

**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, December 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 and Dave Hess. Also in attendance were Mayor James Shoemaker, Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Councilman Joe Weaver was absent.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:31 p.m. to discuss real estate issues. Council reconvened at 7:38 p.m.

**On motion** by Kerry Gassler to accept the bid received from Fox LLC in the amount of \$378,500 for 435 North Broadway, Wind Gap (Wind Gap Ambulance Building) and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Karasek informed Mr. Fox that he would be receiving an Agreement of Sale in the mail within a week or so.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one appeared before Council at this time.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**On motion** by Jon Faust to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting of November 18, 2014 Council meeting and seconded by David Valley. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting of December 1, 2014 Council meeting and seconded by Dave Hess. Roll call vote taken. In favor: D. Hess, G. Hinton, D. Valley, T. Curcio, J. Faust. Abstained: K. Gassler. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0-1.

**APPROVAL OF EXPENSES**

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to approve the expenses for the month of December in the amount of \$95,272.27 and seconded by Jon Faust.

Kerry Gassler questioned the bill from Robert Collura Engineering since a large engineering bill was paid last month. Brian Pysher replied that the bill last month was up to and including July and this bill was from July through today.

Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. EMS – Kerry Gassler reported the Ambulance responded to 60 calls in the month of October and 58 calls in the month of November for a year to date total of 732. During the same months last year, the Ambulance Corps responded to 722 calls. A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night. If the Ambulance Corps Board will be running the ambulance, they will have to change their by-laws.

2. Fire Company – Jon Faust reported that the Fire Company responded 20 calls in November for a total of 159 for the year.
3. Zoning – Tony Curcio reported that no applications were submitted therefore, no meeting will take place in the month of January.
4. Planning – George Hinton reported that the Planning Commission met on December 4, 2014 to review the Cortez Subdivision. Mr. Cortez was requesting several SALDO waivers, but because Mr. Cortez was not represented at the meeting, the Planning Commission is recommending denial of the plan because the deadline to act on the plan will expire. A letter will be sent to Mr. Cortez inviting him to the Borough Council meeting on January 5, 2015.
5. Municipal Authority – Joe Weaver was absent.
6. Streets – Jon Faust reported that the street workers picked up leaves, paved Center and Broadway intersection, fixed sinkholes on Mechanic Street, hung Christmas lights, plowed snow, closed the Park bathrooms, closed the Park basketball courts and moved furniture to the new municipal building.
7. Police - Mayor Shoemaker reported that the Police Department responded to 98 calls in November, 8 animal complaint, 7 motor vehicle accidents. They issued 16 traffic citations and 1 parking ticket.
8. Park – David Valley reported that the Park Board will not be meeting in December.
9. 911 – Tony Curcio has nothing to report.
10. Tipping Fees - Tony Curcio reported that there has been no change to the report.
11. Municipal Building – George Hinton reported that the Borough Office has almost completely moved into the new building. The Fire Company and the Ambulance Corps will be moving in the Sunday or Monday after Christmas. The floors in the garage have been sealed and they need to be dry before moving the vehicles. Kerry added that the Ambulance Corps plans on moving after the first of the year.
12. Regional Police – Dave Hess reported that the contract negotiations seem to be nearing an end. Attorney Karasek added that the Regional Police Solicitor, Steve Goudzousian, confirmed that the ordinance is in place for the three municipalities to form the department. Once the department is up and running, Wind Gap will have to pass an ordinance abolishing their Civil Service Commission.
13. Park Master Plan – Kerry Gassler reported that nothing has come back from DCNR.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Shoemaker said that the Slate Belt Council of Governments will be meeting on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. COG. He has received many positive comments regarding the park lights. He will be finalizing the banner order. The next Council meeting will be held at the new Wind Gap Borough Municipal Complex on January 5, 2015. Mayor Shoemaker wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Enactment of Ordinance 487 – Real Estate Tax Millage Rate 2015  
**On motion** by David Valley to adopt Ordinance 487 – 11.75 mills for 2015 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Administrative Assistant Full-time Status.  
**On motion** by Tony Curcio to change Debra Harbison's status from part-time to full-time and seconded by Dave Hess. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Girl Scout Sleep Out. George explained that that a Girl Scout troop wants to survive outside overnight in the winter and they are asking permission to spend a night in the Borough Park. Attorney Karasek suggested contacting the Borough's insurance carrier to confirm that it would be okay.  
**On motion** by Kerry Gassler to allow the sleep-over pending confirmation with the insurance carrier and allowing a special exception for burning (campfire only) in the park and seconded by David Valley. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Advertise January 5, 2015 Council Meeting.  
**On motion** by Kerry Gassler to advertise the first Council Meeting on January 5, 2015 and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Karasek asked Council to specify the number of hours to be worked by the Administrative Assistant.

**On Amended Motion** by Kerry Gassler to include in the motion that Debra Harbison will be working a 40 hour work week Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. Kerry Gassler informed Council that he received an electricity bid from Nextra Energy in the amount of .0665/kilowatt after the current contract expires in March 2015.  
**On motion** by Kerry Gassler to accept the Nextra Energy proposal for 39 months in the amount of .0665/kilowatt and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Attorney Ron Karasek informed Council that the Severance Agreement with Chief Armitage was sent to the Police Office at 29 Mechanic Street. Chief Armitage confirmed that he has received it.
3. Council President George Hinton stated that this is the last Council meeting to be held at 29 Mechanic Street. The January 5, 2015 meeting will be held at the new Borough Municipal Complex at 545 East West Street.
4. Chief Armitage thanked Mayor Shoemaker and current Borough Council members for allowing him to serve the Borough of Wind Gap for almost 35 years.  
Mayor Shoemaker and Council members thanked the Chief for his work and dedication to the Borough.

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

The meeting of December 16, 2014 adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator