

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
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The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, 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, Kerry Gassler, Tony Curcio, Joe Weaver and Dave Hess. Also in attendance were Mayor James M. Shoemaker, Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysner and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Absent was Councilman Dave Valley.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Chief Craig Armitage. Chief Armitage explained that during the Police contract negotiations; he believes that there was an oversight with regard to a pay increase for the part-time police officers. He asked Council to consider approving a .65 an hour increase, for the part-time officers (currently the Borough only has one part-timer, Officer Keith Snyder), which is the amount approved for the Chief and all the full-time officers. Chief Armitage stated that Officer Snyder deserves the pay increase.

On motion by Dave Hess to increase the part-time police officer hourly rate by .65 per hour and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. In favor: T. Curcio, J. Faust, D. Hess, G. Hinton, J. Weaver. Abstained: K. Gassler. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0-1.

On motion by Tony Curcio to approve the part-time police officer pay increase retro back to January 1, 2014 and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. In favor: J. Faust, D. Hess, G. Hinton, J. Weaver and T. Curcio. Abstained: K. Gassler. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0-1.

Chief Armitage reported that he spoke to Jonathan Stonewall and he gave a verbal resignation because he took another full-time job. Chief will follow-up to secure a written resignation and the return of all Borough property.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Kerry Gassler to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2014 Council meeting and seconded by Jon Faust. Joe Weaver asked that a correction be made to a typo on page two. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Council President, George Hinton, announced the following committee chairs and committee members:

- EMS – Kerry Gassler and Joe Weaver
- Fire Co. – Jon Faust and Dave Hess
- Zoning – Tony Curcio
- Planning – George Hinton
- Municipal Authority – Joe Weaver
- Streets – Jon Faust, Kerry Gassler, George Hinton
- Police – Mayor Shoemaker
- Park – Dave Valley and Joe Weaver
- 911 – Tony Curcio and Jon Faust
- Tipping Fees - Tony Curcio, Kerry Gassler, Joe Weaver

Municipal Building - Renovations – George Hinton, Tony Curcio, Jon Faust
Regional Police – Dave Hess and Mayor Shoemaker

Bushkill Creek Advisory Committee will be meeting the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at Plainfield Municipal Building and they have requested a representative from Wind Gap be present. George will contact Dave Valley to verify that he would be available to participate on this committee. Brian explained that a DEP study was done and certain pollutants are present in portions of the Little Bushkill Creek. Joe was instructed to ask the Municipal Authority if they had or will have a representative who will be attending these meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2014 Reappointments.

On motion by Jon Faust to appoint Martino and Karasek L.L.P. as the Borough Solicitor and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Jon Faust to appoint Martino and Karasek L.L.P. as the Borough Planning Solicitor and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Tony Curcio to appoint The Molnar Law Office as the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Robert Collura as the Borough Engineer and seconded by Dave Hess. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Tony Curcio to appoint Hanover Engineering Associates as the Alternate Engineer and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. In favor: J. Faust, D. Hess, T. Curcio. Opposed: K. Gassler, G. Hinton, J. Weaver. The vote was 3-3. Mayor Shoemaker voted Nay. Motion did not carry.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Ott Consulting as the Alternate Engineer and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Robert Collura as the Borough Sewage Enforcement Officer and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint France, Anderson, Basile and Company as Borough Auditor and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Robert Matlock to the Zoning Hearing Board and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Tony Curcio to appoint George Hinton to the Planning Commission and seconded by Kerry Gassler. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Cathie Yob to the Park Board and seconded by Joe Weaver. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Paul Levits to the Wind Gap Municipal Authority and seconded by Joe Weaver. Roll call vote taken. In favor: K. Gassler, J. Weaver. Opposed: D. Hess, G. Hinton, T. Curcio, J. Faust. Motion did not carry with a vote of 2-4.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Marguerite Mullin to the Wind Gap Municipal Authority and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Robert Collura Engineering as the Alternate Zoning Officer and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to appoint Joan Valley to the vacant Park Board seat with a term expiration of December 31, 2016 and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Slate Belt Regional Police Department Charter Agreement. Dave Hess reported that the three municipalities (Pen Argyl, Plainfield and Wind Gap) have had their respective Solicitor review the Charter Agreement for the Slate Belt Regional Police Department. The three municipalities anticipate adopting the Charter Agreement in February. Borough Council needs to review issues that Attorney Karasek outlined in his November 29, 2013 memorandum. Dave stated that it appeared that all three municipalities' Solicitors had the same basic concerns. After further discussion, it was apparent that Attorney Karasek did not have the latest color coded revised Charter Agreement. Borough Council asked that Mr. Karasek contact the Regional Police Department appointed Attorney, Steve Goudsouzian to obtain the Agreement, which he will do tomorrow so Council can act on this at their February 3, 2014 Council meeting.

2. Park Master Plan.

George apologized because he had hoped to have this done, but unfortunately with so much time being spent with issues at the new building he has not had the opportunity. He asked if Joe Weaver and Kerry Gassler would help by getting involved with the Master Plan. It will be added as an additional report under Committee Reports to keep Council updated on a monthly basis.

3. Dog Park – Park Ordinance Update. Joe asked that this item be placed on the agenda because it was discussed at the last park board meeting. The park board is suggesting that a dog park be on the parcel of land owned by the Borough by Colonial Springs Apartments. Ron stated that he was asked several years ago to update the Park ordinance to include a fee to renting of the bandshell of \$125 (no fee currently exists), to include if a board member misses three consecutive meetings, they would be dismissed from the board and to include the proposed dog park area. He stated that to complete the draft ordinance, he needs the tax/parcel id to identify the area for the dog park and confirm that the other corrections are still to be made. The area is a narrow strip of property that the Borough workers currently maintain by cutting the grass. It would have to be properly signed.

On motion by Tony Curcio to authorize the Borough Solicitor to proceed to advertise the Park Ordinance once the dog park area has been sufficiently defined and seconded by Joe Weaver. Roll call vote taken. In favor: T. Curcio, K. Gassler, D. Hess, J. Weaver. Opposed: J. Faust, G. Hinton. Motion carried with a vote of 4-2.

4. Park – Additional Power to Islands for Holiday Lighting.

On motion by Tony Curcio to add power as necessary for the holiday lighting and any additional as designated by the Park Board and seconded by Joe Weaver. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Jon Faust reported that he spoke to Ron Karasek regarding the Fire Company air packs. The Fire Company believed that this issue had been resolved because the air packs had been replaced. They were notified by a collection agency that the air packs had not been paid for and the outstanding debt was owed by the Fire Company not the individual who was to have made good for taking the air packs. Ron suggested that because of the dollar amount, \$14,895, the Fire Company contact the Police and have charges filed, Theft by Deception, which would be a criminal charge and the individual would be required to pay restitution.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of January 21, 2014. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting of January 21, 2014 adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator