

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Council Legislative Session Minutes
August 7, 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
Mr. Lefebvre
Ms. McCarthy-Johnson
Mr. Scott
Ms. Trice
President Macklin.

Council Members Absent:

Ms. Lee
Mr. Rose

Mayor

Mayor Garrett - Present

A quorum was established.

Other attendees:

Borough Manager – Donn Henderson
Assistant Borough Manager – Amanda Ford
Solicitor – Mike Witherel
Code Enforcement – Brenda Joyce-May
Public Works – Kathleen Rawlins
Finance Director – David Egler
Officer – S. Kester

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Macklin.

Public Comment for Agenda Items

1. N/A

Agenda Items

1. Maher Duessel presenting Audit Report (Year ended December 31, 2018).
 - a. Budget items were discussed. There were no issues.
2. Approving Street Closure application for 7th Day Adventist Church – Marcia Lewis.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Atkins

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

3. Approving Street Closure Application for El-Bethel Temple – Curtis Lewis

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

4. Approving Public Property Use Permit for Penn Avenue Parklet – Mulberry Community Church – Danelle Lee

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 6 – 1 abstain (Mr. Scott); Motion carried.

5. Approving Public Use Permit/Hunter Park Pavilion for Basketball Tournament – Councilman Andre Scott

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

6. Approving Residential Accessible Parking Permit for 1444 Center Street – William Baugh

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

7. Approving Residential Accessible Parking Permit for 1433 Elm Street – Wanda Williams

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

8. Approving Residential Accessible Parking Permit for 1625 Maplewood Avenue – Raymond DePastino

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

9. Approving Residential Accessible Parking Permit for 1402 Sloan Avenue – Jana Woodruff
 - a. Motion was made to approve the application.
 - b. Ms. Atkins raised the question if this particular property has a driveway. No one knew for sure.
 - c. Original motion and second were rescinded by Mr. Lefebvre and Ms. Edwards.
 - d. President Macklin advised that we will table postpone this item until confirmation is obtained about if the property has a driveway or not.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

No vote was taken for this item.

10. Approve the purchase of 714 Ardmore Boulevard in the amount of \$40,237.00

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

11. Approving Mon Valley Creative Corridor/Shane Pilster – Letter of Support – Borough Manager
 - a. This is for murals to be painted on some blighted properties.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

12. Approving 2019 Rock Salt Agreement at the purchase amount of \$82.24 per ton.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

13. **Resolution 19-035** – Approving Emily Cappello as Children’s Library Manager effective August 12, 2019 at a salary of \$35,000.00

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

14. **Resolution 19-036** – Conditional Offer of Employment, Marsha Robinson – Crossing Guard, at the hourly rate of \$11.25

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

15. **Resolution 19-037** – Approving Conditional Offer of Employment to Marcus Peterson (OVR Summer Employee) for Borough of Wilksburg Public Works Summer/Seasonal position until November 2019 at hourly rate of \$13.00

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

16. **Resolution 19-038** – Approving disposition of records for June 19, 2019 and August 7, 2019.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

17. Council Committee reports:

- a. Mayor's report – Mayor Garrett
 - i. Youth Police Academy wrapped up with about 10 graduates.
 - ii. Citizens police academy will be starting sometime in the fall.
 - iii. Police Department is working to hire 2 new officers.
- b. Administrative Committee – Pamela Macklin, Chair
 - i. Nothing to report
- c. Blight/Capital Planning Committee – Donn Henderson, Borough Manager
 - i. Wood Street 2-way project is going to be re-bid in October.
 - ii. CDBG Grant submission to include the Ardmore Pipe and the sidewalk near Graham Field.
 - iii. Whitney Park construction is proceeding.
 - iv. Wood Street parklet engineering is near completion.
 - v. Administrative office renovations are complete, a few touch ups are needed.
 - vi. 800 Block of Penn Avenue, there are some concerns from the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission regarding using funds to tear those properties down.
- d. Budget and Finance Committee – Michael Lefebvre, Chair
 - i. Nothing to report.
- e. Planning Commission – China Lee, Member

- i. Nothing to report.
- f. Business Outreach and Jobs Development – Denise Edwards, Chair
 - i. Available jobs, not only borough, are being posted on the website.
- g. Constituent Service & Special Events Committee – Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson, Chair
 - i. Nothing to report
- h. Personnel, Policy & Procedure Committee – Paige Trice, Chair
 - i. Nothing to report.
- i. Public Safety Committee – Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson, Chair
 - i. Nothing to report
- j. Social Media and Promotions Committee – Denise Edwards, Chair
 - i. Nothing to report
- k. Manager’s Report – Donn Henderson
 - i. List of concerns for Public Works was reviewed and leaf collection will be reviewed and possibly changed soon.
 - ii. The new server is up and running.
 - iii. Contract discussions will be coming up soon.
 - iv. Community Day will be Saturday August 31st.
 - v. September 11th we will host the regional meeting for the main street managers. They will take a look at some of the recent work we’ve done.
 - vi. May consider a safety training, stop the bleed, active shooter training day if council should allow.
 - vii. There will be a meeting held on August 28th at 6pm. Gentrification will be one of the topics. Council will be in attendance.

Public Comment

1. Yvonne James – 712 Wood Street
 - a. Came to give feedback on the recent Netflix filming that occurred at the intersection of Wood Street and South Avenue.
 - b. Dissatisfied with the compensation received from Netflix and the way they handled the local businesses.
2. Karen Kurpiewski & Beth Weber – 618 Wood
 - a. Upset with street closures in the business district.
 - b. Upset with the illegal activity and behavior.
3. Don Givner – 620 Wood Street
 - a. Also upset with the activities at the gazebo.
 - b. Would like for the gazebo to be removed if possible.
4. Joe Iorii – West Street
 - a. Maybe the gazebo can be moved to a different location.
5. Ken Chute – 1143 Jackson Street
 - a. Provided a list for council regarding public safety issues to review with the Mayor and Police Chief.
6. Robert Mowl – 1009 S. Braddock Avenue
 - a. Pleased with the renovations of the borough building lobby.
 - b. Regarding Code Enforcement, he is unhappy with the citation process.

7. Susan Branch – 300 Liberty Avenue, Downtown Pittsburgh
 - a. There will be another Sacred Spaces tour. Extending invite to Wilkinsburg Council.
 - b. Closing Ceremony will be at the Sleeping Octopus.
8. Austin Hestdalen – 603 S. Trenton Ave.
 - a. Also working with the Sacred Spaces tour, extends invite for everyone to attend on October 12, 2019.
 - b. Can be reached via phone at 512-718-9371 or sacredspacestour@gmail.com

Old Business

1. N/A

New Business

1. Ms. Edwards proposed that council make a resolution in support of Senator Jay Costa's efforts to outlaw machine guns.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Ms. Trice

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

2. Ms. Trice extended thanks to President Macklin and the Covenant Church for their efforts with a recent clean-up event. As well as Public Works for their tree clean-up.
3. Milestone Centers is celebrating their 50th anniversary. The proclamation will be provided to them.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Ms. Trice
Seconded by – Ms. Atkins
Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Pamela Macklin
President Council