

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Council Work Session Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2021

Call to Order

President Macklin called the meeting to order at approximately 7:04 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
Ms. Edmunds
Ms. Edwards
Ms. Haughton
Mr. Lefebvre
Mr. Petrulli
Mr. Scott
Ms. Trice
President Macklin.

Council Members Absent:

Mayor

Mayor Garrett - Absent

A quorum was established.

Other attendees:

Borough Manager – John Antinori
Code Enforcement Director – Jim Barca
Finance Director – Carole Salisbury
Library Director – Anna Newborg
Public Works Director – Roy Clark

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Macklin.

Proclamation

- N/A

Presentation

- WPJWA Report – Brenda Joyce-May
 - Wilkinsburg Penn-Joint Water Authority had put a Moratorium in place at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic which is being lifted and would allow for delinquent accounts to be shut off starting at the end of the month. It's expected that there will be payment plans in place for affected accounts. There will be a tiered payment plan based on the outstanding customer balances.
- WCDC Update – Tracey Evans
 - Tracey was unable to attend.

Public Comment for Agenda Items

1. N/A

Agenda Items

1. Authorizing Borough Manager to advertise for competitive bids for 2021 paving program.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

2. Authorizing Library Director to apply for the Innovation and Collaboration Opportunity grant through the Allegheny County Library Association in the amount of \$25,000.00 (no matching funds required) – Anna Newborg

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Mr. Scott

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

3. **Resolution 21-029** – Approving VPRP Application for 1416 and 1422 Penn Avenue – Cheryl Ramsay

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Petrulli

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

4. **Resolution 21-030** – Approving the Wilkinsburg School District Building Maintenance Agreement for Turner Field.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Ms. Edmunds

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

5. **Resolution 21-031** – Authorizing the Borough to enter into a three (3) year lease agreement, with U. S. Bank, annual payment of \$28,279.00 totaling \$84,837.00 for the purchase of Caterpillar/Backhoe Loader.

Motion: Ms. Edwards

Second: Mr. Scott

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

6. **Resolution 21-032** – Authorizing Borough to enter into a three (3) year lease agreement with U.S. Bank, annual payment of \$49,460.35 for the purchase of Watch Guard Body/Dash Camera System including installation and training totaling \$148,381.05.

Motion: Ms. Edmunds

Second: Mr. Scott

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

7. Approving SALDO application for property located at Ardmore Blvd. @ Brinton Road, Lot-n-Block# 233-R-250 Guardian Self-Storage facility – Jim Barca

Motion: Mr. Lefebvre

Second: Ms. Edwards

A vote 9 – 0; Motion carried.

8. Council Committees:
- Administrative Council Committee – Pamela Macklin - Chair & Council Members
 - Business & Job Development Committee – Andre Scott – Chair, Ian Petrulli
 - Discussed virtual job fair.
 - Finance, Budget & Capital Planning – Pamela Macklin – Chair, Ariel Haughton
 - Looking into the tax bills and if they are going out on a delay or not.
 - Monitoring Revenues
 - Infrastructure & Blight Committee – Denise Edwards – Chair, Michael Lefebvre, Ian Petrulli
 - Due to the pandemic in 2020, there was no clean-up in April 2020. This year for 2021, there will be a Borough clean-up scheduled for May 15th. Dumpster locations will be decided at the next meeting.
 - Discussed street lighting and installation of LED street lights. Putting together a list for this year for desired LED installation locations.
 - Discussed temporary improvements at the Rosa Parks Playground location.
 - Joint Tax Committee – Denise Edwards – Chair, Michael Lefebvre, Pamela Macklin
 - Personnel, Polices & Procedures Committee – Paige Trice – Chair, Pamela Macklin, Denise Edwards
 - Public Safety Committee/Chief Coleman – Paige Trice – Chair, Yvonne Edmunds, Andre Scott
 - Special Events, Music, Arts & Seniors Committee – Linda Atkins – Chair, Yvonne Edmunds, Ariel Haughton

- Concerts at the Harold Young Sr. Parklet to continue this year.
- Mayor’s Report – Marita Garrett
- Borough Manager’s Report – John Antinori
 - New phone systems are installed, will be saving approximately \$6,000 a year.
 - Intercom system will be installed in the lobby to better assist people that come to the door.
 - Social media channels are being utilized more. Website homepage design being reviewed for a possible update.
 - Pipeline review of Sheriff Sales happen every 3rd week of the month with Kate Luxemburg.

Public Comment/General Information

1. Deb Rose & Pam Panchak – 425 Center Street
 - a. Introducing WCDC Strong Neighborhood Initiative. Looking into vacant/blighted properties within the borough. The goal of this committee is to build strong neighborhoods through an investigation of the causes and impacts of blight and vacancy in Wilksburg and work with the WCDC to develop a Vacant Property Re-Use Plan to address vacancy and blight, mitigate threats of displacement and gentrification, and create catalysts for reinvestment driven by community vision. For more information go to <https://wilksburgcdc.org/strong-neighborhoods-committee/>

Old Business

1. Ms. Edmunds advised that there are 4 properties on the 400 block of Ross Avenue that were purchased and are currently being renovated.

New Business

1. Ms. Edwards mentioned that we should consider moving to a hybrid in-person/zoom meeting soon with all the news of declining COVID-19 infections and vaccines.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Edmunds
 Seconded by – Edwards
 Meeting Adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Pamela Macklin
 President Council