

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE JAN. 8, 2013 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:15 pm

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

MR. S. SHURGOT: Council met in executive session prior to the meeting to discuss personal matters.

ROLL CALL: MICHAEL TRKULA, present; REV. DOROTHY REEVES, present; KAREN PETERSON, present; SANDRA SMITH, present; JOHN MASON JR., present; JOHN THOMAS, present, STEPHEN SHURGOT, present. MAYOR DOMINIC PARISI was also present.

M. TRKULA / J. MASON TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE DEC. 18, 2012 MEETING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MS. J. TOMASIC, WESTINGHOUSE AVE. : do you think that the Lions Club can advertise the meeting with the post office on January 15th on their sign at the end of the bridge.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will ask them.

MR. J. WRIGHT, WELSH AVE.: I am the editor of the Wilmerding Preview and we would like to start a column about what is happening in town.

MR. S. SHURGOT: I would be glad to do it.

MR. J. WRIGHT: our next paper is coming out in March.

MR. P. CLAYTON, MARGUERITE AVE.: we were here before about the house next to mine that is vacant but there is still a lot of activity there. There are people going in and out and no one is supposed to be there.

MS. K. PETERSON: there should be a lock box on the door.

MR. P. CLAYTON: they have space heaters in there and the lights are on.

MS. K. PETERSON: they still have a right to be there. The bank has not taken over the property yet. I will try to get in touch with the owner.

MR. P. CLAYTON: I did call the police and they did come down and make a few arrests.

MS. G. HOMITZ, WESTINGHOUSE AVE.: I would like to thank the borough for cleaning the streets after the big snow fall and for getting my car out.

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CORRESPONDENCE

1. received a notice for the Allegheny League of Municipalities conference to be held at Seven Springs from April 4th to April 7th.

S. SMITH / M. TRKULA THAT ANY MEMBER OF COUNCIL THAT IS IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE BOROUGH BE PERMITTED TO GO. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

2. received a notice of the Allegheny County Borough's Association annual banquet to be held at the Westin Convention Center on Feb. 2, 2013. The cost for the banquet is \$65 per person.

M. TRKULA / K. PETERSON TO RECEIVE AND FILE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

3. received a letter from a resident of Welsh Avenue that the borough did not salt the alley behind her house after the snow storm and it was very dangerous, especially going down the hill leading to Welsh Avenue. Please keep the hill salted every time it snows.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we cannot go on private property and that is a private alley behind her house. We would need permission from all the homeowners to go back there and salt the alley. This is the same as the alley behind Card Avenue. Maybe we can put some salt boxes in those alleys.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: once you begin taking care of it then you are taking control of those alleys. You need a signed consent from all the homeowners. I would not do anything up there until all of the owners agree.

4. as a reminder, the meeting with the post office is Monday at 6 pm here at the borough building. This meeting is to discuss the future of the post office in Wilmerding.

MR. S. SHURGOT: just to make everyone aware, there is a new law, which just took effect, that you cannot discard any electronics with your garbage.

MR. J. THOMAS: Waste Management will not pick up any electronics. They will charge an extra \$1.00 to pick them up but you would have to make arrangements with them. This will cost the borough about \$10,000 a year. We talked about our guys picking them up and bringing them here to be recycled.

MS. S. SMITH: if we collect them and take them to be recycled, will it cost us anything.

MR. J. THOMAS: I know Goodwill will take some of those.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY - M. TRKULA: for the month of December Eastern Area Ambulance responded to 46 calls with an average response time for emergencies was 6.7 minutes and for non-emergencies 8.6 minutes. They had 38 transports. For the fourth quarter they had 150 calls with 111 of them transports. The average response time for emergencies was 6.4 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 8.1 minutes. For the year they had 626 calls with 456 transports. The average time for emergencies was 6-7 minutes and for non-emergencies it was 8.1 minutes. I did not receive a report from the fire department.

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CHIEF V. DiCENZO: for the month of December the police department responded to 185 calls and made five arrests. A summary of the calls that were investigated, there was one assault, one burglary, eleven domestics, 4 drug investigations, 4 juvenile calls, two neighbor disputes, 2 overdose, 5 parking complaints, one public intoxication, two suspicious activity, two suspicious persons, 6 terroristic threats, five traffic accidents and one warrant.

MS. K. PETERSON: what can we do about kids shooting birds.

CHIEF V. DiCENZO: you cannot discharge a firearm in the borough.

MS. K. PETERSON: is a B B gun a firearm.

CHIEF V. DiCENZO: technically no.

PUBLIC WORKS - J. MASON: we are still working on the salt bin. The gate should be done next week. The guys did a good job in clearing the snow.

ENGINEER - D. GILLILAND: bids were opened at COG on January 4, 2013 for the demolition of 18 Sprague Street. The low bid was from Eveready Contracting for \$6,400.

K. PETERSON / S. SMITH TO AWARD THE BID CONTINGENT ON GETTING THE FUNDING APPROVED.

MR. J. THOMAS: if we award the bid and do not get the money for a month or two, would the bid still be good even though it is past the CD year it was approved for.

MR. D. GILLILAND: I am not sure. I know that it takes a couple of months before they could start. They have to provide a bond and there is some other paperwork that needs to be done.

K. PETERSON / S. SMITH TO APPROVE THE BID ONCE THE FUNDING IS IN PLACE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

UTILITIES - REV. D. REEVES: the lights are fixed on Station Street and are back on. The bus shelter in front of the hi rise was damaged and they took it out. Right now there is no bus shelter there. CCAC is offering classes on natural gas drilling.

SOLICITOR - G. EVASHAVIK: no report.

FINANCE - J. THOMAS:

J. THOMAS / K. PETERSON TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

MR. J. THOMAS: everyone knows that their sidewalk needs to be cleared after it snows. We should cite everyone in mass if they do not clean their sidewalks.

BOROUGH PROPERTY - K. PETERSON: no report.

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RECREATION - S. SMITH: we had our children's Christmas party on Dec. 8th and there were 42 children there but 17 of them were from out of town.

S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO DONATE \$300 TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE TO COVER THE COST OF THE CHRISTMAS PARTY. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PLANNING - REV. D. REEVES: no report.

OLD BUSINESS

last month we received a request for a handicap sign from Rev. Thomas of Just Right Ministries. He does not have a handicap placard but he wants the space in front of the study on Westinghouse Avenue for parking.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: there are no reserved parking spaces on a street. It is a public street and anyone can park there as long as their vehicle is legal.

MR. J. THOMAS: they are also having a parking issue on Caldwell Avenue. Can we stipulate who can park on the street.

MS. K. PETERSON: can we have them pay an extra fee to park on the street.

MR. G. EVASHAVIK: you can have permit parking but you cannot assign a spot for them to park.

NEW BUSINESS

MR. J. MASON: can we send a thank you letter to Rick Mattis for coming out on New Year's eve to clear the snow.

MAYOR'S REMARKS - D. PARISI: can we study the feasibility of having a bingo downstairs or a super bingo once a month to raise funds for our community days.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.