

**WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Council Work Session Meeting Minutes**  
**January 6, 2021**

**Call to Order**

President Macklin called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02 P.M. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this meeting was held over Zoom Video conference.

**Roll Call**

The roll was called to establish a quorum.

**Council Members Present:**

Ms. Atkins (7:15pm arrival)  
Ms. Edmunds  
Ms. Edwards  
Ms. Haughton  
Mr. Lefebvre (7:18pm arrival)  
Mr. Petrulli  
Mr. Scott  
Ms. Trice (7:29pm arrival)  
President Macklin.

**Council Members Absent:**

n/a

**Mayor**

Mayor Garrett - Absent

A quorum was established.

**Other attendees:**

Borough Manager – John Antinori  
Code Enforcement Director – Jim Barca  
Asst. Code Enforcement Director – Brenda Joyce-May  
Finance Director – Carole Salisbury  
Library Director – Anna Newborg  
Asst. Library Director – Rachel Moore  
Public Works Director – Roy Clark  
Asst. Public Works Director – Kathleen Rawlins  
Borough Engineer – Rob Arnold (HRG)  
Solicitor – Mike Witherel

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Macklin.

## **Proclamation**

- N/A

## **Presentation**

- N/A

## **Public Comment for Agenda Items**

1. Nicole Santella – 1300 Wood Street
  - a. Speaking to item #4 on the agenda.
  - b. Wanted to advise Council that the description of the application presented by the Planning Commission varies from the information presented to Council at the last meeting.

## **Agenda Items**

1. Authorizing retention of Maher Duessel at a fee of \$25,000.00 to audit the basic financial statements of the Borough and for the year ended December 31, 2020 as required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

*Motion: Ms. Edwards*

*Second: Ms. Edmunds*

*A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.*

2. Accepting the retirement letter for Library employee Mary Ellen Herbert effective December 31, 2020.

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Ms. Haughton*

*A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.*

3. Authorizing Borough Manager to advertise Council and other committee meetings for 2021 calendar year upon being established.

*Motion: Ms. Atkins*

*Second: Ms. Haughton*

*A vote 8 – 0; Motion carried.*

4. Approving Conditional Use application for 756 Rebecca Avenue – Code Director – James Barca.

- Originally presented to the Planning Commission as a construction company, but turned out to be more of a real estate company.
- Motion was made to Conditionally Reject this application to allow the applicant to go back to the Planning Commission with the necessary changes.

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Mr. Petrulli*

*A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.*

5. **Resolution 21-001** Authorizing the Planning Commission to begin the process of review and recommendations for the establishment of a new comprehensive plan to replace the current plan which has been recommended for extension.

*Motion: Mr. Lefebvre*

*Second: Ms. Haughton*

*A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.*

6. Mr. Witherel advised that the Planning Commission has approved a recommendation to extend the current Comprehensive Plan and send out to the surrounding communities, county planning, and the school district for a period of 45 days for comment. Public hearing forthcoming.
7. **Committee Reports:**
  - Business & Jobs Development – Andre Scott
    - i. Reviewed strategies to bring leadership & governing bodies together to help bring businesses into the borough.
  - Finance, Budget, and Capital Planning – Pamela Macklin
    - i. 2021 Budget was prepared and passed thanks to the Finance Director, Carole Salisbury.
    - ii. Library staff has not been laid off although other communities are doing that.
    - iii. Negotiations still underway with Fire Services and Refuse Collection.
  - Infrastructure & Blight – Denise Edwards
    - i. Thanks Public Works for snow removal.
    - ii. Congratulates Public Works & Borough Manager for addressing staffing issues.
    - iii. Will be reviewing what is needed for our Public Works crew to be able to do demolitions if necessary.
    - iv. Reviewed ideas to use up the remaining 500k in PIB loan funds.
  - Joint Tax Committee – Denise Edwards
    - i. Nothing to report
  - Personnel, Policies, and Procedures – Paige Trice
    - i. Nothing to report
  - Public Safety – Paige Trice
    - i. Discussed 2-way streets and parking
  - Special Events, Arts, Music & Seniors
    - i. Holiday events with the library were a success.

- Mayor's Report
  - i. Nothing to report
- Borough Manager's Report
  - i. Will be attending another meeting regarding the fire services contract.
  - ii. Thanks admin secretary for assistance with zoom issues.
  - iii. Covid issues with borough employees are coming to an end and everyone affected seems to be recovering and should be able to return to work soon.

**Public Comment/General Information**

1. Jody Guy – 211 Bevington Rd.
  - a. Mural cleaning & restoration to take place. 1 person will be working on a scaffold setup in the stairwell.

**Old Business**

1. N/A

**New Business**

1. Ms. Edwards introduced a resolution for Public Censure of Mayor Marita Garrett for comments regarding the police department and failure to attend meetings.

*Motion: Ms. Edwards*

*Second: Ms. Edmunds*

*A vote 6 yes – 3 no (Haughton, Lefebvre, Petrulli); Motion carried.*

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn – Edmunds  
 Seconded by – Scott  
 Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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Pamela Macklin  
 President Council