

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
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WIND GAP, PA 18091
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Wind Gap Borough Council meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President George Hinton, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Council members: Mark Crossen, Jack Rissmiller, Patrick Webber, Dave Manzo, Joseph Romano, and Danielle Weaver. Also in attendance were Mayor Heather Webber, Borough Solicitor Ronald Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher, and Administrative Assistant, Debra Harbison.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Ray Cortezzo, 117A East 1st Street, said that he would like to change his residence/home address. His neighbor resides at 117 East 1st Street and their mail and deliveries get mixed up. He is requesting a different address.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Park Vandalism Update – George Hinton and Council were provided with copies of the pavement maintenance sheets for the vandalism at the basketball, tennis, and pickleball courts. He will meet with the Chief of Police and let him know what Council has decided to do for restitution. To repair the damage by cleaning the surface and smoothing the tire tracks and applying a resurfacer and acrylic color on the pickleball courts is \$3,500. Unfortunately, with that option the tire marks will still be visible. The proposal for \$46,145 is to resurface the pickleball and tennis courts where the tire tracks did the damage. The basketball courts are included in a separate proposal. George is looking for guidance for the pickleball and tennis courts repairs.

On motion Dave Manzo to set the restitution in the amount of \$46,145 and seconded by Joseph Romano. Roll call taken. In favor: G. Hinton, D. Manzo, J. Rissmiller, D. Weaver, P. Webber. Opposed: M. Crossen. Motion carried 6 – 1.

George Hinton said that in the past there was discussion regarding wheeled vehicles on the courts. Attorney Karasek will see what he has on this matter and if needed he will draw up an ordinance.

Final motion by Dave Manzo to have Attorney Karasek research to see if we have an ordinance and if not to authorize him to draw up an ordinance that no motorized bicycles, vehicles, and wheeled vehicles are allowed on the courts, walking trails, and baseball fields and seconded by Patrick Webber. Motion carried unanimously.

George Hinton said that we will have to get signs posted in the park. Attorney Karasek said that he would need to know what fines should be in the ordinance. He can put in tiers: 1st offense \$100, 2nd \$300, and 3rd \$500 plus cost.

2. 332 North Broadway – George Hinton reported that on Monday, the concrete barriers, stored on borough property were loaded on a flatbed and were set around the property at 332 North Broadway. While there, they met a gentleman who informed them that he bought the property/LLC in January. George instructed him to contact his lawyer and/or the current property owner, Mandeep, regarding the judgement on the property that needs to be satisfied. We will continue to do what is in the judgement, such as barricading the property so nothing can go off the property. A total of sixteen barricades were placed around the property line. The quoted cost to move and place the barriers was \$2,500. Attorney Karasek said that they did an excellent job going to the neighbor for his approval to put the barriers on the property line.

3. Permission to Advertise for New Street Worker

On motion by Patrick Webber to advertise for a Street Worker on condition that they accept the resignation of Josh Sportelli and seconded by Dave Manzo. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Office Renovations – George informed Council of the proposed plans to construct an office for the tax collector and a file room for storage. The electrician was here to look at the electrical portion of the project. The lumber and sheetrock has been purchased at a cost around \$1,600.

5. Danielle noticed that our May 19th meeting is scheduled for Primary Election Day. George said that we will have to move our meeting. This will be discussed at our May 4th Council meeting. Just a reminder that on May 4th, our meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. as Representatives from the Plan Slate Belt will be joining us

OLD BUSINESS

1. Plan Slate Belt Zoning Conversation – Discussion pertaining to Public Hearing Scheduled for May 4 at 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns, please bring them up at this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

As the Borough Manager has been out of the office, a monthly report has not been generated.

George gave an update on the Fire Company and Ambulance. The Fire Company also responds to Ross Township, Bushkill Township, and Plainfield Township along with the calls for Wind Gap. George went over the ALS and BLS calls we had and the response time for each of those in Monroe County and Northampton County. We want the ambulance workers to go to classes and get their certificates to be able to help those in need. This year to date, the Wind Gap Ambulance Corps has completed 114 transports.

The new Public Works Director, Mike is settling in nicely. He and Frank have been working well together. They are getting projects done in the borough buildings, the park, and out on the streets.

MAYOR WEBBER REPORT

Mayor Webber reported that they did the PA Clean-Up this past Saturday down on Male Road. She thanked the Council members, Giant workers, and volunteers that showed up. They took 31 bags of trash along the strip by Giant, between Dunkin' Donuts and the bridge. They left it better than they found it. The Heritage Conservancy called her. There is property behind Tractor Supply, several acres there that they are looking to put into conservation. They do not know if the borough would be interested. She has some information about the property, whether we are interested in keeping it or part of it. They reached out to Fish and Game Commission to see if they were interested in it. She knows that they are interested in selling it. She did have residents reach out regarding yard waste. We do not have a recycling area for those that do not have a place to recycle. She started doing some research. She contacted Scott Farms; they will take truckloads of brush and tree limbs for \$25 a truck load. This is an option for residents. They will look at pricing for us to have the recycling here on this property. George said that this is a good idea but how do we police it residents dropping it off. She said that we need to investigate this for our residents, but for now, they can take it up to Scott Farms.

She has a proposal for updating our website, making it more interactive, informative so we can have more information. The proposal was received from the company that currently hosts our website.

George wanted to inform Council that the borough owns a strip of property on West West Street by Colonial Springs. A resident has expressed interest in purchasing it from the borough. In order for the borough to sell real estate, we must go through the proper procedures. The next steps would be to get an appraisal, advertise it, and open bids.

Patrick Webber reported that street sweeping is coming up May 4th through the 8th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were heard at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Dave Manzo to adjourn the meeting of April 21st, 2026. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting of April 21st, 2026, adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Debra Harbison – Administrative Assistant