

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP  
29 MECHANIC STREET  
WIND GAP, PA 18091  
863-7288  
FAX 863-1011**

The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, March 21, 2006, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Kerry Gassler at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Councilpersons: Jon Faust, Karen Skorochood, George Hinton, Scott Parsons, and Tony Curcio. Also in attendance were Mayor Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr., Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek, and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Councilman Todd Beil was absent.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Justin Mogilski, Troop 33, Pen Argyl. Justin provided Borough Council with a sketch plan regarding his proposal to install a sign on the property in front of the Wind Gap Ambulance building. Council cautioned him to make sure that the sign is not obstructing the site view of vehicles leaving the property. Kerry informed Council that Todd Beil spoke to Caste Rock and they are willing to donate the bricks necessary for construction. Kerry asked Justin to let him know when to deliver the bricks and Kerry will get the bricks.

**On motion** by George Hinton to allow Justin Mogilski to construct a brick sign on the Borough property in front of the Wind Gap Ambulance building and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to waive the zoning permit fees and seconded by Karen Skorochood. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Victor Rodite, Director of Slate Belt COG. Victor provided Council with a report covering the COG activities from January 2005 to March 2006.

- Created the first Slate Belt Municipal COG Directory
- Started the year with six municipal members and one school district, ended the year with all 10 municipalities and two school districts.
- Expanded our Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals.
- Identified a good medical health insurance plan (LVIC).
- Applied for a Disaster Recovery Grant (awarded) to Bangor and Portland
- Instituted monthly municipal manager/secretary meeting
- Assisted Bangor Borough Manager to prepare a Leaf and Yard Waste grant application
- Conducted Regional Police Survey and initiated State funded/regional police study
- Assisted LMBT and Portland to seek Joint Toll Bridge Commission grants
- Created a monthly COG newsletter
- Share information – training opportunities, good ideas
- Facilitated joint Cable TV franchise renewal discussions

- Established a web page for sharing ideas and solving problems
- Discussed joint recreation peer-to-peer study
- Explored joint code enforcement
- PennDOT Highway Maintenance field trip
- Advocate multi-municipal planning and plan implementation
- Traffic counting and speed measuring devices

The COG has an interest in good traffic management. Victor asked if the Borough of Wind Gap is generally happy with the National Realty Corporation's proposed improvements? George stated that Jim Milot, Hanover Engineering, has spent considerable time in the Borough at various intersections and has made recommendations, which have been submitted to PennDOT. Victor asked if National Realty is responding? George replied that at this time, yes. Victor thanked Council for their time and their continued support of the COG.

3. John Maher, 227 Mechanic Street, Wind Gap. John came before Council to offer his resignation from the Emergency Management Committee. He stated that it is not an efficient use of his time, because the Chairman is not delegating responsibility. John believes that there is a problem with the direction that the committee is heading because it is not conforming to the rigid standards and consequently if the Borough does not conform there will be no funding in 2007. He added that Winton is doing everything himself. Kerry stated that Council instructed Winton to delegate the work. He will set up a meeting with Winton and in the meantime, Council asked John to hold off on his resignation.

4. Troy Leidy, 11 Constitution Avenue, Wind Gap. He asked that the Council minutes be updated more often on the Borough's web page. He stated that Adams Advertising has contacted him and asked for an update on the Industrial Road project. Kerry stated that Council will keep him informed regarding a timeline and that he would have enough time for the billboard to be moved. The project has not been put out to bid and will not until the agreements have all been signed, the developer's agreement has been signed, and bond has been posted by the developer to finish the road.

4. Paul Levits. Paul stated that with all the traffic related by the development Broadway will be have more traffic on it. He said that his property on West Street is zoned a Commercial Industrial area and potentially there could be a problem turning from West Street onto Broadway. He asked Council for some direction after proposing a traffic light be installed at the intersection of West Street and South Broadway. George will check into this issue with Jim Milot, Hanover Engineering, and call PennDOT.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. EMS – Karen Skorochood reported that she was previously asked about paid personnel. The requirements to be an EMT have been raised and consequently, the compensation had to be raised. The Ambulance Corps is trying to keep the turnover of personnel to a minimum. There are three new active volunteers.

2. Police – George Hinton reported that the police have been covering all shifts, but they are still working out the schedule.
3. Streets – George Hinton reported that street workers are patching potholes and painting curbs. They are working in the Park spreading topsoil and chips. They have cleaned out the Borough building upstairs in preparation of the renovations. George and the street workers took inventory of the Roberti Garage and did not find any HAZMAT materials. Hanover Engineering physically crawled the Stormwater pipe that is behind the Ambulance building. They found that the pipe is not coming apart, but the fill is eroding. Hanover Engineering is still working on the easements. If the Borough can do the repair work it will be done in-house. George has a call into Cowan Associates regarding the request to relocate the Stormwater pipe and the cost to the Borough. He will keep Council informed.
4. Zoning – Tony Curcio had nothing to report.
5. Planning – Kerry Gassler reported that Posh submitted a plan and Santo submitted a plan. The engineers discussed and made comments. The plans will be before the Planning Commission on April 6, 2006.
6. Parks – Ralph Stampone reported that the Park Board is requesting that vandalism in the Park should be reported to the papers so that the taxpayers are made aware. They talked about the asphalt overlay and when will it be going out to bid? George replied that he contacted Bob Collura's office and the indicated that they will be out next week to look at the project. Ralph reported that the parking stops have been ordered and once they are in place the chains would be removed.
7. Fire Company – Jon Faust reported that there were 9 calls in February 39 for the year. On April 30, 2006, they will hold a Chinese Auction. Last night they had nominations for officers and they will vote next month. George added that there is a parking problem at Jaid's Lounge/ ScoreCard and the owners approached the Fire Company about renting the Fire Company's parking lot. Council discussed the potential liabilities of such an arrangement, the patrolling of the property, and the fact that the parking lot is a designated Medical Evacuation landing area. The Mayor stated that it is a problem because the police are being called up there every weekend. Kerry suggested that the Borough contact the Solicitor regarding this issue. The issue pertains to a for profit business and they need a land development for more parking in the rear of their building and should have to follow the proper procedures. George stated that the Fire Company is very cautious regarding this issue and he was asked to bring this to Council.  
**On motion** by Tony Curcio to contact the Borough Solicitor, Ronold Karasek, and get a legal opinion on this matter and seconded by Karen Skorochood.  
Scott suggested that the owner put up an escrow account for the legal fees so that taxpayers of the Borough don't have to pay.  
**Amended motion** by Tony Curcio is to also set an escrow account at \$300 and seconded by Karen Skorochood. Roll call vote taken. In favor: G. Hinton, S. Parsons, K.

Skorochood, T. Curcio, J. Faust. Abstained: K. Gassler. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0-1.

8. Sewer Authority – Paul Levits reported that the Authority’s Chapter 94 Report has been submitted. The newspaper reported that a subdivision in Bushkill Township for 1,000 was to be connected to the Wind Gap Municipal Plant, but as of this date, nothing has been submitted to the Authority or their engineer. Paul stated that new DEP regulations specific that a lab technician must have a degree. The Wind Gap Plant Supervisor runs the lab work and does not have a degree, but he is grandfathered. Should he leave the Authority would be forced to hire a person with a degree. The DEP did a walk through of the Plant with a trainee so that she could see an excellent running plant.

9. 911 – Tony Curcio had nothing to report.

### **Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Mogilski reported that Ron will be getting more information on the RCN Franchise Agreement. Contractor license fees for February were \$100 plus \$900 from January for a total of \$1,000 for the year. He distributed a copy of the Police Report for February.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Front End Loader. George stated that MSG is holding an auction this week and the Street Committee would like to look at a Front End Loader and possibly purchase one for the Borough. They will go inspect the equipment tomorrow. The Borough has rented a loader in the past if one was needed.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to allot the Street Committee a not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000 at the auction to purchase the necessary equipment and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. George stated that the Borough leaf vacuum was purchased years ago through a grant. The motor no longer works. A replacement motor has been priced at \$7,000. George asked permission to look a new leaf vacuum. George stated that the old blue pick-up truck has once again passed inspection.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Proposed Nuisance Ordinance. Council decided that the ordinance must include prohibiting panhandling in the Borough. This ordinance will be revised and further discussed at the next Council meeting.

2. Kay Stampone asked if something could be done about 512 in front of the CVS. There are no lines painted and it is confusing which lane is which. George stated that CVS has to repair 512, but because it is a state highway, the repair paving can not be done until the weather conditions are met. He will contact Rettew to have the developer, Mr. Posh, paint the lines until the area can be properly paved.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of March 21, 2006 and seconded by Karen Skorochood. Council agreed unanimously.

The meeting of March 21, 2006 adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

---

Louise Firestone, Secretary / Treasurer