

**WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Council Work Session Minutes**  
**September 4, 2019**

**Call to Order**

President Macklin called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 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  
Mr. Lefebvre  
Mr. Scott  
Ms. Trice  
President Macklin.

**Council Members Absent:**

Ms. McCarthy-Johnson  
Mr. Rose

**Mayor**

Mayor Garrett – Via Phone

A quorum was established.

**Other attendees:**

Borough Manager – Donn Henderson  
Assistant Borough Manager – Amanda Ford  
Code Enforcement – Brenda Joyce-May  
Public Works Director – Roy Clark  
Finance Director – Dave Egler  
Library Director – Taylor Lee  
Officer – D. Hamlin

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Macklin.

## **Presentation**

1. Jody Guy & Chris Popowich – Provides presentation of Wood St @ South Avenue Parklet.
  - a. Proposing air quality monitor that hooks up to lighting which would change color based on the air quality in the area.
  - b. It would be a sculpture with lights that change color designed to be bright enough to see in the daytime. Star shaped design, 16ft high x 16ft wide.

## **Public Comment**

1. N/A

## **Agenda Items**

1. Approving Financial Audit Report ended December 31, 2018.

*Motion: Ms. Edwards*

*Second: Mr. Lefebvre*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

2. Approving a letter of support to the DCED for participation in the Façade Grant Program – WCDC

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Mr. Scott*

*A vote 4 yes – 3 no (Edwards, Lee, Trice); Motion carried.*

3. **Resolution 19-039** – Approving Banner Application for Religious Architectural Heritage Committee of Preservation Pittsburgh – Joe Iorii

*Motion: Ms. Edwards*

*Second: Mr. Lefebvre*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

4. **Resolution 19-040** – Approving Conditional Offer of Employment for Leslie Goodman as Crossing Guard at the hourly rate of \$11.25.

*Motion: Ms. Edwards*

*Second: Mr. Lefebvre*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

5. **Resolution 19-041** – Approving VPRP Application for 217 Center Street – Ariel Alexander
  - a. President Macklin advised we will be postponing this item for another meeting.

6. **Resolution 19-042** – Authorizing execution of PA DOT Winter Maintenance Agreement 2019-2024

*Motion: Ms. Edwards*

*Second: Mr. Lefebvre*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

7. **Resolution 19-043** – Approving Banner Application for Garfield Jubilee Association, Inc. – Marcia Crews.

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Ms. Lee*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

8. **Resolution 19-044** – Approving to Establish a Procedure for sale of Personal Property less than \$2,000.00.
- a. Motion was made by Ms. Edwards, Seconded by Mr. Lefebvre.
  - b. Before a vote was taken, Ms. Lee raised a concern with the last sentence in the resolution which would give the Borough Manager discretion to reject offers after going through the necessary process.
  - c. After the discussion, the motion was rescinded and this item was tabled until next meeting for further review.
9. Approving Public Property Use/Parking Lot – Wallace Ave. Lot for ‘Back to School’ Event – Wilksburg School District – Michael Johnson.
- a. Mr. Scott advised that the date for this event will be moved to September 19, 2019

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Ms. Edwards*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

10. Approving Residential Accessible Parking Permit for 1402 Sloan Avenue – Jana Woodruff

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Ms. Lee*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

11. Approving Street Closure Permit for Neighborhood Block Party – Michael Wrick

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Ms. Edwards*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

12. Approving Street Closure Permit for Wilksburg 5k Fun Run/Walk – Taylor Lee

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Ms. Lee*

*A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.*

13. Council Committee Reports:

- a. Mayor's Report – Mayor Garrett
    - i. 5k Run/Walk is going to be Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 9am.
    - ii. Annual Wilkinsburg Community Day / Parade was a success.
    - iii. Halloween event will be in partnership with the Wilkinsburg Library.
    - iv. Working on the on-boarding process for 2 new officers.
  - b. Administrative Committee – Pamela Macklin
    - i. Kendall Pelling from East Liberty Development came and spoke to council about to understanding gentrification.
  - c. Blight/Capital Planning Committee – Pamela Macklin, Chair
    - i. Nothing to report
  - 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. Trying to get more job opportunities in and out of the borough posted on our website.
  - g. Constituent Service & Special Events Committee – Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson, Chair
    - i. Nothing to report
  - h. Personnel, Policy & Procedure committee – Paige Trice
    - 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. Job openings are available for public works.
    - ii. The Ardmore Wall construction is back underway.
    - iii. Grant applications are in for the sidewalk by graham field & a storm water project at graham field.
    - iv. Duquesne light has been engaged for an LED program for the lighting for Ardmore Wall after completion.
    - v. Code Enforcement and Administrative offices are moved into their new spaces in the building.
14. Proclamation for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wilkinsburg Public Library was read by President Macklin.

## **Public Comment**

1. Ken Chute – 1143 Jackson Street
  - a. Spoke to the reporting of homicides in the Borough of Wilkinsburg. He was advised by President Macklin to meet with Mayor and Police Chief.
2. John Irwin & Yvonne James – 900 Wood Street
  - a. Thanked the borough for their response to the Wood Street Gazebo.
  - b. Unhappy with the loitering in front of the Wood & Penn Restaurant/Store on Wood Street.
  - c. Brought attention to loitering in the South Avenue United Methodist Church parking lot.
3. Joe Iorii – 900 West Street
  - a. Sacred spaces tour on October 12, 2019, invites council to attend.
4. Kate Luxemburg – 432 Rebecca Avenue
  - a. Sheriff sale this month did not sell any properties in Wilkinsburg.
  - b. Advises that there is a provision in the ordinance which indicates vacancy does not equal abandonment.

## **Old Business**

1. Mr. Scott advised that there was a Basketball Tournament at Hunter Park on the weekend of August 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>. He wanted to thank everyone involved.

## **New Business**

1. Ms. Atkins advised that Hilltop Block Watch sponsoring event at the Wilkinsburg Arts and Culture Center Eastridge has a few events coming up, community picnic on 9/14/19 from 12-3pm. (African dance, drumming, food, etc. Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra will be performing from 6:30-7:30pm on October 7.
2. President Macklin advised that Princeton Park Block Club will be meeting on September 26, 2019 at 6pm. Chatham will be out to talk to residents about what they're doing at graham field.
3. Ms. Lee asked Taylor Lee (Library Director) to rundown some of the events happening at the library.

## **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn – Ms. Edwards  
Seconded by – Mr. Lefebvre  
Meeting Adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

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Pamela Macklin  
President Council

