borough will hold a discussion at their next council meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 7:30 pm.
- Ms. Trice – Made a suggestion that Council consider moving Public Comment to the beginning of the meeting.
- Ms. Moore – Wilkinsburg Library Book Sale on September 17<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> 2015.

## **Adjournment**

\*Meeting adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

Council will move into executive session at 8:29 pm for matters of personnel and litigation.

Executive Session ended at 9:35pm with no action taken.

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Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson  
President Council