

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
29 MECHANIC STREET
WIND GAP, PA 18091
610-863-7288**

The Special Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Thursday, December 26, 2002, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Winton Male, Jr., at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Councilmen Lewis Paulhamus, Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr., William Pyscher, and Kerry Gassler. Also in attendance: Mayor Kenneth George and Secretary/Treasurer Louise Firestone.

The sole purpose of the meeting was to appoint two residents to fill the seats left vacant by Councilmen John Hannon and Richard Getz.

Public Comment

1. Paul Levits asked the procedure for this meeting? Winton replied that all the applicants would have the opportunity to address Council. Nominations will be open to fill John Hannon's vacancy. It is understood that all applicants are residents and registered voters. Every nomination will require a second and the nominations are not in any given order. Council will consider the nominees and a voice vote will be recorded in alphabetical order and the first nominee with a majority will be elected. That person will be sworn in and a vote will be taken to pass a resolution to fill the vacancy. This process will be repeated to fill Richard Getz's vacant seat. Paul stated that if Council is clear on the mechanics of determining how the candidates will be voted on? Winton replied that it would be in alphabetical order of the candidates.

2. Rick Keenhold questioned why Council would vote on candidates in alphabetical order because it would not be fair to those at the end of the alphabet. Mr. Zito further elaborated on his memo dated December 23, 2002 that was sent to Council outlining the procedure to conduct the meeting to fill the vacancy. The first vacancy will be that of Jack Hannon and the second will be Richard Getz. The President will open the meeting for nominations; there will be nominations and a call for a second. If there are nine candidates and all have been nominated and seconded, all nine will be voted upon by the members of Council. A Councilman desiring to cast his ballot for a particular candidate would withhold casting a vote for an earlier candidate in favor of a later one who has also received a second. At the conclusion of that process, if there is a majority, then that person will be the subject of a resolution and will be sworn by the Mayor and will participate in the voting for the vacancy by the resignation of Mr. Getz. Rick asked if there would be five votes only with the Councilmen voting only once? Mr. Zito replied that he can vote for as many of the candidates as he chooses, the question is how will he vote or if he will vote. At the conclusion of the process, if he has voted twice and only one of those candidates receives a majority by virtue of the votes of his fellow Councilmen or that vote is broken by a tie by the ballot cast by the Mayor then he will be seated. Rick questioned that the new person will take their seat and already vote for somebody they don't even know or haven't

even seen. Mr. Zito replied that is the elected process and someone taking a seat through the general election might not have any more knowledge about Borough affairs. All that is required is that candidates be registered electors.

3. Paul Levits asked what determined the alphabetical process? Winton answered that Council has done everything alphabetically voting on Council. Paul asked what is wrong with a lottery. Mr. Zito stated that all Council has to do is to establish a process that has fundamental fairness. Council has called the roll alphabetically and he believes that formed the basis of the selection by the Council President. That is not written in stone, but members of Council can change that system as long as it is fundamentally fair to all the candidates. **On motion** by Kerry Gassler to do the voting by lottery system and seconded by Lewis Paulhamus. Roll call vote taken. In favor: K. Gassler, L. Paulhamus, W. Pysher. Opposed: W. Male, M. Mogilski. Motion carried with a vote of 3-2.

4. Bill Pysher stated he is pleased with the number of candidates who applied for the vacancies. He acknowledged receiving phone calls, but he did not interview the people who called. He felt that he wanted to open and get all the information he needed at this meeting tonight. He mentioned that the Borough has opportunities on the Borough Planning Commission, the Zoning Hearing Board and the Civil Service Commission.

5. Ron DeCesare asked if interviews have taken place by Council? Winton replied that he has spoken to several people.

The candidate's name were drawn out of a hat by Ron DeCesare in the following order:

1. Ralph Stampone
2. Jonathan Faust
3. Karen Skorochood
4. Sandra Lockard
5. Todd Beil
6. George Hinton Jr.
7. Linda Paynter
8. Christopher Bruch
9. Peter Stinson

At this time, the candidates were given the opportunity to address Council.

1. Ralph Stampone. Ralph stated he has been a Borough resident since 1984 and has owned his own business for nine years. He is looking to serve Council to try to help the Borough of Wind Gap and continue to keep the Borough going in the right direction. He has run automotive dealerships so he has a handle on the money side of a business. Bill asked if he has served in any capacity in the Borough? Ralph replied that he has served on the Summer Sounds Concerts. Bill asked if Ralph would consider serving the Borough in any other capacity if he was not elected?

2. Jonathan Faust. Jonathan stated that he has been a resident for almost five years. He feels with the knowledge he has gained from his experience in Plainfield Township for the last ten years he could be an asset to the Borough and serve the people. He would be willing to consider other positions if he is not elected to Council. Bill asked in what capacity was he serving in Plainfield? Jonathon replied that he was in charge of the Road Department and he took control of the budget items for that department.
3. Karen Skorochood. Karen stated that she lives at 38 Water Street and has been a resident since she was brought home from the hospital in 1972. She is raising her two children and works full-time at home as a medical transcriptionist. She works part-time as a church organist and choir director at a Methodist Church near Palmerton. She helps her husband with his seasonal grass-cutting business, Anthony's Lawn Care. Karen has served as secretary, second lieutenant, and first lieutenant of the Wind Gap Ambulance Corps and is currently active as a social member due to the recent birth of her second child. Bill asked if she would be willing to serve in any other capacity. She replied that she definitely would be interested. She would like to be on Council to help serve and improve out town for many generations to come.
4. Sandra Lockard. Sandra has been a lifelong resident of Wind Gap. She would like to continue to improve the Borough. She works full-time and has two teenagers. She works in the Northampton County Courthouse. She is a member of the Wind Gap Planning Commission.
5. Todd Beil was not present.
6. George Hinton. George stated that he is a regular attendee at Council meetings. He tries to help debate several issues from a taxpayer's standpoint in regard to streets, police department in order to help the Borough. He is a lifelong resident of Wind Gap. He is a volunteer in the Wind Gap Fire Department and is currently the treasurer. He plowed the fire company parking lot and the ambulance parking lot on Christmas day. He was a candidate the last time a vacancy existed. He takes a lot of pride on what happens in the Borough. He donated the flagpoles at the monument, the fire company and the ambulance building. Bill asked if he would consider serving in any other capacity? George stated that he is here and is serving.
7. Linda Paynter. Linda has been a resident for 20 years, she moved to Bangor and moved back. She is a clerk for the Borough of Bangor and is secretary for the Bangor Planning Commission. She already knows what it is to be a Councilperson and the responsibilities because of her position in Bangor. If elected she will try to do her best for the Borough.
8. Christopher Bruch. Chris has lived in the Borough for two years at 108 A Street. He would like to help make the Borough a better place for today and for the future. He has been a volunteer for six and a half years on the Wind Gap Ambulance Corps, but is currently on a leave of absence. He has been a volunteer for Plainfield Ambulance also. He presently sits on the

Wind Gap Park Board. He is looking to broaden himself and see what he can help accomplish for the Borough.

9. Peter Stinson. Peter lives at 286 Center Street who works at Lattice Semiconductor. He is a Project Development Engineering Manager. He is currently managing a budget in excess of \$1,000,000 a year and is responsible for project manager duties. These duties include negotiations, building consensus, and setting the right path for the future and moving forward. He believes that he can serve the Borough well. He has lived in the Borough since 1996. The community where he lives is relatively new and they have tried to develop a sense of community. He believes that this community is a safe place to grow and he would like to further those efforts to the rest of the Borough. Bill asked if he has served the Borough in any other capacity? Peter replied that this is the first opportunity he has had to serve the community. Bill asked if he would be willing to serve in any other capacity? Peter replied that he would.

Winton added that many of the resumes submitted contained some substantial educational background by some of the candidates that they did not mention.

Winton stated that the nominations are open to fill Jack Hannon's vacancy and they must be seconded to be considered.

Mitchell D. Mogilski Sr. nominated Sandra Lockard and seconded by Bill Pysher.
 Kerry Gassler nominated John Faust and seconded by Lewis Paulhamus.
 Lewis Paulhamus nominated George Hinton and seconded by Kerry Gassler.
 Kerry Gassler nominated Karen Skorochood and seconded by Lewis Paulhamus.
 Mitchell D. Mogilski Sr. nominated Peter Stinson and seconded by Bill Pysher.
 Kerry Gassler nominated Ralph Stampone and seconded by Lewis Paulhamus.
 Bill Pysher nominated Linda Paynter and seconded by Winton Male.

On motion by Bill Pysher to close the nominations and seconded by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll call vote for Ralph Stampone: K. Gassler, yes, W. Male, no, M. Mogilski, no, L. Paulhamus, yes, B. Pysher, no. Vote 2-3.

Roll call vote for Jonathan Faust: K. Gassler, yes, W. Male, no, M. Mogilski, no, L. Paulhamus, yes, B. Pysher, no. Vote 2-3.

Roll call vote for Karen Skorochood: K. Gassler, yes, W. Male, no, M. Mogilski, no, L. Paulhamus, yes, B. Pysher, no. Vote 2-3.

Roll call vote for Sandra Lockard: K. Gassler, no, W. Male, yes, M. Mogilski, yes, L. Paulhamus, no, B. Pysher, yes. Vote 3-2.

On motion by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. to pass a resolution that Sandra Lockard is filling John Hannon's seat and seconded by Kerry Gassler. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor swore Councilperson Sandra Lockard in as the sixth Council members.

On motion by Bill Pysher to open the floor for nominations for Richard Getz's seat and seconded by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. nominated Peter Stinson and seconded by Bill Pysher.
Kerry Gassler nominated Karen Skorochood and seconded by Lewis Paulhamus.
Lewis Paulhamus nominated George Hinton and seconded by Kerry Gassler.
Kerry Gassler nominated John Faust and seconded by Lewis Paulhamus.

On motion by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. to close the nominations and seconded by Bill Pysher. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll call vote taken for Jonathan Faust: K. Gassler, yes, S. Lockard, no, W. Male, no, M. Mogilski, no, L. Paulhamus, yes, B. Pysher, yes. Vote 3-3. Mayor George was asked to cast the deciding vote. Mayor George voted no.

Roll call vote taken for Karen Skorochood: K. Gassler, yes, S. Lockard, no, W. Male, no, M. Mogilski, no, L. Paulhamus, yes, B. Pysher, no. Vote 2-4.

Roll call vote taken for George Hinton: K. Gassler, yes, S. Lockard, no, W. Male, no, M. Mogilski, no, L. Paulhamus, yes, B. Pysher, no. Vote 2-4.

Roll call vote taken for Peter Stinson: K. Gassler, yes, S. Lockard, yes, W. Male, yes, M. Mogilski, yes, L. Paulhamus, yes, B. Pysher, yes. Vote 6-0.

On motion by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. to pass a resolution that Peter Stinson is filling Richard Getz's seat and seconded by Bill Pysher. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor swore Councilperson Peter Stinson in as the seventh Council members.

On motion by Peter Stinson to adjourn the meeting of December 26, 2002 and seconded by Sandra Lockard. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Secretary / Treasurer