

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Council Work Session Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2020

Call to Order

President Macklin called the meeting to order at approximately 7:12 P.M. in Council Chambers. 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
Ms. Edmunds
Ms. Edwards
Ms. Haughton
Mr. Petrulli
Mr. Scott
President Macklin

Council Members Absent:

Mr. Lefebvre
Ms. Trice

Mayor

Mayor Garrett - Absent

A quorum was established.

Other attendees:

Borough Manager – John Antinori
Assistant Borough Manager – Amanda Ford
Finance Director – Carole Salisbury
Library Director – Anna Newborg

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Macklin.

Proclamation

- N/A

Presentation

- N/A

Public Comment for Agenda Items

1. N/A

Agenda Items

1. Approval Council Meeting Minutes for 11/4/2020.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

2. Approval Council Meeting Minutes for 11/18/2020.

Motion: Mr. Edwards

Second: Ms. Haughton

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

3. Approval Council Meeting Minutes for November 23, 2020.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Mr. Petrulli

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

4. Approval of Checks Issued November 1-30:

- November 1-30, 2020 \$1,037,456.06
- Payroll Disbursements \$394,616.65
- Voided/Re-Issued Checks \$2,720.00
- Total Disbursements \$1,429,352.71

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Mr. Scott

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

5. Approving Jeffrey Muster as Senior Circulation Clerk at hourly rate of \$19.11 effective retro date to September 21, 2020.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

6. Accepting Municipal Benefits Services and One Digital-TEC as 2021 Employees dental, vision and medical benefits – Borough Manager

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Ms. Haughton

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

7. **Resolution 20-044** – Amending the ten-year comprehensive plan that expires December 31, 2020 to extend the plan’s term by five years to December 31, 2025.

Motion: Ms. Atkins

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

8. **Resolution 20-045** – Adopting 2021 Fiscal Year Budget.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

9. Approving plan for redevelopment of Rosa Park implementation dependent upon funding.

- Motion was made to approve the conceptual plan for redevelopment of Rosa Park playground dependent upon funding.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Scott

A vote 6 yes – 1 abstain (Ms. Atkins); Motion carried.

10. Authorizing Wilkinsburg Public Works to install temporary improvements to Rosa Park.

- Motion was made to table this item.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Scott

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

11. Discussion regarding Calendar Year 2021 for Council Boards & Commissions meetings.

- President Macklin advises chairs of committees and council members to advise which boards or committees they would like to serve on for the following year.
- Ms. Ford advised that we need clarity for the year 2021 if there will be any changes to meeting dates. Please get them to President Macklin and the Administrative Office asap.

12. Approving rate increase for Solicitor: General rate from \$125/hour to \$145/hour and labor/litigation from \$175/hour to \$185/hour.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Mr. Petrulli

A vote 7 – 0; Motion carried.

13. Council Committees:

- Administrative Council Committee – Pamela Macklin - Chair & Council Members
 - P resident Macklin would like to thank the Borough Employees for working together during the Covid Pandemic.

- Business & Job Development Committee – Andre Scott – Chair, Ian Petrulli, Pamela Macklin
 - Working towards doing some virtual programming for the community for training & jobs.
- Finance, Budget & Capital Planning – Pamela Macklin – Chair, Denise Edwards, Ariel Haughton
 - The Finance director has done a great job searching for and obtaining funding for several projects.
- Infrastructure & Blight Committee – Denise Edwards – Chair, Michael Lefebvre, Ian Petrulli
 - DPW is ready for the snowfall, salt is already ordered.
- Joint Tax Committee – Denise Edwards – Chair, Michael Lefebvre, Pamela Macklin
 - Nothing to report
- Personnel, Polices & Procedures Committee – Paige Trice – Chair, Pamela Macklin, Denise Edwards
 - President Macklin thanked Ms. Trice for her hard work over the summer to find a new Borough Manager & Code Director.
- Public Safety Committee/Chief Coleman – Paige Trice – Chair, Yvonne Edmunds, Andre Scott
 - Nothing to report
- Special Events, Music, Arts & Seniors Committee – Linda Atkins – Chair, Yvonne Edmunds, Ariel Haughton
 - Santa Claus will do some virtual stories on Facebook Live on the Wilkesburg Public Library page.
 - Virtual caroling will start on the Library page also.
- Borough Manager Report – John Antinori
 - So far there have been 3 covid-19 infections and those employees have been quarantining.
 - Contact tracing was performed and any individuals within close contact have been notified.
 - Building is currently locked and access is restricted and functions occur over the phone or electronically.
- Mayor’s Report – Marita Garrett
 - Nothing to report

Public Comment/General Information

1. Fawn Walker-Montgomery – 3509 Mayfair St (Mckeesport)
 - a. Asked council if the officer involved in the shooting regarding Romir Talley has been recommended for termination.
 - b. Mr. Witherel advised there will be no comment on this matter.
2. Lisa Simon – 409 Whitney Avenue
 - a. Following up about the library budget and wants to know if the change in millage is in relation to lawsuits or the covid-19 pandemic.

- b. President Macklin advised that she could follow up separately with her or with the Finance Director.
 - c. Mr. Antinori advised Ms. Simon to contact him afterwards to discuss.
- 3. Kyna James, Alliance for Police Accountability – 206 Burdine Avenue
 - a. Wanted to tell Mr. Witherel that he feels like he could've answered Ms. Walker-Montgomery's questions.
- 4. Nicky Jo – Wood Street
 - a. Upset that Officer Gowans has not been fired from the police force.

Old Business

- 1. N/A

New Business

- 1. N/A

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Ms. Edmunds
Seconded by – Mr. Petrulli
Meeting Adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Pamela Macklin
President Council