

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

The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, March 15, 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, George Hinton, and Tony Curcio. Also in attendance Mayor Kenneth George and Secretary/Treasurer Louise Firestone. Councilmen Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. and Scott Parsons were absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

1. EMS – Karen Skorochood announced that the Wind Gap Ambulance Corps certified EMTs have completed training and are certified to administer Epinephrine. The drug is used to treat severe allergic reactions.
2. Police – George Hinton reported that one police officer is out of work due to an injury, but is expected back to work around March 24, 2005.
3. Streets – George Hinton reported that the Third Street and Woodward and Lehigh Stormwater Projects are scheduled to begin next week. George received a quote to do the curb radius at the intersection of Third and Broadway at a cost of \$69,500. After further discussion, the contractor agreed to do the work for \$64,500. George suggested that Borough Council put this project out to bid. He agreed to contact Ron Madison to verify that the Borough would have enough time to advertise and complete this project prior to the deadline being imposed by PennDOT so that they could complete their project.
On motion by George Hinton to have the Borough Engineer advertise for the Third Street curb project and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.
George asked that any potholes be reported so the Street workers can fill the holes. The Mayor asked that the lower end of Alpha Road be looked at for repairs. Kerry replied that it has been fixed in the past and it may need to be repaired with hot patch in the summer.
4. Finance – Kerry Gassler reported that he had asked Council to consider putting more funds into the Morgan Stanley money market. He stated that with Council's approval last week another \$100,000 was moved to a CD paying 5.5%. He suggested that Council move over another \$150,000 to be invested. Discussion regarding the ability of the Borough to access these funds immediately, if needed, this does not appear to be a problem. Morgan Stanley purchases in bulk and if the Borough needs their money, their portion of the investment will be sold at no penalty to the Borough.

On motion by Tony Curcio to move \$150,000 to the Morgan Stanley Money Market Account and seconded by Karen Skorochood. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Administration – Winton Male reported that he has looked into information provided to the 911 Center. The Zoning Secretary has been providing any corrections to the street list as she reviews them. Winton reviewed Ordinance 197, which specifically states, “All residences, commercial and industrial buildings fronting on public streets within the corporate limits of the Borough of Wind Gap shall be numbered in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance. It shall be the duty of the owners of improved property within the Borough of Wind Gap on or before October 1, 1960, to affix the number or numbers allotted to the residence, commercial or industrial building, over the entrance of each such building, said number to be determined and allotted by the Borough Engineer as hereinafter set forth”. Kerry added that the maintenance code specifies that the numbers must be 4” high and ½” thick, but Ordinance 197 is not specific on the size. Winton added that comments were made regarding the paper alleys being removed from the County’s 911 Center CAD System, but he suggested that there remains a need to know the paper alleys in town. There needs to be discussion to resolve this issue. Tony stated that he has requested a copy of the County’s CAD map for Wind Gap. A committee of Tony, George and Karen will review the map and bring in anyone else who needs to be involved to insure that a comprehensive map is returned to the County.

Winton reported that PDF Software has been loaded into the office computers, but there still remains a problem converting from the archive database. It is being worked on with Laserfiche support.

6. Zoning – Tony Curcio had nothing to report. Kerry stated that Council has decided to opt out of the Uniform Construction Code. He contacted Tom Cerra, an Inspector from Labor and Industry, to gather information regarding how the Borough must proceed.

7. Planning – Scott Parsons was absent. George Hinton stated that the Planning Commission reviewed a submission from Joe DePue.

8. Parks – Karen Skorochood reported that the Park Board discussed paving the lower parking lot at the Park. **On motion** by Karen Skorochood to allow Rettew to prepare a bid spec for the Park paving project and seconded by George Hinton. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

The Park Board recommended that any vandalism done at the Park be reported to the paper including what was damaged and the amount.

9. Fire Company – George Hinton reported that the Fire Hall has been painted and new ceiling tiles have been installed. There is a Fire Company meeting next week on Monday. Karen informed that there is available for fire companies and one meeting for instruction on the software.

10. Sewer Authority – Paul Levits distributed his report and highlighted the following information: Capacity was exceeded ten days in the month of January. Parts have been

received for the Aqua control update with April 3rd being the tentative date to begin installation. Ted Reed from the Pennsylvania America Water Company discussed the possible acquisition of the plant. Several questions remain unanswered, including how much time and money it will cost the Authority for the quote "free appraisal", and what benefit the Authority will get from providing all the information. There is also concern about rate increases imposed by the PUC. No action will be taken until these matters can be discussed, and answers found. Paul will represent the Authority at a meeting in Harrisburg on March 29 regarding anti-degradation. Kerry asked if Paul had a figure regarding the cost to the Authority regarding the appraisal by PA Water. Paul replied that it would cost approximately 20 man-hours. He added that the offer given by PA Water would not be a comparison, but rather a figure that PA Water feels that the plant is worth. Winton stated that he feels that the Borough has an obligation to the residents to follow through and obtain a figure.

Paul reported that Waste Management would be accepting the Authority's sludge this year gratis, which equates to an approximate savings of \$30,000.

11. Insurance – Winton Male reported that he would be obtaining competitive quotations for the Borough's package policy and worker's compensation policy. He asked if all the safety issues have been completed at the firehouse? George replied that he has only bid for replacing the automatic extinguishing system and he would like to get another quote before awarding the job.
12. Land Use Committee – nothing to report.
13. 911 – Tony Curcio stated this has already been discussed.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that the Contractor's license collected in February was \$250 for a total of \$1,225 for 2005. The police report includes 127 calls in the month of February, 6 motor vehicle accidents, and 21 citations written. There will be a COG meeting on March 23, 2005 at 7:30 p. m. at the Washington Township Municipal building. The Police Chief will follow up regarding attending County 911 meetings. The Mayor contacted Mr. Stout, the manager of the trailer court, to explain the situation regarding street names and house numbers for the trailers to be identified by emergency personnel. Mr. Stout will contact the management company and provide the Borough a list of the names and numbers as soon as they are available. The Mayor stated that he would be enforcing the garbage ordinance, which stated that garbage cans are not to be placed on the street. The Mayor, George and the Chief met with two neighbors who have been having difficulties living peacefully next to each other and the neighbors were informed that if it were necessary for the Police to be called, someone would be cited. Kerry added that Council supports the Police in their continuing effort to enforce Borough ordinances.

George reported that the Fire Chief would go up to the property on Eighth Street to make

a report on the unsafe conditions related to the property and then meet with John Blick, Code Enforcement Officer. This procedure is being done on the advice of Borough Solicitor, Ron Karasek.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Patricia Sutter. Pat read a letter from employees of QC Laboratories regarding the new \$52 Emergency Municipal Services Tax. The letter stated that the employees did not feel it was fair to increase the \$10 Occupational Privilege Tax to \$52 for individuals who do not even live in the Borough. George stated that he would stop by QC Laboratories tomorrow to answer any of the employee's questions or concerns directly.

2. Vickie Allen. Vickie asked if she could receive minutes of the Borough Council meetings since the website does not have current minutes available. She asked if the Borough is being represented at the DEP harms and benefits meeting relating to the Waste Management Landfill Expansion? Kerry stated that the committee of Scott and Winton would be involved with the meetings. She stated that it was her understanding that the County Bond money had to be spent by 2004, is that true? George replied that a meeting recently involving Wind Gap, Plainfield Township, Pen Argyl Municipal Authority, Wind Gap Municipal Authority, Nolan Perin and respective engineers was held to discuss issues concerning all municipalities and the developer. It was a good, productive meeting because it gave everyone involved an idea what is causing delays. There have been issues with the soil module, mountain water runoff, the railroad deed, this has all taken time to research, but it is moving forward. Vickie stated that she attending a Plainfield Township meeting when it was discussed that RPM Recycling plans on opening business, with a portion in Wind Gap, but a majority in Plainfield Township. Is the Borough actively trying to have the sites in Wind Gap remain industrial? Winton replied that the developer has made a commitment to Wind Gap to only develop industrial in Wind Gap and not retail. Kerry added that Wind Gap Borough cannot stop the Wal-mart, but there are things that Wind Gap can ask for regarding off-site improvements.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Slate Belt Industrial Center – Resolution for Plan Revision 2005-4.

On motion by Tony Curcio to approve the Slate Belt Industrial Center Sewer Planning Module and seconded by Winton Male. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Posh Improvements Agreement. Concern that the original Letter of Credit was not attached to the original agreement document. Borough Solicitor Ron Karasek to be contacted. This issue to be tabled until April 4, 2005 Council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Male Road Bridge. Winton explained that there is an agreement that the owners, Guistine Associates, agreed to pay for the maintenance of the bridge. He is not sure if the bond

is for 10, 15 or 20 years. The bridge inspection recommends that when resurfacing is done, the bridge be milled and the steel beams be checked because it is rusting. Kerry stated that he will make it a point to talk with Nolan Perin, but in the meantime, the Borough needs to obtain stream encroachment permits.

On motion by Tony Curcio to authorize the Borough Engineer to do the work necessary to permits related to the repairs of Male Road Bridge and seconded by Winton Male. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Roberti Garage – Winton stated that a grant application is being prepared by the Slate Belt COG it maybe the Borough could include the Roberti property in the grant. The repairs could resolve future water problems on this property. It is better to go in the grant application process as part of the COG. Louise to contact the COG Director, Victor Rodite.

3. Waste Tire Pile. George stated that he is concerned with the procedure being used to remove the tires from the Waste Tire Pile. Waste Management did not take the shredded tires that they had promised to and these piles are visible from Route 33. George questioned why the contractor is working on tire removal in the back of the property when there still exists a safety issue with the tires closest to Route 33. Kerry added that Waste Management must live up to their end of the contract for shredded tires. Winton to contact the contractor.

4. Brian Perin Subdivision. Kerry stated that he received a call from Mr. Perin's engineer inquiring where the signed plans are from Wind Gap on this subdivision. The only outstanding issue is the need for the execution of a Deed of Dedication for the area being dedicated to the Borough of Wind Gap. The Planning Commission President and Secretary will sign and then Council President and Secretary as soon as this is completed.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of March 15, 2005 and seconded by George Hinton.

The meeting of March 15, 2005 adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Secretary / Treasurer