

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
545 EAST WEST STREET
WIND GAP, PA 18091
863-7288
FAX 863-1011**

The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 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, and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Councilman Joe Weaver was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Valerie Noble, Branch Manager, ESSA Bank & Trust and John Jablowski, Vice President, Government Financial Services, asked Council to consider a meeting with ESSA Bank & Trust regarding investments and/or loans. Mr. Jablowski will contact Louise Firestone to set up a meeting in order to review services that ESSA Bank & Trust can offer the Borough.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Tony Curcio to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014 Council meeting and seconded by Kerry Gassler. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2015 Council meeting and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. EMS . Kerry Gassler reported the Ambulance responded to 49 calls in the month of December for a year to date total of 781 compared to 799 in 2013. The Ambulance Corps meeting will be held on January 29, 2015 to discuss the Ambulance Corps budget. The Ambulance Corps approved the Board of Trustees will be taking over the Corps and the by-laws will be changed.

2. Fire Company . Jon Faust reported that the Fire Company responded to 10 calls in December for a total of 169 calls in 2014.

3. Zoning . Tony Curcio reported that no applications were submitted therefore, no meeting will take place in the month of February.

4. Planning . Attorney Karasek will discuss the Cortez Subdivision later on in the meeting under Old Business.

5. Municipal Authority . Joe Weaver was absent.

6. Streets . Jon Faust reported that the street workers cleaned off drains, cleaned up the leaves in the Park, patched alleys with millings, fixed several streets signs, had bucket truck inspected, replaced clutch disk in the 750 John Deere tractor, patched pot holes, salted roadways as needed, started cleaning out the Oaten building, moved furniture to new Municipal building and installed new mailbox.

7. Police - Mayor Shoemaker reported that the Police Department responded to 72 calls in December, 3 animal complaint, 7 motor vehicle accidents. They issued 10 traffic citations and 1 parking ticket. Police Chief Craig Armitage retired after almost 35 years of service to the Borough.
8. Park . David Valley reported that the Park Board met on January 13, 2015. They discussed the Christmas lights in the Park and agreed to order the lights for delivery in September. The Board would like to install additional electrical outlets, but will need to get more information from the Borough Engineer and apply for any necessary permits through Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. The Summer Sounds Concert Series bands have all been booked for the 2015 season.
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 building is completed for the most part and the Fire Company and Ambulance Corps have moved in upstairs. Mr. and Mrs. Fox asked Attorney Karasek to make a correction on the Sales Agreement for the Ambulance building in regard to the zoning. It was incorrectly stated as Community Commercial and had to be changed to Industrial Commercial. Mr. Fox asked for any information that the Borough had regarding hazmat work and reports done on the property during the construction of the ambulance building. Attorney Karasek was asked to resend an e-mail to Mrs. Fox, which he did, but he has not heard back from them regarding the corrected Sales Agreement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:51 p.m. to discuss real estate issues. Council reconvened at 8:07 p.m.

Council President George Hinton reported that no action would be taken at this time.

12. Regional Police
On motion by Dave Hess to approve forwarding \$10,000 from the 2015 Police budget to the Slate Belt Regional Police Department and seconded by David Valley. 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.
13. Park Master Plan . Joe Weaver was absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Shoemaker said that the Slate Belt Council of Governments will be meeting on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. COG. He will be finalizing the banner order shortly. He reminded residents to clear their sidewalks of snow and ice within 24 hours after a snowstorm. Mayor Shoemaker thanked the Street Department for the excellent job that they are doing make the streets safe to travel.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business before Council at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Park Swings . Dave Valley would like Council to re-consider the purchase of a swing set for the Park that was previously approved by Council. Dave suggests purchasing a swing that is 10qhigh as opposed to an 8qhigh swing set. He spoke to Sean at George Ely Associates and was informed that the only difference is the parameter safety zone must be larger to compensate for the extra height of the swings. Dave stated that the Park Board understands that there will be more excavation and more mulch must be purchased if the taller set is purchased.

On motion by Tony Curcio to rescind a previous motion made on November 18, 2014 to purchase an 8qswing set from George Ely Associates for \$4,521 and seconded by Kerry Gassler. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by David Valley to accept the bid from George Ely Associates for a 10qswing set for \$5,323 and seconded by Kerry Gassler. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Bus Shelters. George reported that the Borough purchased two bus shelters several years ago and they are currently being stored at the Oaten Garage, which could transfer ownership in the next couple months. Tony stated that Council had already had one place to install the shelter and we should proceed.

On motion by Tony Curcio to install a bus shelter at the old Roberti property where the small park is currently located and seconded by David Valley. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Council discussed a potential location for the second shelter. Dave suggested trying to sell it. Jon suggested the corner of Rt 512 and Alpha Road. Kerry believes that the land is now owned by Paragon who purchased it from Protecto Plastics. Mayor Shoemaker will try to find contact information and call the property owner.

3. Raymond Cortez Major Subdivision . Final/Preliminary Plan

Attorney Karasek thought that Mr. Cortez and/or his engineer would be in attendance this evening. The Borough Planning Commission recommended granting the requested waivers. Attorney Karasek recommended to Council that they deny the plan based on the alternate engineer's review letter dated January 8, 2015 or offer for them to extend the deadline.

On motion by Kerry Gassler to deny the Raymond Cortez Major Subdivision Plan and only allow a maximum of a thirty day extension and no more based on the alternate engineer's, Ott Consulting, letter of January 8, 2015, and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of January 20, 2015. Council agreed unanimously.

The meeting of January 20, 2015 adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator