

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
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WIND GAP, PA 18091
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Wind Gap Borough Council meeting on Thursday, June 29, 2023, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Vice President Dave Manzo, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Council members Dave Hess, Steve Bender, and Patrick Webber. Councilman George Hinton participated via telephone. Also in attendance were Mayor Wesley J. Smith, Borough Solicitor Ronald Karasek and Borough Manager Louise Firestone. Absent were Councilmen Jeff Yob and Alex Cortezzo, and Borough Engineer Brian Pysher.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Patrick Webber to approve the June 5, 2023, minutes and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

On motion by Steve Bender to approve the expenses in the amount of \$166,759.88 and seconded by Patrick Webber. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Constitution Avenue Stormwater Project Bid Award
On motion by Steve Bender to award the Constitution Avenue Stormwater Project in the amount of \$397,661.50 to CMR Construction and seconded by Patrick Webber. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

2. Council Meeting Schedule for July / August 2023 - July 3, July 18 / August 7, August 15, 2023

On motion by Pat Webber to approve the new schedule for Council meetings for July 18th and August 15, 2023 and seconded by Steve Bender.

Motion rescinded and amended by Pat Webber to cancel the July 3, 2023, Council meeting and seconded by Steve Bender. Roll call taken. Council agreed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Council did not discuss any old business at this time.

MAYOR SMITH REPORT

Mayor Smith reported that the COG is still working on their tax exemption status. Currently, they are working on a rental agreement for the camera system. This will be presented at the next meeting and will be voted on so the municipalities can start renting it.

They are limiting the camera system to storm-sewer; they are not doing waste water until they figure out the cleaning process.

The Mayor is concerned about the current Transient Business License ordinance. He has been asked to approve businesses to go door to door trying to sell their goods or services. He would like to propose a review of the ordinance as it is currently written because the language limits the ability to have more discretion in declining these requests. Valley Farms Fresh Meat completed an application in order to sell meat on the old Beer Stein property, but since the property was not zoned for that use, he was able to deny the license.

Dave Manzo said that 67 Park Avenue came up at the Municipal Authority meeting. There is still an issue regarding notification of who informs the owner that a grease trap must be installed and inspected.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared before Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

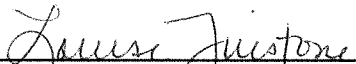
Slate Belt Regional Police Association Contract Proposed Update.

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. Council reconvened at 7:27 p.m.

No action was taken by Council pertaining to the Slate Belt Regional Police Association Contract..

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Steve Bender to adjourn the meeting of June 29, 2023. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting of June 29, 2023, adjourned at 7:27 p.m.



Louise Firestone, Borough Manager

JUNE 20, 2023 MONTHLY REPORT

STREETS:

Traffic Light at Lehigh Avenue and Alpha Road: Work Completed 5/19/23
Signal Services Installed a new controller approved by Council 3/21/23 - \$4,923.00
Signal Services replaced the damaged northwest corner pedestrian button - \$146.00

New Street Workers:

Joshua Sportelli started on Monday, June 12, 2023
Scott Paukovits started on Monday, June 19, 2023

Constitution Ave Project Bid Submission – Tuesday, June 20 at 1:00 p.m.
Roosevelt St – Received 4 Inlet Basins = \$5,925.00

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:

May 2023 – Parking Violations – 5 total

▪ Inspections - 2	\$20.00
▪ Commercial Vehicle – 2	\$20.00
▪ Park Against Traffic – 1	<u>\$15.00</u>
	\$55.00

April Monthly Calls for Service 415 Police Activities

Wind Gap – 119 Pen Argyl – 152 Plainfield Township – 144

May Monthly Calls for Service 485 Police Activities

Wind Gap – 145 Pen Argyl – 155 Plainfield Township – 185

The Department welcomed K9 Officer Zorro into its ranks with an appearance prior to the Thursday, May 18th Slate Belt Regional Police Commission meeting.

Officer Lowe has begun his monthly required K9 trainings with Zorro. Officer Zorro is settling into his new home, both with Officer Lowe and at the Police Station.

The K9 program began with an initial \$61,000 donation from Waste Management, which paid for Officer Lowe’s training. Waste Management donated an additional \$25,000, which helped offset the cost of the K9 patrol vehicle.

2023 SBRPD Lease Discussion – the Slate Belt Regional Police Commission is awaiting correspondence from Attorney Karasek.

The Slate Belt Regional Police Association contract expires December 31, 2023. The Association has presented a new Contract proposal. The Slate Belt Regional Police Commission is scheduling a meeting to sit down with the SBRPD Association to discuss the proposal.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – Tuesday, August 1, 2023 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Will be held in Wind Gap Borough Park and will incorporate all three (3) Municipality Fire Depts as well as other vendors.

Wind Gap Borough acted as the lead agent for submitting a grant application through the 2023 NORCO Grant process, Northampton County. The SBRPD is requesting funding for a 2023 Ford F-350 to be used to provide MCSAP (Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program) services, accident reconstruction and crime scene processing for all 3 municipalities.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Still To Be Ordered - New Hand-Held Radio

WASTE MANAGEMENT:

Neighboring Partnership Agreement:

Total Funds Received in 2023 = \$323,873.71

April 2023 Tipping Fees = \$69,910.88

Hosted a “Recycle Education Lunch and Learn” at Wind Gap Park

Saturday, June 17 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

WIND GAP AMBULANCE:

131 total calls – Wind Gap Boro = 59 / Monroe Cty = 18 / Transports = 54

Response Times 1.76 Minutes Avg (from dispatch to responding)

2023 Subscription Mailers were sent – Period of coverage 5/15/23 to 5/14/24

FIRE COMPANY:

Fire Company Carnival – June 29, 30, July 1, 2023

Calls for the Month of / Calls for the Year

2023 Calls:

- 3 Dwelling Fires
- 1 Wire Down
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 1 Gas Leak
- 1 Chimney fire
- 1 Spill

- 1 MVA with Injuries
- 1 Vehicle Fire
- 1 Indoor Odor Investigation
- 1 Wire Fire
- 1 Brush Fire

PARK:

- Bandshell and Small Kitchen roof replacement scheduled in July 2023.
- Kensol Airways scheduled to inspect & reduce potential fire hazards of the commercial kitchen exhaust system – Thursday, June 22, 2023
- The small kitchen has been cleaned / painted in order to be utilized as the “Concession Stand” for Summer Sounds. Food and drink sales from the Summer Sound Concerts benefit the Wind Gap Area Athletic Association.

Non-profits holding activities in Wind Gap Park – Free of Charge

- IU 20
- Special Olympics Day
- Girl Scouts – Girl Scout Twilight Camp
- Welsh Society
- Wind Gap Volunteer Fire Company Carnival
- Slate Belt Rising – Vendor Event
- Blue Mountain Community Library – Summer Reading Program
- Pen Argyl PTO
- Families First 5K
- Rotary Car Show

Boy Scout Trail to Town Camporee: Was cancelled due to limited number of troops/campers

WIND GAP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY:

Meeting held on Wednesday, May 24, 2023

CRG – WGMA accepted a conditional funding offer to upgrade their lines in the borough, contingent upon plan approvals from both Wind Gap Borough and Plainfield Township. Plainfield Township would also be required to update their Act 537 Plan to include the property at 90 Pennsylvania Avenue to be included in the franchise service area.

Borough has been provided with WGMA’s Financial Statements, Independent Auditors’ Report, Supplemental Information – December 2021 and December 2022.

Discussion regarding WGMA 2024 Constitution Avenue Project

During examination of Met-Ed electric bills, it was discovered that the WGMA has been paying sales tax on their electric consumption. New Administrator rectifying the sales tax.

PLANNING:

April 6, 2023 / May 4, 2023 – Chicken and Billboard Ordinances discussed
June 1, 2023 – Meeting was cancelled. Draft proposed Chicken Ordinance was sent to Lehigh Valley Planning Commission for review/comments.

ZONING:

Zoning Hearing Board – Tuesday, April 25
R. Smith, 34 Alpha Rd – Variance request denied for chickens
A. David, 155 Alpha Ave – Mr. David submitted an application for home occupation (sale of dogs) Denial letter send on May 8, 2023.

OFFICE/BUILDING:

Parking Lot - \$35,000 from 2021 Grow NORCO Grant – Deadline Dec 31, 2023

FINANCIALS: – Balances as of May 31, 2023:

General Funds:	\$171,526.21
Money Market Funds:	\$1,382,528.82
Capital Reserve Funds:	\$1,767,001.79 (\$665,104.39 – Sale of Borough Properties)
State Liquid Fuels Funds:	Current Balance = \$240,543.29 (Allocation Based on 9.36 miles / Population of 2720)

SLATE BELT RISING:

Steering Committee Meeting – Thursday, June 8, 2023:

- Awarded 7 - \$1,000 Scholarships to graduating Seniors from Bangor and Pen Argyl School Districts
- Approved funding for Wind Gap Community Garden – Spigot, Outdoor Bottle Filler with Bi-Level Drinking Fountain
- Portland Borough – “Welcome to Portland” building mural completed
- Bangor – Commercial Lease Subsidy Program – Approved for Stage Door Brewing LLC
- Bangor – Initial discussions for a mural on 29 S Main Street formerly First National Bank building

SLATE BELT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT (SBCOG):

5 day rental of the Street Sweeper - \$500.00
Sweeper used 45.555 gallons of diesel fuel at a cost of \$177.62

MISCELLANEOUS:

Liquid Fuels Audit – Department of the Auditor General
Scheduled/Completed on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 – Jan. 1, 2021 to Dec. 31, 2022

No Nonsense Neutering 2023 Report To Date
March 2023 1 Female Cat
April 2023 1 Female Cat / 1 Male Cat
May 2023 4 Female Cats / 1 Male Cat