

**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 Monday, November 24, 2003, was called to order at 7:05 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 Pysher, Peter Stinson and Kerry Gassler. Also in attendance Secretary/Treasurer Louise Firestone.

Mayor Kenneth George arrived at 7:46 p.m.

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

Council discussed including the tipping fees in the budget for 2004 to offset the budget shortfall, which currently stands at \$367,769. Mitch asked that this topic be an agenda item for the new Council to look at in 2004. He is suggested refusing the money from Waste Management and does not believe that the funds should be in the budget.

Council looked at ways to reduce all expense items in the proposed budget. The salaries of the municipal officials are set; the auditor expense includes the required annual audits of the Borough books, discussion to include the audit of the Borough Tax Collector and possibly the Fire Company. This item will be broken down into separate line items for each audit. The Tax Collector budget includes her commission, forms, postage and bonding – all expenses are based on past years expenses. The Legal Expenses have yet to be determined. The legal expense will be broken down into legal services and a separate line item to distinguish the Wind Gap Municipal Authority Litigation. The General Government budget is still in the process of being completed. General Engineering was set at \$6,000 to cover the cost of the Engineer attending meetings, acting as Sewage Enforcement Officer for the Borough and any miscellaneous items not related to the Streets. The Borough Building budget includes the purchase of a sound system and a security system. The Building budget also includes \$7,000 for improvements to the North Broadway property. Council decided to eliminate the purchase of a new police car in 2004, but increase the vehicle repair item from \$2,500 to \$5,000 with the understanding that any monies left in this line item would be put aside for the purchase of a new police vehicle in 2005. The Street budget was reduced by \$137,100. They reduced minor equipment purchases, capital purchases, traffic signs, street lighting, and stormwater projects. Council reviewed the budget submitted by the Park Board. The Park Board included \$35,000 in Capital Construction (\$15,000 to pave the lower parking lot, \$5,000 to repair, replace & cover bleachers at 2 upper park fields, \$10,000 to complete walking trail and parking area, \$5,000 general capital construction), \$15,000 in Capital Equipment (\$2,500 new commercial upright refrigerator, \$2,500 to install donated hood over kitchen grill, \$5,000 children's rides for the park, \$5,000 for light standards in lower park area along Lehigh) and \$45,000 in Capital Projects

(\$8,000 to upgrade the kiddie area are to meet safety standards – install mulch base, \$3,000 to install 2 bocce ball courts, \$4,000 to set aside toward permanent covering over seating, \$20,000 to rehab existing bathrooms, \$10,000 to overlay macadam inside park). Council decided to reduce Capital Construction to \$5,000, Capital Equipment to \$14,000 and Capital Projects to \$27,000. Council had several questions regarding this budget that remained unanswered. It was decided that Winton and Louise would meet with members of the Park Board to get a better understanding of their proposed budget and projects.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Secretary / Treasurer