

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
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The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, August 15, 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, Scott Parsons, and Tony Curcio. Also in attendance were Mayor Mitchell D. Mogilski, and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Absent were Councilwoman Karen Skorochood and Councilmen Todd Beil and George Hinton.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared before Council at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. EMS – Karen Skorochood was absent. Kerry stated that Tom Knitter resigned as President and now the Ambulance Corps President is Ron Minnich.
2. Police – George Hinton was absent.
3. Streets – Jon Faust had nothing to report.
4. Zoning – Tony Curcio reported that there were no meetings coming up. Scott stated that as he understands the procedure, when a resident comes in for a building permit; the Borough gives them a list of third party inspectors; does the Borough have any contact with them after that? Louise replied that the Borough is supposed to receive a final report and then the Zoning Officer would issue an occupancy permit. Scott asked if a resident gets all the necessary information and then just builds the structure without getting any building permits what is the Borough's policy on handling that situation? Kerry stated that because the Borough decided on opting out of enforcing the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) the Borough has not control, but if the Borough opts in, then the resident has to go to the inspector that is designated by the Borough and the Borough retains control. One of the first properties to be inspected after the Borough opted in was inspected by the third party agency and they demanded double the amount of work that was necessary until Labor and Industry intervened. Labor and Industry (L&I) does the commercial inspections. Scott asked if the Borough could opt in and make L&I the commercial inspector? Kerry replied that the Borough would have to appoint a third party agency to do the inspections. He suggested that when an application is handed out their name and address should be noted and a follow up visit be done to investigate what work is being done by the property owner. Scott added that around the State 90% of the communities opted in so there has to be a reason why they make that decision. Kerry suggested that Council ask Mr. Karasek about hiring a permit person without opting in.
5. Planning – Todd Beil was absent.
6. Parks – Kerry Gassler reported receiving a phone call from Cathie Yob requesting that no more dirt be dumped in the upper end of the Park. The Park Board is asking that the area be stoned or mulched so that it can be used for parking when a band is there. The dirt hole too low, became a hole and turned into a mud pond when it rained. The Mayor asked that if there is an ordinance that

states no parking in the Park, who would be parking there? Kerry replied that it would not be for general parking, but for members of the band or organization using the Park. Kerry spoke to Tony Borger regarding Richard Dentith's complaint. Tony informed Kerry that the Legion season was already over, but this would be addressed prior to next year's season. Tony also stated that next year may be the last year that he will run the Wind Gap Area Athletic Association. Kerry suggested that Borough Council begin considering the possibility of hiring a Recreational Manager.

7. Fire Company – Jon Faust reported that the Fire Company responded to 17 calls in July, for a total of 114 for the year. The Fire Company has moved the fire engines up to the Ambulance building because of the roof problem at the Firehouse.

8. Sewer Authority – Paul Levits reported that the Sewer Plant received their DEP accreditation, which will now be a yearly renewal. The Route 512 project is moving along with the installation of the new sewer line. The Abel Family Trust (CSG) lawsuit has been dismissed, but their (CSG's) attorney has 30 or 60 days to file an appeal.

Scott stated that the Borough advertised the vacancy on the Wind Gap Municipal Authority Board and he would like to have it filled.

On motion by Scott Parsons to nominate Ralph Stampone to the Wind Gap Municipal Authority to fulfill Thomas Knitter's term and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. In favor: J. Faust, K. Gassler, S. Parsons. Opposed: T. Curcio. Motion carried with a vote of 3-1.

Ralph Stampone's term will expire December 31, 2009.

9. 911 – Tony Curcio had nothing to report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Mogilski reported that Contractor license fees for July were \$25 for a total of \$1,425, amusement machine license fees collected is zero, and transient license for the month of July was \$25 for a total of \$225 and a grant total of fees collected for 2006 of \$1,650. He distributed a copy of the Police Report for July. The police have responded to 1,158 complaints this year. The Mayor and Pastor Gasteiger will meet on August 24, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at Faith Alive Ministries to discuss the tree lighting ceremony. They received money from Waste Management to offset some of the cost of renting the tent. They are looking for donations from residents and businesses to make up the difference, which will be about \$1,700. The next COG meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2006, 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal building. According to the current ordinance, garbage cans must be placed at the curb no later than 7:00 p.m. on the night prior to pick up. Mr. Karasek is working on the nuisance ordinance and once that is completed, some of the trash concerns can be handled. The Borough received the 2004 Recycling Grant in the amount of \$3,661.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was before Council.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Real Estate Tax Installments 2007. At the previous meeting a resident asked Council to consider allowing payment of real estate tax bills to be paid in installments. Council discussed how many installments would be considered. The County collects in three installments and the School District collects in four installments. This topic to be discussed with Mr. Karasek

2. House Bill 87. Kerry stated that after receiving information from County Council, the Mayor asked Borough Council to consider participating in House Bill 87. Kerry stated that it includes, “the protection of existing or planned park, recreation or conservation sites; the protection and conservation of natural or scenic resources, including but not limited to soils, beaches, streams, flood plains, steep slopes or marshes; the protection of scenic areas for public visual enjoyment from public rights of ways; the preservation of sites of historic, geologic or botanic interest, etc.” It covers areas within the Borough.

On motion by Tony Curcio to support participating in the program as set forth in Act 4 of 2006 and seconded by Scott Parsons. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of August 15, 2006 and seconded by Jon Faust. Council agreed unanimously.

The meeting of August 15, 2006 adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator