

**BOROUGH OF WILMERDING
MINUTES OF THE FEB. 4, 2014 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Shurgot at 7:05 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

ROLL CALL: MICHAEL TRKULA, absent; REV. DOROTHY REEVES, present; KAREN PETERSON, present; SANDRA SMITH, present, WILLIAM PRICENER, present; JOHN THOMAS, present; STEPHEN SHURGOT, present. MAYOR JAMES WRIGHT was also present.

W. PRICENER / S. SMITH TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JAN. 2, 2014 MEETING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

MS. C. SONNIE, PAT MEWS DRIVE: I am here to follow up on what is going on with the playground on Avenue U. I don't want it to be an issue this summer. The kids that are in the playground do not live in the area. There are not that many children that live around there.

MS. K. PETERSON: we are working on something.

MS. C. SONNIE: can you move the playground somewhere else. It is very isolated there and you can't go outside in the summer because of all the foul language. It is not fair to the people that live there.

MS. K. PETERSON: we will meet with you soon, before summer.

MS. S. SMITH: can we get some no profanity signs made.

MS. K. PETERSON: Chief, can we get more police patrol around there. Also, if the neighbors have any ideas on remedies to the situation please let me know.

MR. W. PRICENER: Chief, is there more playgrounds in North Versailles than in Wilmerding since it is bigger.

CHIEF V. DiCENZO: there are more in Wilmerding. Most of the playgrounds in the township are tot lots.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH, WELSH AVE.: what is the status of Ice Plant Hill?

MR. S. SHURGOT: I talked to Joe Markosek about this and he talked to Rich Fitzgerald to see what they can do to help in this.

MR. A. FRYDRYCH: can the county also take a look at Fifth Avenue; it looks like the trees are going to come down.

CHIEF V. DiCENZO: they are aware of that.

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MR. P. LIVERATTI, AIRBRAKE AVE.: what are you going to do about the people who don't clean their sidewalks? Don't you have an ordinance for snow removal?

MR. S. SHURGOT: they have 24 hours after the last snowfall to clean their sidewalks.

MR. P. LIVERATTI: what about the hot tub next door to my house. They have it leaning up against their house. It has been there for months.

MR. S. SHURGOT: we will have Louise send a letter out.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Receive a letter from Turtle Creek COG on being a 2014 event sponsor. They host two annual events and they depend on donations to host these events, so they are asking for a financial contribution. A Gold Sponsorship is \$1,000 and you receive recognition at the annual dinner, your logo on their e-mail blasts and recognition at the Hospitality Suite at ALOM Conference at Seven Springs. A silver sponsor is \$500 and you are recognized at the annual dinner and at the Hospitality Suite. A bronze sponsor is \$200 and you receive recognition at the hospitality suite.

J. THOMAS / K. PETERSON TO BE A BRONZE SPONSOR FOR \$200. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

2. Received a notice from Turtle Creek COG on their Annual Dinner Meeting to be held on Friday March 7th at Banquets Unlimited. The cost is \$50 per person and the guest speaker will be Dr. Cyril Wecht. Rev. D. Reeves, K. Peterson, W. Pricener and Mayor J. Wright requested to attend.

J. THOMAS / S. SMITH TO SEND THE FOUR MEMBERS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS – W. PRICENER: we have been hit hard by the snow and our guys have been working a lot cleaning the roads, sidewalks and catch basins. The plow was damaged and it will cost under \$250 to get it repaired. Also, the slide on Ice Plant Hill has caused more travel time and kudos to the Y Executive Director on his help and support to try and get this fixed.

MR. S. SHURGOT: have we exceeded our 300 ton limit on salt.

MR. W. PRICENER: yes.

MR. W. PRICENER: I have two applications for part time employment for our public works department. One is from Tony Krisher, who lives in Wilmerding, and does a lot of landscaping. The other applicant is Nate Ellenberger, who works as a groundskeeper.

W. PRICENER / K. PETERSON TO HIRE TONY KRISHER AND NATE ELLENBERGER AS PART TIME EMPLOYEES ONCE THEY PASS THE PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING AND BACKGROUND CHECKS. THEY WOULD RECEIVE A SALARY OF \$10 AN HOUR. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

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MR. S. SHURGOT: a question to think about. Why do we pay the part time winter laborers \$10 an hour and our part time summer laborers minimum wage?

ENGINEER – D. GILLILAND: report given at the workshop.

COG – K. PETERSON: no report.

UTILITIES – REV. D. REEVES: no report.

SOLICITOR – G. EVASHAVIK: report given at the workshop.

FINANCE – J. THOMAS:

J. THOMAS / K. PETERSON TO PAY ALL THE APPROVED BILLS. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0

MR. J. THOMAS:I received an e-mail from the Allegheny County Southeast Tax Collection Committee to submit names to serve on the committee. Mr. Shurgot and I are on the committee and I would like to resubmit these names for the committee.

S. SMITH / K. PETERSON TO APPOINT STEVE SHURGOT AND JOHN THOMAS TO SERVE AS DELEGATES TO THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY SOUTHEAST TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

MR. J. THOMAS: Allegheny County is no longer printing tax bills. We have been looking around to see who can print the tax bills and it would be in our best interest if Keystone Collections, who prints them for the school district, prints our 2014 tax bills. They charge .93 per piece.

J. THOMAS / S. SMITH TO HAVE KEYSTONE COLLECTIONS PRINT THE 2014 BOROUGH TAX BILLS WITH THE COST NOT TO EXCEED \$1,200. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

RECREATION – S. SMITH: no report.

BOROUGH PROPERTY – K. PETERSON: the Mayor would like a new carpet in his office. Our guys tried to clean it. I will get some prices on indoor/outdoor carpeting.

I met with a group from McKeesport who has some people to do community service. They would have someone monitor them while they are working here. We can have them here in the summer cleaning up around town.

OLD BUSINESS

MS. S. SMITH: we talked about getting the trees trimmed in the park. I got a price of \$2,400 to do this and it would take one to two days. He would also be taking some trees out. We need to act on this by March 1st. The quote is from Original Tree Service.

S. SMITH / J. THOMAS TO AWARD THE CONTRACT TO TRIM AND REMOVE TREES FROM THE PARK TO ORIGINAL TREE SERVICE AT A COST OF \$2,400. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

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NEW BUSINESS

REV. D. REEVES: I was asked to hold the summer lunch program at my church.

MS. S. SMITH: the county runs the program. I know that St. Peter and Paul used to run it.

REV. D. REEVES: I will get in touch with them and tell them I am interested in holding it at the church. My back yard is fenced in.

MR. J. THOMAS: since we have some new business pending I would like to make our workshop meeting a public meeting.

J. THOMAS / W. PRICENER TO MAKE THE FEB. 18TH WORKSHOP A PUBLIC MEETING. MEMBERS VOTED APPROVAL, 6-0.

MAYOR'S REMARKS – JAMES WRIGHT: I am working on a newsletter to be sent out.

I met with Senator Brewster, the Allegheny County Economic Development concerning John Graf and the purchase of the castle. The county worked out what they can do but first he has to get a clear title from APICS. We are going to try and meet with Mr. Graf again.

I also talked to Sen. Brewster about Ice Plant Hill and asked if we can get the Corps of Engineers involved.

From what I understand APICS bought the castle for \$1 from the Airbrake and now they want to sell it for \$640,000.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.