

**Wilkinsburg Borough Council**  
**Legislative Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**May 18, 2022**

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**Call to Order**

7:00pm

**Roll Call**

Ms. Santella  
Mr. Smith  
Ms. Atkins  
Mr. McMullen  
Ms. Haughton  
Ms. Gibson  
Ms. Trice  
Ms. Edwards

**Mayor**

Not present

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Remained standing for a moment of silence for peace in Europe and our community.

**Presentation**

None

**Public Comment Items on Agenda**

Shirley Halston - 1726 Wright Street

- Wanted to discuss property and trees that are surrounding her house. There are 22 trees hanging over her fence. Nothing has been done about it.
- Renee Dolney of the Shade Tree will begin to address the problem. Ms. Trice will visited Ms. Halston's house with Ms. Dolney.
- Ms. Trice informed Ms. Halston can have the tree's that are hanging over her fence removed.

**Executive Session**

None

**Agenda**

1. Approving Council Meeting Minutes for 04/06/2022

- Ms. Atkins stated that on #3, Resolution 22-033 that she was not against Rosa Park, there is a particular order the current playground should be updated and safe first before starting a new project. What is written does not reflect what she said.
- Motion to have friendly amendment

**Motion: Mr. McMullen**

**Second: Ms. Santella**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried for friendly amendment**

2. Approval Council Meeting Minutes for 04/20/2022

**Motion: Mr. McMullen**

**Second: Mr. Smith**

**A Vote of 8-1: Motion Carried**

**Abstained: Ms. Haughton**

3. Approval of Checks Issued:

<u>January, 2022</u>	\$ 496,632.00
Payroll Disbursement	\$ 278,366.00
Voided/Re-Issue Checks	<u>\$ 100,623.00</u>
Total Disbursement	\$ 875,622.00

<u>February, 2022</u>	\$1,592,114.00
Payroll Disbursement	\$ 78,184.00
Voided/Re-Issue Checks	<u>\$ 8,670.00</u>
Total Disbursement	\$1,878,969.00

<u>March, 2022</u>	\$ 698,594.00
Payroll Disbursement	\$ 446,760.00
Voided/Re-Issue Checks	<u>\$ 23,883.00</u>
Total Disbursement	\$1,169,238.00

<u>April, 2022</u>	\$ 596,239.00
Payroll Disbursement	\$ 298,012.00
Voided/Re-Issue Checks	<u>\$ 175,049.00</u>
Total Disbursement	\$1,069,301.00

**Motion: Ms. Macklin**

**Second: None**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion fails to reach the floor. The whole motion fails.**

4. **Resolution 22-047** - Approving the promotion of Lieutenant to Brandon Rourke effective May 16, 2022.

**Motion: Ms. Trice**  
**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

**Second: Ms. Gibson**

5. **Resolution 22-048** - Approving the promotion of Sergeant to Doug Yuhouse effective May 16, 2022.

**Motion: Ms. Trice**  
**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

**Second: Ms. Gibson**

6. **Resolution 22-049** - Authorizing the Borough Manager to apply for a Commonwealth Financing Authority Greenways Trails and Recreation Program grant in the amount of \$197,308 for the purpose of the design and construction of Rosa Parks Park, with a 15% Borough match.

- Ms. Atkins asked that you update the ones that are current, then start on new projects. It hasn't been used in years and is overgrown.
- Ms. Trice states that she remembers Rosa Parks being named in 2004. Agrees with Ms. Atkins, work on parks we have now. Holmes is also a park that needs a lot of work. Clean-up the parks that we have now before starting on new projects.
- Ms. Haughton asked if the designs are preliminary or final. Also, will there be any community engagement in approving design or giving suggestions?
- President Edwards: Has not been designed yet but it will be based on community engagement and that the two are not exclusionary, and will be finding the money for the 15% match.

**Motion: Mr. McMullen**  
**A Vote of 6-3: Motion Carried**

**Second: Ms. Macklin**

7. **Resolution 22-050** - Authorizing the Borough Manager to apply for a Commonwealth Financing Authority Greenways Trails and Recreation Program grant in the amount of \$118,000; (final number to come) for the purpose of replacing the rubber surface and playground equipment in Ferguson Park with a 15% Borough match.

- Ms. Atkins questioned "final number to come", Mr. Antinori confirms typo and that it should be omitted from Resolution.
- Ms. Trice feels it will take more than \$118,000 to put into Ferguson playground, it is in pretty bad shape. Also, Holmes should be considered.

**Motion: Ms. Macklin**  
**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

**Second: Mr. Smith**

8. **Resolution 22-051** Approving conditional offers of employment as Summer Seasonal/DPW to Naquan Pollard and Stephon Byrd, effective May 23, 2022 at the hourly rate of \$13.00.

**Motion: Ms. Trice**  
**A Vote of 9-0 : Motion Carried**

**Second: Ms. Gibson**

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9. Second reading of **Ordinance 22-001**, an ordinance of the Borough of Wilkinsburg, prohibiting the use of engine brake retarders within the Borough of Wilkinsburg.

**REMOVED FROM AGENDA - Pending review from PennDot**

10. Second reading of **Ordinance 22-002** an ordinance of the Borough of Wilkinsburg, authorizing Council President, on behalf of the borough of Wilkinsburg, to form and establish a land bank to be known as the Wilkinsburg Land Bank.

**Motion: Gibson**

**Second: Ms. Macklin**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried to authorize to advertise with clarification from Solicitor**

11. Authorizing Borough Manager to advertise, for public review, **Ordinance 22-002**, an ordinance to form and establish the Wilkinsburg Land Bank.

**This item on the Agenda will not be introduced.**

12. Authorizing Glenn Engineering to advertise for public bid the roof replacement project for 605 Ross Avenue.

- Ms. Santana asked, will Glenn Engineering be acting as General Contractor on this project. President Edwards response, yes.

**Motion: Ms. Trice**

**Second: Gibson**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

13. Approving contribution of half the cost of purchase and installation of fencing in Koenig Park in the amount of \$4,000.

**Motion: Ms. Trice**

**Second: Ms. Santella**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

14. Accepting letter of resignation for Police Officer, Emma Brown effective May 8, 2022.

**Motion: Ms. Trice**

**Second: Ms. Macklin**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

15. Accepting letter of resignation from Jeremy Smith, Planning Commission, effective April 5, 2022.

**Motion: Ms. Trice**

**Second: Mr. Smith**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

16. Approving termination of employment for employee number 7846, Finance Department, effective May 11, 2022.

- Ms. Trice questioned the why this agenda item identifies the employee a number and not the employee name? Asked that going forward having employee name be included and that there are not procedures created without Council notice.

**Motion: Ms. Macklin**

**Second: Mr. McMullen**

**A Vote of 7-2: Motion Carried**

17. Approving permit application for use of public property, municipal parking lot behind Nancy's, for the purpose of a building completion / 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on June 11, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Vision Towards Peace Counseling, Erica Givner, applicant.

- Ms. Haughton and Ms. Gibson questions the parking situation on the streets due to this event.
- Wilksburg Police Department has approved this event.

**Motion: Ms. Macklin**

**Second: Ms. Trice**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

18. Approving permit application for use of public property, Harold Young Sr., Parklet, for the purpose of Wilksburg Community Drum Circle on Saturdays May 28, 2022 and October 8, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Joe Iorio, applicant.

- Ms. Haughton questions the "waived" fee. President Edwards mentions that they are all senior residents and that Council waived fee last year. Entertains the fact to make waived fee apart of the approval for the permit.
- Ms. Atkins states that there needs to be consistency and that Council Members need to take a look at this so that there will be consistency across the board.
- President Edwards will ask that the Finance Department take a look at the structure of waiving fees.

**Motion: Ms. Trice**

**Second: Ms. Gibson**

**A Vote of 9-0: Motion Carried**

19. Approving permit application for use of public property, Harold Young Sr. Parklet, for the purpose of Wilksburg Thursday Market from June 16, 2022 through October 13, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00p.m. Vicki Cherney, applicant.

**Motion to Table until approval from police: Motion: Ms. Gibson Second: Ms. Trice**

**A Vote of 9-0 : Motion Carried**

### **Public Comment General Information**

None

### **Old Business**

Ms. Atkins reminding everyone that on Sunday, June 5, Mosaic Dance & Movement Studio will be performing at Wilkinsburg Culture & Arts at Eastridge, 1900 Graham Blvd.

### **New Business**

- Ms. Gibson: Due to the homicide with our youths today, is it possible to give away free gun locks or gun boxes. Make be take a stance and get out into the community innocent lives are being taken and children are getting a hold of guns. Let's help saves some lives.
- Let's get the Public Safety Committee involved. Also, check into the Wilkinsburg Police Gun Buy Back.
- Next Public Safety meeting will be with the City, County and Eastern Area Pre-Hospital Services
- President Edwards will contact Ceased Fire and see if they can get involved.
- Great way for residence to get notification on what is going on in the community is to go on Nixel.com. Sign-up and you will get alerts when on things happening in Wilkinsburg.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Trice 7:42p.m.

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President, Denise Edwards