

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
29 MECHANIC STREET
WIND GAP, PA 18091
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The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, March 20, 2012, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President, George Hinton, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Councilmen: Jon Faust, John Maher, Tony Curcio, and Joe Weaver. Also in attendance were Mayor James M. Shoemaker, Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Absent was Councilman Kerry Gassler.

Borough Engineer Brian Pysher arrived the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Councilman Dave Hess arrived at the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Animal Control Officer, Phil Bell. Phil told Council that he has a chance to get some free chain link fence for the dog kennel. He would like to add another coop and enclose the entire kennel because he feels that Wind Gap could make some money off of the kennel. Other municipalities do not have the facilities to temporarily house animals, but would be willing to pay a small fee if Wind Gap could offer the shelter. He would like to cover the food box and water. He could get donations for a lot of the materials for the kennel. He thanked the street department for all their help. He requested that people have access to the lower roadway in the park to walk their dogs. He has been approached by some people who like to walk their dogs there and they do pick up after their dogs. Phil promised that he will keep an eye on those people. He suggested that the Borough hire a Code Enforcement Officer to deal with animal and property complaints. He has one house in the Borough where you cannot stand on the porch because of the strong odor of approximately thirty cats. An Animal Control Officer or a Zoning Officer does not have the authority to for some of these issues. He asked Council if they would discuss these issues and get back to him.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Tony Curcio to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2012 Council meeting and seconded by Joe Weaver. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. EMS – Kerry Gassler was absent and Joe Weaver had nothing to report.
2. Fire Co. – Dave Hess was absent and Jon Faust reported that the Fire Company responded to 8 calls for the month of February and 30 calls for the year.
3. Zoning – Tony Curcio reported that the Zoning Hearing Board did not receive any applications so no meeting will be held in April.

4. Planning – George Hinton reported that no plans were submitted so a meeting will not be held in April.

5. Municipal Authority – John Maher reported that the Wind Gap Municipal Authority had a question about the street opening on A Street. Their next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 28, 2012. George will ask Brian Pysner to attend the meeting along with John and himself to answer any questions regarding the A Street project. The Borough plans to repave A Street, but must wait for the Authority to complete their specifications and put it out to bid to upgrade the terra cotta pipe that is still in the street.

6. Streets – Jon Faust reported that the street department received a delivery of 40 tons of salt today which was the purchase commitment. They are waiting for the specs on A Street. He reported that the Borough received a letter from Pennsylvania American Water Company stating there is concern about only having 32" of coverage on A Street. If the Borough reconstructs and paves A Street there could be problems with the water main. George suggested that the Borough contact Guy Findon to discuss the project.

7. Police – Mayor Shoemaker reported that the Police Department responded to 119 calls for the month of February, 4 animal complaints, 6 motor vehicle accidents were investigated and they issued 26 traffic citations and 5 parking tickets.

8. Park – Joe Weaver reported that the Park Board met on Tuesday, March 13 and they discussed the purchase of two new infant swings.

On motion by Joe Weaver to purchase two infant swings to replace two old swings at a cost not-to-exceed \$1,000 (the cost of the swings \$600 - \$700 plus shipping) and seconded by John Maher. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe reported that Park Board needs to designate the location for the proposed dog park and that should be the property on East Third Street. Louise to provide the parcel tax id number to Mr. Karasek so that it can be referenced in the proposed ordinance.

A Park clean up day has been scheduled for April 21, 2012. They are awaiting information on the proposed walking trail from the Borough Engineer to solicit bids.

9. 911 – Tony Curcio had nothing to report.

10. Tipping Fees - Tony Curcio reported that there have not been any changes.

11. Property Maintenance Code – John Maher reported that he is trying to schedule a meeting with Kerry and Tony to discuss the code. He has collected information and they will meet to discuss it as soon as possible.

12. Building Finance Committee – John Maher reported that there has been no movement on the real estate issue. George and John will meet to discuss what Council can do as their next option.

13. GIS Update. John Maher reported that he received an e-mail from the engineer. She sent a summary of tasks completed and is almost at the point of being able to populate the database with information. She is working on an inventory list including signs and street lights to be entered into the database. John received the handheld data collector instruments that will be used in the field. The instrument has a camera and a GPS connection so a map can be referenced, a picture taken and the GPS location will be attached to the item being inventoried and once back in the office it can be downloaded into the computer. John has not finalized how all the collection will be done, but once he

does finalize it he will inform Council on how he plans to complete the task. A phone conference will be held in the next week or so to answer any questions up to this point in the project.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Shoemaker reported that the Slate Belt COG will meet on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Blue Valley Drive COG office. Any interested Councilmember is invited to attend. The Slate Belt Summit is being held this Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 8:20 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Bangor High School and is open to the public. This Saturday at the Pen Argyl Borough Office they will meet at 12:30 p.m. to march up to the Pen Argyl High School to honor the Green Knight's wrestling team which has won the league title the last four years. Mike Racciato won the State AA wrestling title for the second year and the Mayor will be presenting him with a Borough citation. He asked the residents to consider cleaning up the curbs in front of their properties. The Mayors in the Slate Belt will be participating in Meals on Wheels tomorrow Wednesday, March 21, 2012.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 10 Minute Parking Signs – North Broadway. George informed Council that the Sliders Grill, South Broadway, has inquired about getting a 10 minute parking sign in front of their building. Mr. Hill, co-owner of Sliders Grill, stated that their business is restricted by the limited number of parking spaces on the street and they are asking if a 10 minute parking sign could be installed so their customers could park and run into the restaurant to pick up food. He offered to pay for the sign and paint for the curbing. Chief Armitage stated that he does not have a problem with a sign being posted.

On motion by John Maher to authorize the 10 minute parking sign to be paid for by Sliders Grill.

After further discussion John Maher withdrew his motion.

Borough Engineer, Brian Pysher arrived at 7:55 p.m.

Council decided to table this issue until more information can be gathered by Council. George stated that his will be put on the April 2, 2012 Council meeting agenda. Mr. Hill added that he did contact PennDOT and was told that PennDOT does not get into these issues, but leave it up to the officials at the local level.

2. Handicap Parking – Ralph and Joyce Hoagland, 108 Water Street, Wind Gap applied for two handicap parking spots. George explained that they provide Council with a copy of one handicap placard.

On motion by Jon Faust to install one handicap parking space at 108 Water Street and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Park – Restroom Opening/Closing Weekends. George informed Council that for years John Zucal would open the restrooms on the weekends and make sure that they were clean and operational. John will no longer be donating his time for this responsibility. The Police will lock up the restrooms, but that does not solve the problem of who would unlock them in the mornings. Joe Weaver suggested during a Park Board meeting that the restrooms be left open all weekend, but the chance of vandalism will definitely increase. Council discussed several options, but decided to table this issue until the April 2, 2012 meeting.

4. Ford Explorer Transmission Repairs. George reported that about a month ago the Police Ford Explorer was taken to the shop with transmission issues. The mechanic determined that the

transmission has to be replaced and quoted \$3,100 to do the work. There is \$5,000 in the budget in the new vehicle fund and that would be the most likely line item to take the money to make the repairs. Jon Faust did call around for other prices, but this remanufacturer transmission comes with a 100,000 warrantee.

Councilman Dave Hess arrived at 8:09 p.m.

On motion by John Maher to replace the transmission in the Ford Explorer SUV by Ken's Auto at a cost of \$3,100 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. In favor: J. Maher, J. Weaver, T. Curcio, J. Faust, G. Hinton. Abstained: D. Hess, he indicated he was not present for the entire discussion. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0-1.

5. Fire Company. Dave Hess added the following for the Fire Company committee report. 8 calls for the month and a total of 30 calls for the year, 2 structure fires, 3 fire alarms, 1 accident, 1 odor inspection, and 1 fire police.

6. Street. Dave Hess reported that the street department has been patching potholes. He spoke to the workers regarding the problem at the tennis courts, they had no good answer, but stated it won't happen again.

7. A Street – Brian Pysker reported that the A Street reconstruction/repaving project is put on hold. He had a phone call from the Wind Gap Sewer Authority and was told that the authority will do what they can to expedite their project to replace the sanitary main in A Street. George informed Brian that he thought it would be a good idea for John Maher, Brian and himself to attend the WGMA meeting next Wednesday. Guy Findon, Pennsylvania American Water, has expressed concern about the depth of the water line being only 32" deep. Council is in agreement to keep the A Street and East First Street paving projects together to get better quantity costs for the paving.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Bus Shelter. George stated that since Kerry Gassler is not here tonight the agreement probably has not been signed and is on hold.

2. Street Roller. Jon Faust reported that there is funding for a new street roller in the street budget Capital Purchases - 430.71 there is \$10,000 for vehicle purchases. Jon estimates that this new roller would cost a little under \$5,000. He stated that the seller was contacted and he is no longer in the business and selling off his equipment. The roller is 2.5 tons, has a little over 2,200 hours, has dual vibrating drums and would be beneficial for the street workers to use for compaction. Jon Faust will make an appointment to see this roller and report back to Council at the April 2, 2012 Council meeting.

3. Street Opening Ordinance. Ron Karasek apologized not making the final changes to the permit, but will have it ready for the April 2, 2012 Council meeting.

4. Park Master Plan – Louise is working on the grant application for funding to complete the master plan.

5. Park Playground Equipment - Joe Weaver reported that the Park Board would like the new equipment to be installed beyond the center field fence of the Cal Ripken field. Joe will meet with Brian one evening this week to view the location of the equipment at the Park.

6. Dave Hess and Jon Faust expressed concern about the handicap parking spot that was built next to the basketball and tennis courts seems to have a steep drop off. Brian explained that the ADA requirements are for an eight foot aisle of common ground between the two spots and it was built to these specifications. Brian will call to get three phone quotes for a railing or for a retaining wall to be placed between the handicap spot and the gate into the courts.

7. Chief Craig Armitage asked Council if there has been any further discussion on the proposed Police Manual. Council agreed that they have reviewed the manual.

On motion by Tony Curcio to accept the Police Manual as presented to Borough Council and seconded by John Maher. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Street Paint. Dave Hess asked if Council has to approve the purchase of paint for traffic directional signs and curbs. George replied that it is a budgeted item and as long as the street department received three quotes that is sufficient. Dave stated that Sherwin-Williams provided the lowest price and that is where they will be buying the paint.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council adjourned to Executive Session to discuss personnel issues at 8:32 p.m. Council reconvened at 8:50 p.m. George Hinton informed those present that no action would be taken at this time.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of March 20, 2012 and seconded by John Maher. Council agreed unanimously.

The meeting of March 20, 2012 adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator