

WILMERDING BOROUGH
MINUTES FROM JULY 2, 2024, REGULAR MEETING OF BOROUGH COUNCIL

Condemnation Hearings were held prior to the meeting for six (6) properties.

J. THOMAS/J. HARTZELL TO DEEM THAT SIX (6) STRUCTURES KNOWN AS 124 CARD, 132 CARD, 433 FRONT AND REAR PATTON, 283 WOOD, 287 WOOD AND 130 MIDDLE ARE NUISANCES, UNSAFE AND HAZARDOUS AND SHOULD BE CONDEMED AND RAISED. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

ROLL CALL: JOHN MARCOZ, present; TURNER SIEBLES, present; JOE HARTZELL, present; STEVE VOLPE, present; LEAHMANDA BARNES, absent; JOHN THOMAS, present; KELLY MAXWELL, present; MAYOR GREGORY JAKUB absent.

J. HARTZELL/S. VOLPE TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2024, COUNCIL MEETING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS - NONE

CORRESPONDONDENCE - NONE

COMMITTEE REPORT

PUBLIC SAFTEY – T. SIEBLES: the fire department responded to 45 calls, 15 in town and 30 out of town. They had 2 work details, 3 trainings, and 16 maintenance hours. The EMS responded to 41 calls with 24 transports. The average Emergency response time was 9.6 minutes and non-emergency was 9.6 minutes. There is no police report.

J. HARTZELL: what is going on with the taco shop, I saw them cleaning up around the building.

A.HUSSEY: the clean up had nothing to do with the taco shop but they are working in the old convenience store to try and get in there while the other location is being brought up to code. Also, I sent all of you a copy of the investigation report into the fire. This report is privileged and should not be shared with anyone.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: nothing

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - PUBLIC WORKS – J. MARCOZ:

J. MARCOZ: the report for property maintenance was small but is in the packet.

J. HARTZELL: there are still garbage cans out all week and garbage down early. The weeds need cut on the steps between Middle and Airbrake. Maple Avenue is growing over the sidewalks; that is the property owner's responsibility to cut so he has to notify them. There are hedges hanging over the sidewalk at Airbrake and 1st, and Airbrake and Middle. There are branches on Caldwell, by T & D, and at Avenue U. There is a lot that needs cleaning up from the storm still. We were giving Al 20 hours a week and that was never enough, we're only giving Tyler 2, do we need to hire someone else?

S. VOLPE: I spoke to a lady that was willing to do it for \$15.00/hr. Tyler can't do both.

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J. HARTZELL: we can look into COG again; their prices are going down because there are more towns joining in.

J. MARCOZ: The summer helpers started in June and since then they cut grass and empty garbage cans every week, maintenance vacant lots, cut back low hanging trees, lined Commerce Street, trimmed and swept curbs on multiple streets. Completed the upgrades to the rec room bathroom, ordered paint for curbs and handicap spots, and cleaned up multiple large trees after the storm. They would like to purchase a second chainsaw, quote attached.

J. MARCOZ/S.VOLPE TO PURCHASE A CHAINSAW FOR PUBLIC WORKS AT A COST OF \$319.99. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

L. BARNES ARRIVED 7:11 P.M.

ENGINEER – B. BRANTHOVER: The GEDTF paving of Commerce Street is completed with the exception of a small spot that needs sealed. CD-49 park improvements are moving forward. There was a mandatory pre-bid meeting and there were 3 contractors that showed. The bids for this will be opened at COG on July 9, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. The 2023 GEDTF in which you were awarded \$50,000.00 for Catch Basin repairs is moving forward. We are preparing bid documents and will advertise within the next few weeks. There is a Multi-Modal grant available, and I thought you may want to apply for some paving. The minimum is \$150,000 and it closes at the end of July. If you could get a list together, I can get that in the works. I suggest that you do not apply for paving that is already on other grants though.

COG – J. HARTZELL: There are no meetings in the summer.

UTILITIES /BOROUGH PROPERTIES– S. VOLPE: The school has asked about putting signs in the park for their upcoming admissions and other events, I told her to contact Caroline.

K. MAXWELL: we usually do not advertise for businesses in the area.

S. VOLPE: There was some damage to our salt bin during the storm that Caroline reported to all of us, and she is working on it.

SOLICITOR – G. EVASHAVIK: nothing

FINANCE – J. THOMAS:

J. THOMAS/S. VOLPE TO PAY ALL BILLS FROM THE GENERAL FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,627.72 AND THE PLGIT FIRE ACCOUNT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,197.00. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL 7-0.

J. THOMAS: just a few other figures for the year, RAD - \$63,323.31, Deed transfer - \$14,952.21, Earned Income - \$81,754.18, Local service tax - \$8,321.97, Real Estate - \$348,444.25, Delinquent Real Estate - \$17,963.24, and delinquent garbage - \$13,844.11.

J. HARTZELL: anything from parking tickets?

C. LANG: we received \$25.00 for the month of June.

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RECREATION – L. BARNES: I have asked John to take over National Night Out as I will be unable to do it. I have received some activity books for the kids that I will get to him.

J. MARCOZ/S. VOLPE TO APPROVE A TRANSFER OF \$400.00 FROM THE GENERAL COMPASS ACCOUNT TO THE RECREATION ACCOUNT. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 7-0

K. MAXWELL: many of you know that Leahmanda has been ill so we will all need to come together to help out with National Night Out.

J. MARCOZ: do we have to have a bouncy house?

K. MAXWELL: no, we can do whatever you want. That is around \$250.00 but we can spend that money on food or other activities.

OLD BUSINESS:

EDITH BARRET: What ordinance are you using to permit the taco guy to sell in a parking lot owned by the Borough?

C. LANG: we are just doing a general solicitation permit for him, and he is paying by the day for when he is there.

NEW BUSINESS:

J. HARTZELL: did Banquets Unlimited sell and are they putting a catering business in there? I heard about it from Facebook.

C. LANG: yes, there was an agent that purchased the building and he is leasing it to a catering company with possibly a banquet room opening. The mayor would like me to add that he has been working with Markosek's office to look for some additional funding for demolitions. I was contacted by the office and have sent over a list of properties that we have hearings done on with an approximate amount of what it would cost to demolish said structures.

G. JAKUB: absent

S. VOLPE/J. HARTZELL MOTION TO ADJORN 7:33 P.M.