

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE DEC. 19, 2016 SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:01 p.m.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

S. SMITH / L. KIRK TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE DEC. 6, 2016 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MR. S. SHURGOT: before we get into the regular meeting, Mr. Jack Nolan would like to address Council.

MR. JACK NOLAN: I am here tonight to try and resurrect an application to the State for the Keystone Communities Regional Zone. If you recall our initial conversation started out as an Enterprise Zone. After talking to the communities involved in this we thought that a better fit would be to apply for the Keystone Communities Regional Zone grant. This program would allow you to do housing, Main Street and Elm Street projects in the business district and also for the industrial area. We applied for this last year and unfortunately we did not make the cut. What we are doing now, there is a window open from November to January, and the State said all that we had to do, instead of going to all the communities for a new resolution, was to have the applicant pass a new resolution. We are just redoing the same thing we did last year and we are applying for a \$25,000 grant to pull this zone together.

MR. J. THOMAS: this is a grant and there is no cost to the borough in any way.

MR. J. NOLAN: that is correct, there is no cost to the borough.

A resolution of the Borough of Wilmerding authorizing the filing of a proposal for \$25,000 with the Department of Community and Economic Development, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Whereas the Borough of Wilmerding is desirous of obtaining funds from the Department for preparing a Five Year Enterprise Zone Strategy as required by the Keystone Communities Program.

MR. J. THOMAS: how is the money going to be spent? Do you give us a financial report.

MR. J. NOLAN: yes, a report will be issued.

MAYOR G. JAKUB: where does the money go?

MR. J. NOLAN: the money would come to you and you would pass it through to the C.I.A.C.

MR. J. THOMAS: are you bonded.

MR. J. NOLAN: yes.

S. SMITH / L. KIRK TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2016-04. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE DEC. 19, 2016 SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

OLD BUSINESS

MS. S. SMITH: John, whatever happened to the air compressor that the fire department uses.

MR. J. THOMAS: I talked to Mr. Hussey and he told me that there was an employee who worked in the airbrake. Mr. Hussey is supposed to talk to him tomorrow and there may be an issue that we might have to reimburse him for his time. I don't think it could be that much money.

MS. S. SMITH: we had 26 children for the Christmas party. It seemed that everyone enjoyed the event.

MR. J. THOMAS: we talked about replacing the copiers and Joe and I feel that leasing is the best way to go.

J. THOMAS / S. SMITH TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM RTR BUSINESS PRODUCTS, PLAN B, WITH TWO FAXES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER.

MR. S. SHURGOT: it was discussed that Patrick Butler requested a leave of absence but we have not received a letter yet. We gave him until the Jan. 3rd meeting to submit the letter. If we do not receive the letter then we would have to terminate his employment. In the meantime we will be sending him his COBRA letter explaining his responsibilities to maintain his health insurance.

S. SMITH / P. SHURGOT IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE A LETTER FROM PATRICK BUTLER REQUESTING A LEAVE OF ABSENSE THEN WE TERMINATE HIS EMPLOYMENT. IF A LETTER IS RECEIVED THEN HE IS ENTITLED TO COBRA IF HE AGREES TO THE TERMS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

MS. S. SMITH: Janet Darby called Allegheny County and told them that she could no longer take care of the hillside behind her house along the bridge. I met with a gentleman from the County and he gave me a lot of paperwork. There are maps and a contract in there and it does look like we are responsible to maintain that hillside between the houses and the bridge.

MR. J. THOMAS: there has to be a right of way there.

MR. S. SHURGOT: can you give those papers to Don and Greg for them to review.

J. THOMAS / L. KIRK TO PASS THE 2017 BALANCED BUDGET OF \$859,433. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE DEC. 19, 2016 SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

MR. J. THOMAS: the millage rate for 2017 will be set at ten mills.

MRS. P. SHURGOT: is this an increase from this year.

MR. J. THOMAS: no, the same as 2015 and 2016.

J. THOMAS / P. SHURGOT TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE SETTING THE MILLAGE RATE AT 10 MILLS FOR 2017. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

J. THOMAS / P. SHURGOT TO HAVE THE SECRETARY APPLY FOR A SHARE LOAN AT COMPASS BANK NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

J. THOMAS / L. KIRK TO RAISE THE HOURLY WAGE OF TWO PERCENT ACROSS THE BOARD FOR OUR EMPLOYEES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

J. THOMAS / S. SMITH TO GIVE J. HARTZELL, M. JAKUB, A. HUSSEY A \$100 BONUS, AFTER TAXES, AND L. WALKER A \$50 BONUS, AFTER TAXES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

J. THOMAS / P. SHURGOT TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we received a letter from Mrs. Marjorie Donovan asking Council to waive the trash fees for 456, 652 and 654 Middle Avenue since the windows are broken and the copper pipes were stolen. She does not have any plans at this time to rent it out. She is also asking that the rental fee be waived for these properties.

MR. J. THOMAS: we do have something in our ordinance that states that the trash fee could be waived if they submit an affidavit to the effect that it will not be rented again. There is nothing on the rental license fees.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will have the solicitor take a look at this.

P. SHURGOT / L. KIRK TO ADOPT THE 2017 MEETING AND WORKSHOP DATES AND TO ADVERTISE THE DATES. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm