

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Council Work Session
April 17, 2019

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.

Council Members Present:

Ms. Atkins
Ms. Edwards
Ms. Lee (arrival at 7:01pm)
Mr. Lefebvre
Mr. Scott
President Macklin.

Council Members Absent:

Ms. McCarthy-Johnson
Mr. Rose
Ms. Trice

Mayor

Mayor Garrett - Present

A quorum was established.

Other attendees:

Borough Manager – Donn Henderson
Assistant Borough Manager – Amanda Ford
Solicitor – Mike Witherel

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Macklin.

Presentation

-Christopher McGee – Intern Presentation of Policies and Procedures
-Policies and Procedures from each department was compiled and put into one centralized location.

- New policy drafts were created and are still being worked on.
- A physical binder was created to try and get everything in a hardcopy.
- A guide was put together for the next intern who may continue the work that Chris has started.

Public Comment

1. N/A

Agenda Items

1. Approving Council Meeting Minutes for 3/6/2019.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

2. Approving Council Meeting Minutes for 3/20/2019.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

3. Approving Checks Issued for March 1-31, 2019:

<i>March 1-31, 2019</i>	<i>\$303,088.97</i>
<i>Payroll Disbursements</i>	<i>\$294,441.10</i>
<i>Voided Checks</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<i>\$597,530.07</i>

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

4. Discussion regarding Proposed Demolitions Agreement of 515-517 Wallace Avenue.
 - a. Some undesignated funds from the fire escrow account was allocated towards demolitions.
 - b. There is an agreement that these particular demolitions will include a contribution in the amount of \$10,000 from the individual acquiring the property towards the demolition cost. This person will then acquire the properties using the Vacant Property Recovery Program as part of the agreement which will put them back on the tax roll.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 5 – 1 no (Lee); Motion carried.

5. Approving (Vacant Lot) sale on Mifflin Way.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Atkins

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

6. Approving Street Closure Permit Application for WPXI News Promo Shoot – David Weinstein

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

7. Approving HRG Engineering services for the construction phase of the Ardmore Wall project in the amount of \$18,000.00, also \$12,000 for an onsite observer (20hrs per week)

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

8. **Resolution 19-021** – Urging the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to Reject a Rate increase requested by the Peoples Natural Gas Company.
 - a. Peoples gas is proposing a 14% rate increase for customers.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Ms. Lee

A vote 6 – 0; Motion carried.

9. Announcement regarding Clean-Up Day on 4/27/2019 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 - a. Registration starting at 8am.

Public Comment

1. Ron Buchanan – Auto Shower Car Wash owner
 - a. Expressed dissatisfaction with the Code Enforcement.
 - b. Wants more representation for merchants and landlords.
2. Jan Raether – 215 Biddle Avenue
 - a. Citizen’s Tree Program, giving trees to residents for their property. Giving them education for maintenance.

- b. Any questions, call 412-371-8779 ext116.
3. Kate Luxemburg – 432 Rebecca Avenue
 - a. Thanks to Ms. Edwards for opposing the rate increase.

Old Business

1. Mr. Henderson advised that Jody Guy is still awaiting a decision regarding the project at Wood & South. Hopes to have an answer by next month.

New Business

1. Ms. Atkins spoke in regards to a resident mentioned at the previous council meeting who was in arrears with her taxes. Ms. Atkins felt it was unfair that her situation was discussed in her absence without her having the opportunity to defend herself. Ms. Atkins stated that Wilkinsburg residents are our bosses. Ms. Atkins further advised council to be more careful with discussions such as this.
2. President Macklin advised that new Councilman Andre Scott has agreed to join the Jobs Development, Public Safety, and Capital & Blight committees.
3. Ms. Atkins advised that there is a Pop-up in the Parklet event at Douglass & Laketon. Easter egg Hunt from 10am-12noon. Also there will be “Planting in the Parklet”.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Mr. Lefebvre
Seconded by – Ms. Macklin
Meeting Adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Pamela Macklin
President Council