

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Council Legislative Session Minutes
July 15, 2020

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. Edmunds
Ms. Edwards
Ms. Haughton
Mr. Lefebvre (Via Phone)
Mr. Petrulli (Via Phone)
Mr. Scott
Ms. Trice
President Macklin.

Council Members Absent:

N/A

Mayor

Mayor Garrett - Absent

A quorum was established.

Other attendees:

Interim Borough Manager – Amanda Ford
Library Director – Anna Newborg
Solicitor – Mike Witherel

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Macklin.

Proclamation

- N/A

Presentation

- Wood Street Parklet update - Jody Guy
 - Landscaping is nearing completion
- Michael Milberger – Parks & Recreation Update

Public Comment for Agenda Items

1. N/A

Agenda Items

1. Approving Council Meeting Minutes for 5/20/2020.

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

2. Approving Council Meeting Minutes for 6/17/2020

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

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

3. Approving Checks Issued for June 1-30, 2020.
 - Amount totaling \$812,117.04

Motion: Mr. Scott

Second: Mr. Lefebvre

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

4. **Resolution 20-021**- Appointing Amanda Ford as Interim Borough Manager effective June 10, 2020.

Motion: Ms. Trice

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

5. **Resolution 20-022** – Appointing Rayden Sorock to Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for 3 year term July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Ms. Trice

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

6. **Resolution 20-023** – Authorizing Interim Borough Manager as signatory for GROW Grant application submission for the grant amount of \$35,000.00.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

7. Approving Residential Accessible Parking Permit for 421 Ella Street – Louis Mobley.

Motion: Ms. Trice

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

8. Approving Park Permit for Penn Avenue Parklet - Anna Newborg – Wilkinsburg Library.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Ms. Haughton

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

9. Approving Park Permit for Penn Avenue Parklet – Pastor Lawrence Smith-Danelle Lee – Mulberry Community Church.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Mr. Scott

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

10. Discussion regarding WDCDC Zoom Conference Meeting held on July 8, 2020.
 - Item tabled until August 5th meeting.
11. Discussion regarding Duquesne Light Led Street Light Program.
 - Letter received for the borough to come up with 10 street lights in Wilkinsburg for conversion to LED lighting.
 - Will be discussed in more detail within the Planning Commission meeting, Denise Edwards is the chair. Any questions can be directed to her.

Public Comment/General Information

1. Shirley Doubt – 1726 Wright Street
 - a. A tree that is not in her yard fell on her property. She claims it to be borough property. Also her neighbor's tree has fallen on her property and the neighbor says it is not his. President Macklin advised that Code Enforcement will stop by to look into it.
2. Ramona Jones – 1845 Wright Street

- a. Requesting for an outside investigator look into the Wilkinsburg Police Department, Chief, and Mayor due to the police involved shooting that occurred on December 22, 2019 resulting in the death of Romir Talley.
- b. Calling for resignation or reprimand of Mayor Garrett due to the events that occurred during a protest on June 30, 2020.
- c. Requesting the names of the officers that responded to the call the night that Mr. Romir Talley was shot.
3. Shirley Greer – 1425 Mill Street
 - a. Requesting for a cleanup for a neighboring property. President Macklin will advise the Youthworks group of this location for assistance.
 - b. Ms. Edwards provided Ms. Greer with the contact information for public works regarding street sweeping.
4. Rose Price – No address provided
 - a. Spoke to the events that occurred at the protest at Mayor Garrett’s house on June 30, 2020.
 - b. Calls for Mayor Garrett to step down and Chief Coleman to resign.
 - c. Requests dash-cams and bodycams for the police.
 - d. Wants Council to find out if her firearm is issued by the borough or her own.
5. Charles & Jackie Pendleton – 1312 Franklin Ave
 - a. Traffic speeding on her street. Would like for speed bumps to be installed or police patrols on her block more often to combat speeding.
6. Jonathan Ford –
 - a. Would like to do construction within Wilkinsburg for any future projects. He will speak with the Interim Borough Manager.

Old Business

1. N/A

New Business

1. Ms. Ford advised that discussion is needed for the Ardmore Linear Park / Lincoln Statue. Needs to know how to move forward with the base of the statue regarding the extra associated cost for the pedestal.
2. Ms. Atkins had a discussion regarding changing the name of the Penn Avenue Parklet to the Harold Wallace-Young Sr. Parklet. Mr. Young mentored several Wilkinsburg Students. Motion was made to rename the Penn Avenue Parklet after Mr. Young.

Motion: Ms. Trice

Second: Ms. Atkins

A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.

3. Ms. Edmunds is exploring the idea of bringing in food trucks and ice cream trucks for the concerts in the parklet.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Ms. Edwards

Seconded by – Ms. Trice

Meeting Adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Pamela Macklin
President Council