

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
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The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Monday, June 6, 2016, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Dave Hess, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Councilmen: Jon Faust, David Valley, Alex Cortezzo III, Tony Curcio, Jeff Yob, and Kerry Gassler. Also in attendance were Mayor James Shoemaker, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Absent was Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Lisa A. Pereira, Esquire, came to Council regarding Act 537 Plan WGMA Franchise Area. Jeff Yob said this is a standard addition and Borough Council will have to amend Act 537. Brian Pysher said he is not familiar with the procedure regarding amending Act 537 so he will need to do research and the map will have to be revised. Attorney Pereira said she received a copy of a correspondence that Attorney Molnar sent on behalf of the Wind Gap Municipal Authority to Plainfield Township Solicitor with the proposed amendment for the sewer service area. Jeff said that Attorney Pereria should coordinate with our Engineer, Brian Pysher and our Borough Solicitor, Attorney Ronold Karasek along with the Sewer Authority to make sure this process continues forward. Kerry Gassler stated that the Sewer Authority Engineer should be the one updating the Act 537 plan and forward it to Council for their approval. Attorney Pereira will contact Attorney Karasek so he can provide guidance on the next steps Council will need to take.
2. Gayle Steinmetz came to Council regarding the letter she received, from Brian Pysher, pertaining to putting a fence on her property. Brian said he did send Gayle a letter and when they last spoke, she did not have the letter in hand and she was going to contact him when she had it so they could discuss each item. Gayle asked if Council was moving along with Ordinances. Dave Hess said they did meet and they made some changes. He said the next step is to give it to the Borough Engineer and Council so the changes can reviewed to see if it makes sense and to make the appropriate changes, than give it to Attorney Karasek to proceed. She also said that her neighbor is parking in a "No Parking Zone", Dave Hess informed her to contact the Police. Gayle also said that her neighbors are not mowing their lawn.
3. Mrs. Getz, of 336 Fairview Avenue, came to Council regarding the status of 328 Fairview Avenue. She said the house is vacant, the lawn has not been mowed and there is a hole where the pool used to be. Dave asked if she filed a complaint with the office to which Mrs. Getz said she did not. Brian said the Nuisance Ordinance is in place and if you feel that something is in violation than you must go to the office and fill out a complaint form. Brian is working with Judge Schlegel's office staff and Slate Belt Police Department on how to issue the citation for 347 Fairview Avenue. He said the citation will go to Judge Schlegel this week.
4. Mr. Richard Sterner, of 839 North Broadway, came to Council regarding the PennDOT & Sewer Authority project along North Broadway. He said he had four feet of water in his basement caused by their project. Mr. Sterner said he never had water in his basement until this project. He said they broke up the sidewalk, which is two feet away from the front of the house, with a backhoe.

Mr. Sterner said his house was built in 1778 and he is concerned with the structure due to this project. Dave Hess informed him that this was not a Borough project, to which Mr. Sterner said he is aware that this is the Municipal Authority's project. Mr. Sterner is asking for the Borough to start pushing the Municipal Authority to get this project done. Brian Pysher said the Municipal Authority is in the process of working with PennDOT. He said PennDOT has required that they get driveway permits for every driveway that they cross and they have requirements on how they want them designed. Brian said he spoke with the Sewer Authority's engineer and they are having difficulties designing the aprons according to PennDOT standards. Kerry Gassler said it is a hazard and something has to be done. Dave Hess said that Jeff Yob is the Sewer Authority liaison and he will contact them tomorrow to inform them that residents were at the Borough meeting and what their concerns are with the project. He said the next Municipal Authority meeting is July 22nd and suggested that the neighbors attend that meeting. Dave also suggested that they could contact State Representative Marsha Hahn.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Dave Valley to approve the minutes of May 17, 2016 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. In favor: A. Cortezzo, T. Curcio, D. Hess, D. Valley and Jeff Yob. Abstained: J. Faust and K. Gassler. Motion carried 5 – 0 – 2.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

On motion by Kerry Gassler to approve the expenses for the month of May in the amount of \$26,607.70 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek was absent.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian said Washington Street paving has been advertised, four bid specs packets have been picked up and/or emailed. He said this project will be awarded at the mid-month meeting of June 21, 2016. Brian reported that the Street Department will be opening the manhole on Washington and West Street where it has been settling over the years. They will be digging it out, excavating, backfilling and compacted the area before they move ahead with the paving project. He said Rich informed Terry Miklas, of Wind Gap Municipal Authority, regarding the proposed project.

Brian said that Auto Zone is still out there, they have outside agencies working on this project. He said he sent over the planning module, exemption mailer along with PennDOT paper work for Council to sign. Brian said the Borough is responsible for the signals, cross walks, signal timing with pedestrian cross walk. He said that PennDOT requests that the Highway Occupancy Permits (HOP) are in the Borough's name. Brian said that regarding the exemption mailer for the planning module, he suggests that we sign it so it can be sent to DEP because they have 60 days to review it. He said the Borough is required to sign it to acknowledge that the Municipal Authority has sufficient capacity and that no overload will exist for the next five years, the Sewer Authority letter stating that is attached to the exemption mailer. Brian said he suggests signing that so he can forward it to DEP and as far as PennDOT paper work he will discuss with Attorney Karasek to provide additional information and make a decision to sign at the next meeting.

On motion by Jeff Yob to sign the Planning Module Exemption Mailer and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Animal Control Resolution 2016-05 – Dave read the Resolution for all present. Council asked about cats. Louise stated that Scott Parson, Executive Director Slate Belt Council of Governments, is working on putting more verbiage regarding cats in the Animal Control Officer's Policy and Procedures, but he wanted to get this resolution adopted now so he can get the officer hired.

On motion by Dave valley to adopt Resolution 2016-05 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. In favor – D. Hess, D. Valley, and T. Curcio. Not is favor – K. Gassler, J. Yob, A. Cortezzo, and J. Faust. Motion denied 3 – 0 – 4.

Jeff said we do not know what will happen in the future with cat issues. He said that if we adopt this now we will be locked in with just dogs. He said we have more of an issue with cats than dogs. Jon added that if it isn't on paper she can say she never agreed to that and we will be stuck will our cat problems. Jeff said this Resolution states "Dogs Only". Mayor Shoemaker said that at the COG meeting Scott said he wanted to get this up and running then work on the cat issue.

2. Lehigh Valley Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution – Jeff said it is to participate in the plan. They have given us the verbiage to put this on their letterhead. Jeff said he would like to endorse putting this on their letterhead and to ask Louse to sign off and forward this. Jeff said he will be the main contact with Louise as secondary contact.

On motion by Jeff Yob to sign the Lehigh valley Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

3. Office Equipment Recycling – Louise said she received notice that Upper Mt. Bethel Township is hosting a Recycling Event. She said that at 29 Mechanic Street there are printers, toner, old fax machines, and old police equipment that was not taken to Slate Belt Regional Police Department.

On motion by Tony Curcio to dispose of old office equipment located at 29 Mechanic Street to the Upper Mt. Bethel recycling event and seconded by Dave Valley. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Flag Pole Location – Dave asked Council if they was able to take a look outside and see where they would like the flag pole. He said the general consensus was that if you are facing the building, the tree on the left of the island that would need to come down and put the flag pole there. Kerry asked if we would put a light there. Dave said we would use a solar light so we do not have to do any wiring. Dave said the other question that came up was now many poles we wanted to put up. Council agreed that one pole would be needed for American Flag with the State Flag underneath it.

On motion by Jeff Yob to purchase a 30 foot flag pole and a solar light to be placed in the front of the Municipal Building by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

2. Wind Gap Borough Fire Siren. At the previous Council meeting, the location of the old fire siren that was on top of the bank building was removed, but no one was sure where it is currently located. Louise stated that she was informed that the crane operator took the siren off of the bank and placed it on George Hinton's flatbed. Council discussed where the siren should be located until a decision is made regarding it if will be re-used. Jon said the controls of the siren are still in the bank. He stated that the owner of the bank building does not want the siren going back on top of the building. Jeff suggested having the Street Department pick it up and bring it to the Municipal Building. Jon will make arrangement to have the fire siren stored at the Municipal Building.

3. Park Kitchen – Dave stated that the Park Board was invited to tonight’s meeting regarding communication issues. He said we changed the lock for the park kitchen because we lost track of who had keys, who didn’t have keys, and how many keys are out there. Dave said the first event was the Wind Gap Area Athletic Association Car Show. He said the AA gave the deposit and still has the key, they did not give it back. Dave said his suggestion is to change the lock and the key is not to leave the office. He said the staff can open the door for the event and who is using it can lock it when they leave. Jon suggested using the old key fob system at the old fire house. He said that with the fobs we would be able to control who would be in the kitchen since we can activate and deactivate the fob as needed. Dave said that if anyone goes into the kitchen and gets hurt the Borough is responsible. Brian suggested calling Altronic’s to see if they can move the old system at the old fire house. The Park Board requested keys for the bathrooms and storage in case they need to replenish supplies or if someone gets locked in. Dave said he will work on getting them access.

4. 403 North Lehigh (Vacant Lot) – Title Search - \$160.00 – Dave said this is the vacant lot that the owner wants to donate to the Borough. He said that Attorney Karasek suggested having a new title search done for that property at the cost of \$160.00

On motion by Tony Curcio to have a title search done for 403 North Lehigh Avenue for \$160.00 seconded by Kerry Gassler. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Nothing to report

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of June 6, 2016. Council agreed unanimously.

The meeting of June 6, 2016 adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator