

BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 3, 2023, REGULAR MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order by President Kelly Maxwell at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President

ROLL CALL: LINDA KIRK, present; TURNER SEIBLES, present; JOE HARTZELL, present; STEVE VOLPE, present; LEAHMANDA BARNES, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; KELLY MAXWELL, present. MAYOR GREGORY JAKUB, present.

S. VOLPE/L/ KIRK TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2023, MEETING AS PRESENTED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS:

ALICIA TOTH; 533 WESTINGHOUSE: I have asked in the past if you could put a blinking light on the stop sign because people are blowing through it, and I'm worried about my daughters safety.

K. MAXWELL: we have that on the agenda for public safety.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Ratify a vote to award Nagy Construction the 2022 GEDTF Street Reconstruction of Commerce Street with a trench drain being added. The amount of the grant is \$50,000.00 and the bid was for \$91,261.00 but after removing lines 6 and 7 for painting of lines the new cost would be \$86941.00.

J. THOMAS/S. VOLPE TO AWARD NAGY CONSTRUCTION THE PROJECT LISTED ABOVE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$86,941.00. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

- b. Request from Planning Committee to send Deborah Wolski to a PMPEI online class for a cost of \$25.00.

J. HARTZELL/S. VOLPE TO APPROVE CLASS AND FEE FOR DEBORAH WOLSKI. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

- c. Borough MMO pension plan Obligation is \$0. We have 1 retired member, Mr. Hartzell, and 1 active member, myself.

J. THOMAS/S. VOLPE TO PASS THE MMO OBLIGATION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

- d. We need to ratify a vote to repair the zero turn in the amount of \$1785.25.

J. HARTZELL/J. THOMAS TO RATIFY THIS AND HAVE THE ZERO TURN REPAIRED BY PENN HILLS RENTAL FOR A COST OF \$1785.25. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

- e. We need to ratify a vote to have JJ's tree service remove a dead tree from Wilmerding Park, cost is \$3200.00.

L. KIRK/S. VOLPE TO HAVE TREE REMOVED AT A COST OF \$3200.00. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

- f. I need approval to transfer \$5827.88 from the Compass General fund to the Compass Police Pension fund. This money is state aid from Act 205.

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J. THOMAS/S. VOLPE TO APPROVE TRANSFER OF \$5827.88 FROM COMPASS GENERAL TO COMPASS POLICE PENSION. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY/BORO PROPERTIES – L. KIRK: The EMS responded to 35 calls in September with an average Emergency response time of 8.7 and non-emergency response time was 12.3. The fire department had 41 calls, 16 were in town, 25 out of town, 3 work details, 4 trainings, and 12 maintenance hours.

L. KIRK/L. BARNES TO PLACE THE DEAF CHILD SIGN IN THE LOCATION OF 533 WESTINGHOUSE AVENUE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

DETECTIVE CARUSO: we had 96 calls in September which included several welfare checks, domestics, warrants served, 3 abandoned vehicles were towed, and a lot of traffic stops. We are still working on 1 that needs towed, and we are working on a dog incident and still looking for the owner.

G. JAKUB: the dog was severely abused, and we are still searching for information. They also did narcotics sweep on Middle, some extra school patrols, and they received a grant in the amount of \$1800.00 for a vest for Maxx who also received his national certification for police apprehension, tracking, trailing, and search rescue. He was recently deployed to Braddock and the chief of Braddock sent a thank you letter to Chief Farally and his officers for their service.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – AL HUSSEY: for the purpose of this meeting everyone can refer to the report they received. I have cleared up most of the issues that we talked about although I still have some issues on Marguerite Avenue. I got a car moved from the alley and some of the garbage moved but it's a process with those people.

G. JAKUB: the guy with the box truck never talked to the school.

A. HUSSEY: I can go speak with him again.

PUBLIC WORKS – J. HARTZELL: They have been picking up trash and leaves. We purchased a riding mower for \$500.00 to use until ours gets fixed. Also, we received an application from Tyler Beresford. We can set up an interview although many of us know him. Is everyone good with the 12th at 6:30?

ENGINEER – B. BRANTHOVER: the bid for GEDTF was higher than I expected but I will work on that with COG since you passed that bid. We opened the 2022 LSA for paving and the low bid was from Liberoni in the amount of \$106,641.75 which includes my recommendation of doing a 2" 19mm binder instead of a 1" leveling 9.5mm fine wearing.

J. THOMAS/S. VOLPE TO AWARD THE PROJECT TO LIBERONI WITH THE ALTERNATE SCOPE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$106,641.75. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

B. BRANTHOVER: just some recaps; we applied for the CD 53, the LSA is coming up, and the 2023 GEDTF application has been submitted for street reconstruction and catch basing. Linda, you asked about sending a letter to the property owners over in Patton and I will take care of that. Greg, maybe we can talk so I know what to state in the letter?

G. EVASHAVIK: a letter of that nature should be sent from AI under the property maintenance codes.

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B. BRANTHOVER: we received a call in regard to an order from sewer in the 500 block of Westinghouse. We can have North Versailles come down with a jet truck.

J. THOMAS: ALCOSAN took over all the interceptors so that would be on them.

B. BRANTHOVER: I will look into it with them.

COG REPORT – J. HARTZELL: there was no quorum for a meeting but there was an email vote on some resolutions, we have 2 of them for street reconstruction and catch basins. Also, Wilmerding has signed up for the October 18th fire forum. There is a new program trying to get people back to work, there is a whole study available if anyone would like to look at it.

UTILITIES – L. BARNES: nothing

SOLICITOR – G. EVASHAVIK: nothing

FINANCE – J. THOMAS:

J. THOMAS/S. VOLPE TO PAY BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$56,938.76 FROM THE GENERAL FUND. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL 7-0.

J. THOMAS: there is a copy of the budget for 2024, it includes a 3% increase for the employees. I have spoken with Nick about possibly doing 10 property appeals. The amount of Mercantile tax we received this year has dropped, this is paid to PAMS and we cannot get a report.

G. EVASHAVIK: Caroline you should be able to send a letter requesting this information.

J. THOMAS: We have also been trying to get a Section 8 report, but they are not responding to the letters that Caroline has sent. I am going to talk with the council woman and see if she can assist with this. So far to date we have collected \$107,270.26 in RAD, \$14,189.96 in deed transfer, \$106,814.98 in EIT, \$8,959.45 in LST, \$357,434.15 in Current Real estate, \$27,253.16 in delinquent real estate, and \$11,488.79 in delinquent garbage.

J. THOMAS/ L. BARNES TO CONTINUE THE GARBAGE DISCOUNT FOR 2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$160.00. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0.

RECREATION – S. VOLPE: we are going to work with the school on something for the kids and Trick or treat will be on October 31 from 6-8.

PLANNING – T. SEIBLES: They are requesting copies of all of the borough Duquesne light bills so they can get a quote to add solar panels on Russian Hill. They would also like an evacuation plan.

J. HARTZELL: which bill are they looking for, we have several.

T. SEIBLES: all of them

S. VOLPE: I say give them the information, it will be a good project for them.

OLD BUSINESS:

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K. MAXWELL: is there any update on the house at the end of Patton?

J. THOMAS: last I heard from the fire marshal is has been cleared and now we just wait for the demolition.

G. JAKUB: Big's is not technically sold but there is an investment group helping so that they can buy County Hauling dump.

K. MAXWELL: They are coming up the wrong way on Herman when they come to empty the dumpsters at the school, they also leave the wrong way.

NEW BUSINESS:

J. HARTZELL: Caroline can you get information from Fastest Labs, they are across from the High School in North Versailles.

MAYORS REMARKS – G. JAKUB: Tuesday I have a meeting at the railroad about the new app they have that shows what is on the rail trains.

J. HARTZELL MOTION TO ADJOURN 7:48 p.m.