

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Wind Gap Borough Council convened at 7:00 p.m. in an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, April 19, 2005, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Kerry Gassler, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Council members: Winton S. Male, Jr., Karen Skorochood, Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr., George Hinton, Scott Parsons and Tony Curcio. Also in attendance Mayor Kenneth George and Secretary/Treasurer Louise Firestone.

Kerry stated that Borough Council was in Executive Session and asked for the following motions to be made:

On motion by Scott Parsons to accept John Blick's resignation effective May 1, 2005 and seconded by Karen Skorochood. Roll call vote taken. In favor: K. Gassler, G. Hinton, M. Mogilski, S. Parsons, K. Skorochood. Opposed: T. Curcio, W. Male. Motion carried with a vote of 5-2.

On motion by George Hinton to advertise for a Zoning Officer position and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Kerry requested that Louise send e-mail to all the members of the COG in regard to a part-time Zoning Officer. Winton asked if there would be a special meeting to discuss compensation for the position? Kerry replied that if Council agrees, the same hourly rate of \$15 to \$18 per hour would be used.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

1. EMS – Karen Skorochood that the epinephrine is on the rigs. The Ambulance Corps will be holding a coin toss at the end of April. First Lieutenant, Sean Shoemaker, resigned so Toby Lawson moved from Second Lieutenant to First and Brent Shoemaker was named Second Lieutenant.

2. Police – George Hinton reported that the Mayor, the Police Chief and himself conducted interviews on the five top candidates for the full-time police officer position. He stated that the committee was impressed with all five applicants, but picked two to go for a physical and psychological test. The committee hopes to have a recommendation at the May 2, 2005 Council meeting to hire a new officer.

3. Streets – George Hinton reported that the Stormwater Project on Woodward and Lehigh is going smoothly with the curb and pipe already in place. The contractor should be ready to

asphalt soon. The Third Street project got off to a rough start, but the project is progressing now. The pipe is behind the curb with allows the residents along that stretch the ability to pump water off their property into the pipe and not into the road. The pipe will take the water to the catch basin. The improvement project at the intersection of South Broadway and Third Street was put out to bid and the Borough received three bids. Two of the bids were extremely high and the other submitted by Bill Anskis Company (Contractor on the Third Street drainage project) was more reasonable.

On motion by George Hinton to award the project to Bill Anskis Company in the amount of \$66,796 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously. Waste Management has agreed to fund this project up to \$72,000.

George reported that the water is washing the road out on West West Street, so he will have the Street Department repair that tomorrow. George and the Borough Engineer, Ron Madison, met with Mrs. Schinstine and her surrounding neighbors on Fairview and East West Street. During the meeting they were able to observe the water problems in the neighboring properties. He stated that he explained that the Borough has other financial commitments this year and suggested to Council that since there is litigation on Mrs. Schinstine's property, nothing should be done as long as there is legal action going on. Winton explained that to his recollection, there has been a water problem since the Vito development went in because of the construction of the detention pond. He stated that the engineer, Bob Collura, said that it was not acceptable, but the plan was approved anyway. Kerry will contact Bob Collura to get his recollection of the pond and any issue regarding the water. He suggested that correcting the water issues before they get to Fairview Avenue might make more sense in solving the problem.

On motion by George Hinton to hire Randy Bogart as the full-time street worker and seconded by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mitch reported that he spoke to Dave O'Brien regarding the application submitted by the Borough for a CDBG grant in the amount of approximately \$144,000 for a Stormwater project on Jefferson and Washington. It looks favorable for the Borough at this point in obtaining the grant.

4. Finance – Kerry Gassler had nothing to report. Mitch stated that he provided Council with a copy of the current Nextel agreement that the Borough has currently and suggested that the Borough could save \$11 per line by switching to a Cingular plan. It was explained that the Borough of Wind Gap Fire Company, Ambulance Corps, Police department, Street department, Municipal Authority all have currently have Nextel. Also, any volunteers for these organizations purchased their own private phones through Nextel so that they can communicate. Karen stated that the information card would probably not be able to be transferred so everyone would have to purchase new phones and reprogram them. George stated that given the magnitude of number of personnel involved and organizations involved it may not make sense to switch at this point in time.

On motion by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. to take the idea of switching to Cingular to the COG meeting and seconded by Scott Parsons. Roll call vote taken. In favor: M. Mogilski, S. Parsons, W. Male. Opposed: K. Skorochood, T. Curcio, K. Gassler, G. Hinton. Motion did not pass with a vote of 3-4.

5. Administration – Winton Male reported that he wrote a letter to DEP regarding the tire

shreds. Representative Craig Dally sent a letter of support to the DEP and Winton suggested that the Borough should send Craig a letter of thanks. George reported that the committee will be meeting with Waste Management next month and will discuss the shredded tires again.

Winton stated that according to the Zoning Ordinance Section 8-2, 4 (b) "A Zoning Permit shall be issued in at least triplicate". Section 8-2,4 (c) "One (1) copy shall be kept conspicuously on the premises. No person shall perform building operations of any kind unless a Zoning Permit is being displayed as required by this Ordinance".

On motion by Winton Male to distribute a copy of the permits issued to the Police Department so they can enforce the Zoning Ordinance. Motion was not seconded, but continued with the following discussion. The Mayor stated that the Police currently check for contractor permits in the Borough so they should be able to check for permits. George added that this will be addressed at the next Police meeting. Mitch added that the Borough is losing tax revenue when people move in and out of the Borough and the Police should be enforcing this ordinance also. The Mayor stated that he has spoken to the Police Officers about this issue.

6. Zoning – Tony Curcio reported the following cases to be heard by the Zoning Hearing Board on May 4, 2005. Case #1, Darryl and Cindy Buss, 429 Woodward in an R-8 District, Case #2, C.A. Lessig Inc. 205 Alpha in District IC and Case #3, Image Point, Inc. 855 South Broadway and 841 South Broadway in a C District.

7. Planning – Scott Parsons had nothing to report.

8. Parks – Karen Skorochood reported the Car Show would be held on May 22. The Master Plan has been mapped out. The fences have been damaged and are in need of repair. The softball field still has uneven ground resulting from the construction work done for the Park restroom. George stated that it has been difficult to find time when the field is not occupied to make the necessary repairs and when it was scheduled, unfortunately MSG could not provide the equipment that particular day. He added that a fence guy would need to straighten out the bottom of the fence. Kerry stated that the Borough is responsible since all outstanding issues have been settled with the Park restroom contractor.

9. Fire Company – Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. reported that there were 11 calls in March for a total of 49 year-to-date. They will be holding their annual Chinese Auction on April 24, 2005. A Texas Hold'em Tournament will be held on July 16, 2005, more information will be provided. The Fire company will have a sausage stand at the Memorial Day picnic at Weona Park in Pen Argyl. They have one new social member, Lee Miller. Newly elected officers are: President, Jeff Yob, Vice President, Jon Faust, Secretary, Chad Marsh, Treasurer, George Hinton. Fire Chief, Jeff Thomas, First Lieutenant, Sean Shoemaker, Second Lieutenant, Jon Faust. Mayor George suggested that the Borough acknowledge the former Fire Chief, Randy George, for his thirty-one years of service to the Borough. There will be a hoagie sale May 11, 2005.

On motion by George Hinton to accept the new Fire Company officers and seconded by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Mitch added that he understands that the EMS Tax collect may be have to be used toward fire training. He will keep Council informed.

10. Sewer Authority – Ron DeCesare distributed the Wind Gap Municipal Authority monthly report. Ron stated that Waste Management has okayed a tentative agreement for free sludge disposal. Some hauling fees and environmental charges will still be paid. Ted Reed from PA Water Company discussed the possible acquisition, of the plant. Mr. Reed is to provide more information to the Authority, on questions raised. It would cost the Authority approximately \$2,000 in time to produce the information the Water Company is requesting. The Water Company would calculate how much they would be willing to offer the Borough for the Sewer Plant, but not explain how they came up with the number. Winton stated that it is only the cost to gather the information they are requesting and the Borough owes that much to the residents. Ron stated that the Municipal Authority suggested that an escrow account be established for expenses associated with gathering the information. Scott suggested that a committee be formed to discuss this further. He said that he understands that the Water Company would have two different offers. One would depend on the Municipal Authority raising rates prior to the sale so the Water Company could avoid going through the PUC to have rates increased and the other would be if the rates are not raised prior to the sale. The committee includes Councilmen Scott Parsons and Winton Male and Authority members, John Barto and Ron DeCesare.

11. Insurance – Winton Male reported that he has contacted four brokers to quote on the Business Package policy and Workers Compensation policy, which renew June 1. Four brokers will be quoting, but only three companies are interested in writing policies.

12. Land Use Committee – nothing to report.

13. 911 – Tony Curcio reported that he has a meeting planned for next week to review the map from 911 CAD system. They will identify some streets. The Mayor got information from the trailer court regarding street names and addresses.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that the Contractor's license collected in March was \$50 for a total of \$1,275 for 2005. The police report includes 145 calls in the month of March, 5 motor vehicle accidents, and 38 citations written. The Mayor completed the recycling tonnage report. There will be a COG meeting on April 27, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal building. He asked if the Borough would be interested in the COG purchasing a storm jet cleaner. It was decided that it would be a great asset to have access to that type of equipment. Victor Rodite applied for Flood Relief Grant for Bangor and Portland Boroughs. Kerry reported that he attended a meeting at the Slate Belt Chamber office regarding leaf collection. Currently, Wind Gap is the only municipality in the COG that does their own leaf collection. They have scheduled a tour of the Stroud Township Recycling Plant for April 24, 2005. Kerry contacted Brock Scott, Scott Farms, to get prices for the Borough to dispose of leaves and yard clippings at Scott Farms. Brock would charge \$1.50 a yard for leaves. Kerry calculated 30 loads of leaves collected in the Borough for a total charge of \$405. Grass clippings would cost \$2.00 per yard. That would cost the Borough approximately \$1,800 a year. A collection box would have to

be set up somewhere in the Borough. The COG is requesting a commitment in regards to a \$500,000 grant for recycling (the COG would be responsible for a 10% match). The COG has not determined how the 10% would be calculated.

On motion by Scott Parsons to stay out of the COG's plan for recycling of leaves and yard clippings and seconded by Winton Male. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared before Council at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Enactment of Ordinance 446 – Zoning Amendment Section 402. On motion by Tony Curcio to adopt Ordinance 446 and seconded by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. John Kochmansky Baseball Camp. George explained that this individual works at the School District and runs a baseball camp. He was using the school's equipment and the Wind Gap Borough Park, but the money collected was put back into the Booster Clubs. There is no financial advantage for this Borough to continue to offer the Park free of charge. The Borough Street employees clean up the garbage every day of the camp and the pavilion is used free of charge during the camp. The Park Board has approved the use of the Park free of charge for this year. The new baseball coach at Pen Argyl High School is using the facilities at Plainfield, but the money is going to the boosters. It was estimated that the camp has 80 to 110 kids at a fee of \$120 to \$125 per kid. Winton stated that he did not feel the Borough should be subsidizing the baseball camp. Karen added that the Park Board was under the impression that he was helping the School District by running the camp. Ralph Stampone, Park Board member, added that he understood that this would help the School District and even though the Park Board approve this, Council has power over the Park Board. Scott suggested inviting Mr. Kochmansky to a Council meeting to answer any questions. It was decided that the Park Board President should contact Mr. Kochmansky to advise him that the Borough was misled by the baseball camp and try to compromise to cover costs for the pavilion and clean up of the Park. This should be done as soon as possible since the camp is scheduled to begin June 27, 2005.

3. Opting out of the Uniform Construction Code. Kerry spoke to Tom Cerra from Labor and Industry and was informed that the Borough had to send a letter to Labor and Industry.

On motion by Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. to send the letter to Labor and Industry and seconded by George Hinton. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Male Road Bridge Update. Kerry reported that Winton and Millie reviewed the Guistine file and found that the agreement stated that Guistine would be responsible for the bridge for 20 years. Kerry has reviewed the Bridge Inspection Reports for 2002 and 2004 and he will sit with

Nolan Perin to discuss possible repairs.

2. Kerry reported that Neil Roberti hired Bob Collura and was looking into purchasing the Putt-O-Rama, but \$325,000 was too much. Mr. Buskirk will not sell the lot. Kerry reminded Mr. Roberti about the June 30, 2005 deadline.

3. Waste Management Landfill Expansion. Kerry stated that Borough Council received a letter from the DEP dated November 8, 2004 informing them of the approval process. Another letter dated March 21, 2005 stated that the DEP has conducted an administrative completeness review and assigned Frank Wanko as lead reviewer. Kerry stated that both Pen Argyl and Plainfield Township have sent letters expressing their desire to be involved with the application's review.

On motion by Scott Parsons to be involved in the review process for the Landfill Expansion and send a letter to Frank Wanko and seconded by George Hinton. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of April 19, 2005 and seconded by Karen Skorochood.

The meeting of April 19, 2005 adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Secretary / Treasurer