

**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 Wednesday, December 10, 2003, was called to order at 7:00 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, Karen Skorochood, Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr., William Pysker, Peter Stinson and Kerry Gassler. Also in attendance Secretary/Treasurer Louise Firestone.

The sole purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 2004 budget.

Council reviewed the Income side of the budget. Harry Oaten will maintain the garage into January and will pay \$300 for the month and then close his doors. The Volunteer Fire Relief Fund needed to be increased to the same amount on the expense side because it is a pass through item. Council discussed ways to increase revenue in the future, but determined that it was too late to initiate the changes now. Among these include increasing contractor license fees which is currently \$25 for the year, looking at the fees charged for zoning because the fees are not covering the Borough's expenses.

Council then reviewed the Expense side of the budget. As a result of meetings with representatives of the police, streets and parks the shortfall currently is \$177,319. Council agreed to review the expenses as a whole again. They discussed looking at increasing the municipal officials compensation in the future. It is currently \$720 for Council members, \$1,200 for the Council President and \$2,000 for the Mayor. The Borough will include the cost of the Borough audit and the Tax Collector audit in the 2004 budget. After much debate, Council agreed that some expense items need to be moved to a "wish list" should the Borough have money to complete specific projects or capital purchases. Borough Buildings reduced the building improvements from \$13,000 to \$2,000 and decided to put a security system, a public address system and upgrades to the Oaten building on that list. Council decided to reduce the police overtime from \$16,000 to \$12,000. Council once again discussed the part-time employees associated with the street department and the park department. Further discussion needs to take place to clarify the pension contribution necessary on behalf of the part-time employees. The Park budget was reduced by \$12,391 because the maintenance for the new park restroom is held in the form of a bond and not actual cash.

Council will meet again on Monday, December 15, 2003 to continue budget discussions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Secretary / Treasurer