

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Council Work Session
June 6, 2018

Call to Order

President Macklin 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 15221.

Roll Call

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Ms. Atkins, Ms. Lee, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson (Arrival at 7:13pm), Mr. Rose, Ms. Trice, President Macklin, Donn Henderson – Borough Manager and Amanda J. Ford – Assistant Borough Manager.

Absent was Ms. Edwards, Mr. Lefebvre, Mr. Shattuck, and Mayor Marita Garrett. A quorum was established.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Macklin.

Mr. Rose requested that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence in honor of Robert F. Kennedy who was assassinated 50 years ago.

Public Comment

1. N/A

Presentation

1. Allegheny County Councilman, Dewitt Walton
 - a. Mr. Walton will be sharing some of the issues in Wilkinsburg that the County Economic Development Committee is involved in. Also moving forward with Workforce Development issues.
 - b. Properties in the 800 Block of Penn Avenue are undergoing necessary testing.
 - c. Conveying of several properties to the Borough of Wilkinsburg should be completed summer 2018.
 - d. Train Station was awarded \$1.5 Million dollars as well as a separate \$200,000 towards the rehabilitation.
 - e. Organizing a job fair in Wilkinsburg within the Building, Construction, and Manufacturing areas of concentration.

Agenda Items

1. Discussion regarding written policy for residential parking permits.

- a. The current procedure in place was reviewed and discussed.
 - b. This topic was referred to the Policy & Procedure committee.
2. Discussion regarding Parks and Recreation rules and regulations procedures and revised policy.
 - a. Vice-President McCarthy-Johnson discussed the policy received as written by Chatham University.
 - b. Document to be reviewed and discussed by the Policy & Procedure committee.
3. Discussion regarding Public Property Use/ Wallace Avenue Lot - Free-Store Wilkinsburg Produce and Food Distribution Bank.
 - a. Administration office to follow up with parking enforcement to ensure process for blocking off the lot is in place.
4. Discussion regarding Permit Application/Public Property Use for Wallace Avenue Lot.
 - a. Administration office to follow up with parking enforcement to ensure process for blocking off the lot is in place.
 - b. Will request a flyer to present to council.
5. Discussion regarding Banner Application for Open Market Season – Wilkinsburg Chamber of Commerce.
 - a. Motion made to approve the banner application.

Motion: Ms. Trice

Second: Ms. Atkins

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

6. Discussion regarding property 734 Ardmore Blvd scheduled for Emergency Demolition.
 - a. Mr. Parrish, Director of Code Enforcement, recommends the emergency demolition of the property.
 - b. Motion made to accept the recommendation for emergency demolition.

Motion: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson

Second: Mr. Rose

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

7. Discussion regarding VPRP Application for 719 Kelly Avenue.
 - a. Building was previously known as Star Radiator.
 - b. Concerns regarding access points to the property were raised due to the adjacent business which is a school transportation company.
 - c. Planning Commission says that this application is in line with the comprehensive plan.
8. Council Committee Reports:
 - a. Administrative Committee – Full Council

- i. Nothing to report
- b. Blight/Capital Planning Committee – Patrick Shattuck, Chair
 - i. Lighting was discussed for the Ardmore Wall renovations. Design ideas reviewed for the linear park.
- c. Budget and Finance Committee – Patrick Shattuck – Chair
 - i. Nothing to report
- d. Planning Commission – Patrick Shattuck, Member
 - i. Nothing to report
- e. Business Outreach and Jobs Development - Pamela Macklin, Chair
 - i. Workforce development reviewed with County Councilman Walton
 - ii. Careerlink to come to the Borough Building once a month to assist with job searching and applying, also interview skill development.
- f. Constituent Service & Special Events Committee – Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson, Chair
 - i. Art in the Park series to start June 14.
 - ii. Movie Nights in the park to start June 15.
 - iii. Chatham University and Wilkinsburg School District working together to use Graham Field for their Soccer and Lacrosse team.
- g. Personnel & Policy Procedure Committee – Paige Trice, Chair
 - i. Deputy Chief position discussed.
 - ii. Civil Service list discussed for new-hires.
 - iii. LGA Intern and seasonal employees discussed
- h. Public Safety Committee – Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson, Chair
 - i. Discussed increase in dismissed parking tickets and possibly discussing with the magistrate’s office.
 - ii. Gazebo lighting needs replaced.
 - iii. Project DUMP – Disposal of Unused Medication Properly was discussed.
- i. Social Media and Promotions Committee – Denise Edwards, Chair
 - i. Nothing to report
- j. Manager’s Report – Donn Henderson
 - i. Manager’s report included in council packets, nothing new to report.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Trice

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

Public Comment

- 1. Albert Gameos – 2309 McNary Boulevard
 - a. Reporting excessive speeding and traffic running the stop signs up on McNary Blvd near the intersection of Sebring Place and poor road conditions.

Old Business

1. Ms. Trice requested status update for the sale of 720 Hill Avenue. The buyer is looking for guarantee of no prior liens on the property. Solicitor Witherel is handling the issue.

New Business

1. Ms. Atkins advises the traffic light at Laketon Road & Graham Blvd.
2. President Macklin advised of a grant application for the decrease of gun violence that the Mayor presented to the Borough Manager. Grant to be reviewed by the Public Safety committee.
3. Ms. McCarthy-Johnson advised that Chatham University mentioned doing some multi-modal improvements for Graham Field renovations, to be discussed further at a later date.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Ms. Trice
Second – Ms. McCarthy-Johnson
Meeting Adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Pamela Macklin
President Council