

**BOUGH OF WIND GAP
545 East West Street
WIND GAP, PA 18091
610-863-7288
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Wind Gap Borough Council meeting on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, 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 Alex Cortezzo, Steve Bender, Dave Manzo, Patrick Webber, and Jeff Yob. Also in attendance were Mayor Wesley J. Smith, Borough Solicitor Ronald Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher, and Borough Manager, Louise Firestone. Absent was Councilman Dave Hess.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Patrick Webber to approve the December 4, 2023, minutes and seconded by Alex Cortezzo. Roll call vote taken. In favor: S. Bender, A. Cortezzo, G. Hinton, P. Webber. Abstained: D. Manzo, J. Yob. Motion carried: 4 – 0 – 2.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

On motion by Dave Manzo to approve the expenses in the amount of \$48,283.39 and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval Resolution 2023-07 – Fixing Real Estate Millage 2024 – 17 Mills

On motion by Steve Bender to approve the adoption of Resolution 2023-07 Establishing the 2024 Real Estate Millage Rate of 17 Mills and seconded by Dave Manzo. Roll call vote taken. In favor: G. Hinton, D. Manzo, P. Webber, S. Bender, A. Cortezzo. Opposed: J. Yob. Motion carried with a vote of 5-1.

2. Accept resignation of Street Worker Scott Paukovits.

On motion by Jeff Yob to accept the resignation of Street Worker Scott Paukovits and seconded by Dave Manzo. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Council did not discuss any old business at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A written committee report was provided to Mayor Smith and Council.

Dave Manzo said that the Sewer Authority did not have a meeting in November.

MAYOR SMITH REPORT

Mayor Smith reported that the Slate Belt Council of Governments did not meet in November. He will be attending the next scheduled meeting on December 27, 2023.

The Northampton County budget amendment that he was working with Commissioner Giovanni, was approved by the Council and signed by County Executive McClure. Wind Gap will be receiving twenty-five thousand dollars to offset the cost of converting the borough buildings on this property from propane to natural gas. He and Louise will complete the necessary paperwork for the County to ensure we get the funding. The cost of this conversion, from propane to natural gas, is going to cost the taxpayers nothing because of this additional funding. He attended the Wind Gap EMS Christmas party along with Councilmen Hinton and Manzo. We received a certificate of appreciation, thanking Council for exceptional community service and the support rendered to Wind Gap Ambulance Corps., Inc.

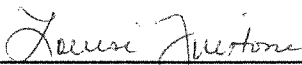
Mayor Smith thanked the office staff and the Street Department; they keep things running and their dedication is very admirable. He thanked Borough Council; it is an honor and privilege to serve with all of you and represent this fine Borough. Thank you to Council members Steve Bender and Jeff Yob for your years of service to the Borough. He is looking forward to working with our incoming elect Mr. Boulette and Mr. Crossen.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared before Council during Public Comment.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Dave Manzo to adjourn the meeting of December 19, 2023. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting of December 19 was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.



Louise Firestone – Borough Manager

DECEMBER 19, 2023 MONTHLY REPORT

STREETS:

Constitution Avenue:

Contractor Total Project = \$530,212.75
Total Paid = \$530,212.75

15% Maintenance Bond – 12 months = \$ 79,531.91

PENDING ITEMS:

Meeting on East First St for placement of Street Light – B. Pysher to schedule meeting with Met Ed for location of existing wiring.
Funding from Gap View Estates Escrow

POLICE:

2023 – November Parking Violations – 7 total

▪ Inspection – 2 total	\$ 20.00
▪ Obstructing Driveway – 1 total	\$ 15.00
▪ Handicapped Space – 2 total	\$100.00
▪ Registration – 1 total	\$ 10.00
▪ Yellow line – 1 total	<u>\$ 15.00</u>
	\$160.00

November Monthly Calls for Service 327 Police Activities

Wind Gap – 100 Pen Argyl – 91 Plainfield Township – 136

Two new Academy cadets, have both passed their entrance exams and will be starting the Allentown Police Academy on January 2, 2024.

Pen Argyl Borough has experienced a streak of burglaries within the past two (2) weeks. The Department is working diligently to bring resolution to all the victims associated with these crimes.

The Department has hired a part-time Officer, Frank Epser, who will be responsible for enforcing all commercial vehicle laws within the SBRPD jurisdiction.

Slate Belt Regional Police Department – Contract Negotiations are continuing.

WASTE MANAGEMENT:

Neighboring Partnership Agreement:

October 2023 = \$76,951.45

Total Funds Received in 2023 = \$766,295.83

WIND GAP AMBULANCE:

111 total calls for October - Wind Gap Boro = 66 / Monroe Cty = 12
Transports = 32 / Standby = 1
Response Times 1.80 Minutes Avg (from dispatch to responding)

136 total calls for November – Wind Gap Boro = 83 / Monroe Cty = 18
Transports = 34 / Standby = 1
Response Times 1.87 Minutes Avg (from dispatch to responding)

FIRE COMPANY:

19 Calls for the Month of November / 149 Calls for the Year

- 2 CO Alarms
- 4 BLS Assists
- 2 Wire Fire
- 2 Gas Leak / Alarm
- 1 MVA / Unknown Injuries
- 1 MVA / Injuries
- 2 Commercial Structure Fires
- 1 Dwelling Fire
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 1 Elevator Rescue

FINANCIALS: – Balances as of November 30, 2023:

General Funds:	\$176,164.98
Money Market Funds:	\$992,697.15
Capital Reserve Funds:	\$1,782,156.65 ((\$665,362.83 – Sale of Borough Properties)
State Liquid Fuels Funds:	Current Balance = \$246,735.22 (Allocation Based on 9.36 miles / Population of 2720)

ESTIMATED Liquid Fuels Allocation for 2024 = \$79,703.19
ESTIMATED Turnback Allocation for 2024 = \$1,680.00
(Turnback allocation is for Male Road .42 miles)

10/12/23 - Sale of 906 North Broadway, Indian Steps Trailer Court - \$2,940,000
Real Estate Transfer Tax (.5%) = \$14,700