

**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, September 16, 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, David Valley, Kerry Gassler, Tony Curcio, Joe Weaver and Dave Hess. Also in attendance were Mayor James Shoemaker, Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Tara Houck, member of Wind Gap Ambulance Corps stated that there are numerous issues that they are unable to solve within the Corps. They have been put on probation for not being able to provide 24/7 service. They have asked their board for help solving their issues but nothing has been solved. Kerry Gassler stated there will be an Ambulance Corps board meeting tomorrow night to address all of these concerns. He will report back to Council at the next Council meeting.
2. Bob Matlock of 346 Alpha Avenue said he received a letter regarding trespassing on Borough property at 545 East West St. He stated that he walks his dog around the back of the building and will continue to do so but will stay off Borough property.
3. Jeff Weaver of 24 Wood Street said he received a letter stating that if he continues to park his car on his property, within an alley, he will be charged a fine of \$10.00 a day. George Hinton said that there is an ordinance that prohibits the parking of vehicles in alleyways. Jeff said he cleared out a section of brush where he can park his car. He would like someone from Council to make sure he is parked on his property and not in the alley. Brian Pysher explained that the front porch of his house is actually located in the alley so any vehicle parked on the side, no matter how close he parks to his house, is still in the alley. He also requested the repositioning of signs within the alley so he can have room to park his car.
4. Pat Sutter of 413 S. Broadway said that she was unaware that we had an ordinance regarding parking in alleyways. She said that the alley behind her house is obstructed 90 % of the time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Kerry Gassler to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting of September 2, 2014 Council meeting and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. In favor: T. Curcio, J. Faust, K. Gassler, D. Hess, D. Valley, J. Weaver. Abstained: G. Hinton. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0-1.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. EMS – Kerry Gassler reported the Ambulance Corps will be meeting tomorrow night. He will report at the next meeting.

2. Fire Company – Jon Faust reported that the Fire Company responded to 19 calls in the month of August for a total of 118 year-to-date.
3. Zoning – Tony Curcio reported that the Zoning Hearing Board received no new applications, so no meeting will be held in October.
4. Planning – George Hinton reported that the Muschlitz Land Development Plan was heard by the Planning Commission in September. Council will discuss at their October 6 Council Meeting. Brian Pysher added that Ray Cortez submitted plans for the remainder of the subdivision on East First Street. The plan has been sent to the Alternate Borough Engineer, Jeff Ott Engineering, for review. The Cortez plan will be discussed at the October 2, 2014 Planning Commission meeting.
5. Municipal Authority – Joe Weaver reported that the Wind Gap Municipal Authority held their monthly meeting on August 27, 2014. The authority televised the line on Fairview and saw no issues in their pipe. They have an issue with reading the flow meter at the K-Mart Plaza because of the overgrown vegetation. Joe stated the majority of the meeting was spent with a presentation regarding long term investments. Brian asked for an update on the sinkhole on Eighth Street. Rich Fox said that he witnessed contractors saw cutting this week so the Municipal Authority should be making repairs shortly. George asked Rich to report on the East West Street repair. Rich reported that when they dug up the street by the Wind Gap Municipal Authority manhole, they found that it had been backfilled with shale. Rich repaired the street back to Borough standards.
6. Streets – Jon Faust reported the street activity for August was cutting grass, weed whacking and patching holes on East West St. Rich Fox said the the work at the intersection at Cramer’s, Alpha Road and Delaware on Alpha Road is completed.
Brian Pysher said the he sent out enforcement letters, certified, to 59 and 61 N. Lehigh Avenue regarding landscaping. He did receive receipt from 59 N. Lehigh but not from 61 N. Lehigh.
7. Police - Mayor Shoemaker reported that the Police Dept responded to 150 calls in August , 7 animal complaints, 10 motor vehicle accidents. They issued 28 traffic citations.
8. Park – David Valley reported that the water bill for the park last month, was high due. George explained that water fountain was rigged to provide a fountain of water that the kids were running through. Water to the fountain was ultimately turned off to prevent a recurrence of waste. There were chains up at the West St. entrance of the park that the coaches took down. David asked if the street department could install chains to restrict the car traffic in the park. Rick Fox stated that if there is a chain installed there someone will have to coordinate with garbage trucks for dumpsters because the garbage is typically emptied 5:00-6:00 a.m. David asked if it would be possible to build speed bumps. The Park Board vacancy will be advertised on our website and also on the sign on Third Street.
9. 911 – Tony Curcio had nothing to report.
10. Tipping Fees - Tony Curcio stated that there is no change to the report at this time.
11. Municipal Building – George Hinton said that lights need to be installed in the engine bays. The camera’s are up and running 24/7. Brian Pysher needs information regarding the keyless entry manufacturer from the Fire Company. Jon Faust will provide this to Brian. Once again, George invited all those present to attend the weekly building meeting. It is scheduled for Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. at the new building.

12. Regional Police – Dave Hess reported that the majority of the time spent is on the Police contract. They are finishing pension discussions. Chief Mettin is now working full time and anticipates the department will be up and running by January 1, 2015.

13. Park Master Plan – Joe Weaver reported that there are waiting on some verbage clarification for the RFP for the contract.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Shoemaker said that the Slate Belt Council of Governments will be meeting on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. The Mayor reported that the paving work on Alpha Road is finished. The Mayor invited all present to the Pen Argyl Mural dedication on Saturday, September 20, 2015 at 11:0 a.m. on Robinson Avenue, Pen Argyl. Slate Belt Community Partnership is looking for a building in Wind Gap to paint a mural. The Mayor has 19 banners at \$176.00. George Hinton offered to purchase one.

NEW BUSINESS

1. New Municipal Building – Outside Signage

On motion by Dave Hess to name the new building “Wind Gap Borough Municipal Complex” and seconded by Joe Weaver. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Park Christmas Tree Location

Lucy Flinn reported that the Christmas tree from last year is being replaced at no cost to the Borough from Jeff Stout. She asked council for direction in planting a new tree. She would like the tree to stay where it is currently planted.

On motion by Jon Faust to keep the Christmas tree is the same location and seconded by David Valley. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Borough Properties – Real Estate Signs.

George stated that at the previous council meeting, Council decided to advertise the Borough Properties for sale. He asked what council wants on the for sale signs and when should the deadline for the bid opening be set.

On motion by Tony Curcio to advertise the Borough properties with a bid deadline of December 10, 2014 and the verbage on the signs to read “For Sale By Sealed Bid- Bid Deadline of the December 10,2014 For More Information Contact the Borough Office” and seconded by Kerry Gassler. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. East West Street Goffredo Property George asked Attorney Karasek for an update on the fence letter. Attorney Karasek replied that Mr. Goffredo’s attorney was on vacation so he will follow up with Attorney Faul tomorrow and report back to council.

3. East First Street trees. Brian reported that he spoke to Tuskes Homes and they are willing to plant the trees in the development on East First Street. Tuskes anticipates planting the trees by the end of October or the beginning of November.

4. George Hinton introduced Debra Harbison the new Borough Secretary. Debra will be meeting with John Maher on Thursday to begin training with the GIS.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of September 16, 2014. Council agreed unanimously.

The meeting of September 16, 2014 adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator