WILKINSBURG BOROUGH
Council Legislative Meeting
April 9, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

President McCarthy-Johnson called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal Building, 605 Ross Ave., Wilkinsburg, PA 15221.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mr. Lefebvre (via telephone connection), Ms. Garrett, Mr. Taiani, Ms. Moore, Ms. Grannemann, Mr. Shattuck, Ms. Macklin and President McCarthy-Johnson. Mayor John Thompson, Marla P. Marcinko, Borough Manager and Solicitor Michael J. Witherel were also present. Ms. Trice was absent. A quorum was established.

President McCarthy-Johnson noted Ms. Trice is visiting Canada this week.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, a moment of silence was observed to remember victims of violent crime. President McCarthy-Johnson requested that the families and victims of the Franklin Regional High School stabbings be remembered as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Sullivan – 631 Melwood Ave. – Mr. Sullivan stated that he is the Director of Saving Communities, an organization which assists communities in establishing different tax rates for buildings and land, on a tax parcel. Ms. Macklin questioned which communities have utilized this in our area. Mr. Sullivan stated that Clairton, Duquesne and McKeesport have done so. **Ernest Bey – 804 E. Hutchinson Ave.** – The Wilkinsburg Chapter of MAD DADS of Greater Pittsburgh is proposing a mini-library project. The goal is to encourage youth to buy into literacy and the proposed location is 394 Center Street, a corner in Wilkinsburg that has been designated as the Peace Corner. President McCarthy-Johnson inquired as to how the library would operate. Mr. Bey stated that books will be donated. Ms. Moore questioned whether there are concerns about vandalism. President McCarthy-Johnson commented on the success of the Whitney Avenue Art Gallery Project and the community garden, which had buy-in from the community. Mr. Taiani stated that there are ten kiosks throughout the third ward and Regent Square. Ms. Bahn, Administrative Assistant to the Borough Manager, commented on the non-profit organization, Little Free Libraries, which has a number of sites in Regent Square. There are specifications for the kiosk construction and a $35.00 fee for the membership plate. Members are posted on the organization's website. Mr. Bey plans on having youth build the kiosks at the MAD DADs Father's Day event on June 14. Ms. Moore stated that she has children's books to donate. Mr. Shattuck stated that 394 Center St is the only property with a

waiting list for the County's Vacant Property Recovery Program. Mr. Shattuck suggested that Mr. Bey work with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on this project.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Approving Council Meeting Minutes of 03/05/14, 03/12/14, and 03/19/14.**

Moved: Mr. Shattuck **Second:** Mr. Taiani

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

Abstain: Ms. Moore (Minutes of 3/12/14))

Motion carried 8:0 for the minutes of 03/05/14 and 03/19/14
Motion carried 7:0 with 1 abstention for the minutes of 3/12/14

2. **Approving March checks issued:**

Regular Disbursements 03/01 – 03/31/14	**$ 615,328.22**
Payroll Disbursements	**305,998.59**
Voided Checks	**(299.91)**
Total Disbursement	**$ 921,026.90**

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

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

No: Ms. Macklin

Motion carried 7:1

3. **Approving Resolution No. 14-028 – Sponsoring Banner – RCCG Living Spring International, Pittsburgh.**

Moved: Ms. Moore **Second:** Ms. Grannemann

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

4. **Approving Resolution No. 14-029 – Appointing Sarah Morgan – Planning Commission.**

Moved: Mr. Lefebvre **Second:** Mr. Taiani

Mr. Shattuck informed Council of Ms. Morgan's presence in the audience and asked that she introduce herself. Ms. Morgan introduced herself to Council and the audience.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

5. **Approving Resolution No. 14-030 – Appointing Thomas K. Morris – CACDC.**

Moved: Ms. Grannemann **Second:** Ms. Moore

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

6. **Approving Resolution No. 14-031 – Appointing Lisa Moss – CACDC.**

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

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

7. **Approving Resolution No. 14-032 – Accepting resignation of Robert Noe – DPW.**

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

Ms. Macklin asked for clarification on Mr. Noe is resigning or retiring. Ms. Marcinko stated that the reason for his separation from employment is to retire.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Taiani requested an update on the hiring of a Code Enforcement Director. Ms. Marcinko stated that resumes were received and four candidates have been identified to be interviewed. Interviews are scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2014 and Friday, April 11, 2014.

Ms. Macklin commented that President McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Trice, Ms. Garrett, and she attended the ALOM conference at Seven Springs Mountain Resort. Ms. Macklin stated that a lot of information was obtained. President McCarthy-Johnson learned more about land banking strategies and she suggested having a representative from the COG make a presentation to Council on the economic impacts of blight. Ms. Macklin stated that she reviewed the list of delinquent real estate taxes, municipal service fees and legal fees and costs.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, on motion by Mr. Taiani, second by Ms. Moore, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:37 P.M.

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Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson
President of Council