WILKINSBURG BOROUGH
Council Legislative Session
September 10, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

President McCarthy-Johnson called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal Building, 605 Ross Avenue, Wilkinsburg, PA.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Garrett, Ms. Trice, Ms. Moore, , Mr. Shattuck, Ms. Macklin, and President McCarthy-Johnson. Borough Manager Marla P. Marcinko and Solicitor Michael J. Witherel were also present. Mr. Taiani was not present for roll call. Ms. Grannemann and Mayor John A. Thompson were absent. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, a moment of silence was observed to remember victims of violent crime.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Adopting Ordinance No. 2930 – Establishing No Parking – Laketon Road at Doyle Street.**

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre **Second:** Mr. Shattuck

Ms. Moore commented on a handicap parking designation in this area for an elderly resident and wondered if this parking restriction would affect the resident's parking. Ms. Marcinko stated that the parking restriction is for a sixty-five foot section on the west side of Laketon Road from its intersection with Doyle Street. Ms. Garrett commented that she brought this to Ms. Marcinko's attention as she received complaints regarding sight distance at this location. The Borough Engineer performed a field inspection and determined that the restriction was warranted. The handicap parking space will not be affected.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

(Mr. Taiani arrived at approximately 7:04 p.m.)

2. **Approving Council Meeting Minutes of 08/06/14.**

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre **Second:** Mr. Shattuck

Ms. Macklin requested that the record be checked to determine if she voted in favor of approving the July 9 minutes, and corrected if necessary. She stated that she believed she voted against approving those minutes.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

3. **Approving August Checks issued:**

Regular Disbursements 08/01 – 08/31/14	**$ 825,661.08**
Payroll Disbursements	**260,670.37**
Voided Checks	**(4,246.24)**
Total Disbursement	**$ 1,102,101.05**

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre **Second:** Ms. Moore

Yes: Ms. Moore, Mr. Shattuck, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Garrett, Mr. Taiani, President McCarthy-Johnson

No: Ms. Trice, Ms. Macklin

Motion carried 6:2

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Shattuck commented on the East Busway Planning Study being performed by PCRG. He and Ms. Marcinko attended the initial meeting. PCRG would like to assist the Borough with its local share for a TRID planning study. A follow-up meeting to discuss the application process will be held on September 22, 2014 or September 30, 2014. President McCarthy-Johnson asked that Council members check their calendars and coordinate their availability with Mr. Shattuck.

Ms. Macklin questioned whether emergency demolition will be discussed this evening. Ms. Marcinko stated that Council needs to approve a Declaration of Slums and Blight resolution which is to be addressed under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Presenting the 2015 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Pension Plans to the Governing Body.**

Ms. Marcinko stated that a copy of the MMO was provided in the agenda packet. She commented that the State legislation on pensions does not specifically require any action by Council. While many communities take formal action to accept the MMO, this has not occurred, historically, in Wilkinsburg.

The only requirement is for the MMO to be presented to the governing body by September 30, 2014 of each year. The Borough has neither received an audit finding for failing to take official action, nor have the auditors reviewed the official minutes for any formal actions taken related to the Minimum Municipal Obligation.

Ms. Macklin questioned whether the Borough is responsible for making up the estimated shortfall between the MMO and State Aid. Ms. Marcinko confirmed this to be the case.

2. **Approving Resolution No. 14-080 – Declaring Slums and Blight for Emergency Demolition Project.**

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre **Second:** Ms. Moore

Ms. Macklin questioned whether the complete list of properties were submitted to the County. She expressed concern with the structure at 1448 Mill which has been designated by the former Wilkinsburg Fire Department as unsafe to enter. Ms. Marcinko stated that there are only two such structures on the current list of structures identified for emergency demolition.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Trice requested a copy of the 2014 Summer Intern Project on vacant and abandoned properties and requested a list of structures they will not enter from the Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire. Ms. Marcinko stated that PBF does not have such a list. Ms. Marcinko explained that the intern's data is contained in an Access database which is housed on the Borough's server. Reports can be generated through specific queries. Ms. Trice requested a listing of the vacant properties and information as to how property conditions were rated.

President McCarthy-Johnson described the purpose of the meeting on September 30, 2014 for the Traffic Circulation Study. Letters were mailed to residents in the study areas. Ms. Macklin requested that a copy of the study be made available at the Borough office for Council's review.

Vice-President Moore will provide a Library Report at the next meeting.

Ms. Macklin stated that she attended the Senior Fair at the Coliseum hosted by State Representative Ed Gainey, where Wilkinsburg was recognized. Mayor Peduto spoke about movement toward greater community policing initiatives in the City of Pittsburgh. There was also discussion about the KFC Day of Giving dinner distribution which was initiated by Mayor Thompson and Rep. Gainey. The date for the event is October 23, 2014. Ms. Moore inquired as to whether volunteers were being sought to assist with meal distribution. Mr. Taiani questioned whether the Mayor is acting in his official capacity for this event. He stated that he did not believe it was appropriate for the Borough to support a corporate entity, and that fast food meals are not healthy, contribute to obesity and should not be supported by Council. He asked that Council members participate in an individual capacity and not their official capacity as elected local officials. He concluded by stating that he did not believe this should be discussed at a Council meeting. Ms. Moore commented that Mayor Thompson announced the event in support of State Representative Gainey and to seek volunteers to assist with distribution of the meals.

Ms. Trice announced that the event will be held on October 23, 2014 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President McCarthy-Johnson adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m.

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Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson
President of Council