

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Council Legislative Session

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April 15, 2020

Call to Order

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, several precautions were taken for this meeting. Several council members attended the meeting over the phone.

Councilwoman Denise Edwards 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 (Via Phone)
Ms. Edmunds
Ms. Edwards
Ms. Haughton (7:08pm arrival Via Phone)
Mr. Lefebvre
Mr. Petrulli (Via Phone)
Mr. Scott (Via Phone)
Ms. Trice (Via Phone)
President Macklin (Via Phone)

Mayor

Mayor Garrett - Absent

A quorum was established.

Other attendees:

Borough Manager – Donn Henderson
Library Director – Anna Newborg
Solicitor – Mike Witherel (Via Phone)

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Edwards.

Proclamation

- N/A

Presentation

- Parks and Recreation & Rosa Park Project – Mike Milberger
 - This item was skipped, Mr. Milberger was not in attendance.

Public Comment for Agenda Items

1. N/A

Agenda Items

1. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for 1/22/2020
 - Ms. Edwards advised that items 1, 2, 3, and 4, will be combined and voted on together.
 - Ms. Trice noted a correction on the item approving minutes for December 4th. The vote shows 9 yes votes, however, she abstained and it should be a vote of 8 yes, 1 abstain.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.

2. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for 2/5/2020

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.

3. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for 2/19/2020

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.

4. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for 3/4/2020

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.

5. Approval of Checks Issued February 1-29, 2020
 - Disbursements \$717,570.30
 - Payroll \$300,182.97

- Voided Checks \$124.00
- Total Disbursements: \$1,017,753.27

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.

6. Approval of Checks Issued March 1-31, 2020
 - Disbursements \$862,768.75
 - Payroll \$485,332.76
 - Voided Checks \$459.62
 - Total Disbursements: \$1,347,641.89

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

7. **Resolution 20-011** – Approving VPRP Application for 1442 Foliage Street – Janice Crumpton
 - Ms. Trice noted that there were some duplicate pages in the application that should be removed.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

8. **Resolution 20-012** – Authorizing the exoneration of Tax Collector for year 2019

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Trice

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

9. **Resolution 20-013** – Approving taking over Hunter Park properties for development project.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

10. **Resolution 20-014** – Banner Application for Hosanna House Inc. – Gloria Nelson
 - Since this event was postponed, this item will be reviewed with the understanding that the Hosanna House will give us updated dates for the banner to be hung. Motion was made to approve.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Haughton

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

11. **Resolution 20-015** - GEDTF Grant Application (Tourism Grant) resolution in the amount of \$445,116.00

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

12. Motion to appoint Donn Henderson as Voting Delegate at the 2020 PSAB Convention.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

13. Approving Wood Street Parklet Bid to Vermont Stone in the amount of \$86,975.00

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Macklin

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

14. Approving the Wood Street Parklet project management contract to Richard Rauso, Landscape Architect in the amount of \$2,750.00

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Trice

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

15. Approving the DCED Financial Audit for fiscal year 2019 prepared by Maher Duessel and to authorize legal advertisement.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

A vote 8 yes – 1 abstain (Macklin); Motion carried.

16. Discussion regarding mural letter of support.

- Concern was shown towards the content of the murals. Council would like to know about the content and which buildings the individual would like to put murals on.
- Ms. Edwards suggests inviting this individual in front of council before signing off on a letter of support.
- Mr. Witherel advises that the only way to really control the content that goes up in the mural would be through the funding phase, otherwise it could potentially end up as a 1st amendment battle.
- Ms. Atkins would like to see his work beforehand and for him to bring examples of what he would like to put up in the community.

- Motion was made to move forward with the letter of support after he agrees to meet with council, show examples of his work, and be open to public comment from the community.

Motion: Ms. Trice

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

Public Comment/General Information

1. N/A

Old Business

1. Ms. Trice inquired on the status of the Ardmore Wall. Mr. Henderson advised we are waiting for the railing. The company is currently closed due to COVID-19.
2. President Macklin advised of the poor status of the road on Franklin Avenue between Ardmore Blvd. and Princeton Rd. due to road openings and water main damage. Mr. Henderson will advise Code Enforcement to look into the road openings.
3. Ms. Atkins inquired about if anyone should be using Graham Field. There has been some people using the field during the Governor's stay-at-home orders.

New Business

1. Ms. Edwards congratulates the Wilkinsburg Borough staff for their hard work during the current pandemic. She also asks that council takes steps to congratulate them after the COVID-19 concerns come to a close.
2. President Macklin would like to thank the Opening Doors organization for providing food for students in the neighborhood and passing out schoolwork. They have also been feeding the homeless and delivering food to the elderly.
3. Ms. Atkins advises that St. James church is still doing their community food bank.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Ms. Edwards
Seconded by – Ms. Trice
Meeting Adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Pamela Macklin
President Council