

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
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Wind Gap Borough Council meeting on Monday, June 3, 2024, 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: Steve Bender, Mark Crossen, Dave Manzo, Jason Boulette, Patrick Webber, and Alex Cortezzo. Also in attendance were Mayor Wesley J. Smith, Borough Solicitor Ronald Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysher and Borough Manager Louise Firestone. Councilman Alex Cortezzo joined the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Dave Manzo to approve the May 21, 2024, minutes and seconded by Patrick Webber. Roll call vote taken. Roll call vote taken. In favor: J. Boulette, M. Crossen, G. Hinton, D. Manzo, P. Webber. Abstained: S. Bender. Motion carried 5 – 0 – 1.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

On motion by Dave Manzo approve the expenses in the amount of \$29,038.81 and seconded by Patrick Webber. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Karasek reported that Resolution 2024-04, Credit Card Acceptance, was drafted for Council to discuss this evening. Mr. Karasek reviewed the metes and bounds related to the Green Knight Economic Development Corporation plan for roadway dedication that will also be discussed later on the agenda.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Brian Pysher reported that he sent a letter to Attorney Karasek regarding the JERC warehouse at 600 Male Road. He was in contact with Joe Correra, representative for J.G. Petrucci Inc., who was the developer for the project. Robert L. Collura Civil Engineers completed a final walkthrough/inspection of improvements constructed within the Male Road right-of-way associated with the Land Development for JERC LII, LLC. The maintenance period for the improvements is almost complete and the developer is requesting the maintenance bond to be allowed to expire. The inspection included curbing, sidewalks, handrails, and road widening as part of the land development plan. Also, included in this site inspection was the storm water facilities that are not borough improvements. A request was made to Aqua Mist and a report was received, indicating that all inspections were done, and the system is functioning properly. J.G. Petrucci Inc.'s maintenance period has expired, and the Borough is currently holding the bond for that maintenance period in the amount of \$18,819.73. It is Brian's

recommendation that the Borough release the bond based on the improvements that have been completed to borough standards. This will be on the agenda for the mid-month meeting.

Brian is working with Rich Fox on the walking trail. Due to the water table level in the area of the proposed rain garden, the plan had to be modified and revised. Brian is expecting the pipe for the project being delivered on Monday. The storm inlets have already been delivered so the street department can begin to install some of the storm sewer and continue to work on the rain garden.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Constitution Avenue / Oak Street Paving Project - Action to Award Project

On motion by Steve Bender to award the Constitution Avenue paving project in the amount of \$99,753.64 and the Oak Street paving project in the amount of \$50,592.20 to Bracalente Construction and seconded by Dave Manzo. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

2. Advertising for a Full-time Street Worker / Discussion – Action to be Taken

On motion by Steve Bender to advertise for a full time Street Worker and seconded by Dave Manzo. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

3. Resolution 2024-04 – Credit Card Resolution Action to be Taken on Adoption of Resolution – Attorney Karasek reported that he has a resolution allowing the Borough to accept credit cards and debit cards for payment of fees and cost.

Attorney Karasek said the resolution deals with the acceptance of debit and credit cards. In the resolution, he made it clear that fees and costs can still be paid by cash, check, and money order. Jason Boulette questioned ensuring that the credit card fees would be passed on to the user. Attorney Karasek said with the permission of the Council he would like this to be on the agenda for the mid-month meeting. Another section will be added to the resolution that the fees and cost will be passed over to the customer.

4. DCNR Forestry Vehicle Parking Request on Borough Property – Action to be Taken on Request

On motion by Jason Boulette to grant the DCNR request to allow Mr. Ronald Minnich to park his DCNR Forestry Vehicle on Borough property and seconded by Steve Bender.

Attorney Karasek asked Council if they would want a lease or rental agreement allowing the truck to be parked on Borough property.

Motion amended to include, upon condition with the Borough insurance approval and a brief written agreement. Roll call vote taken. Council agreed unanimously.

5. EMS Discussion - Questionnaire Regarding Response Times – Alex Cortezzo reported that he attended an EMS meeting at Upper Mount Bethel on Thursday, May 23, 2024 as a representative of Plainfield Fire Co., but also indicated that he was there as a Wind Gap Councilman. The Slate Belt as a whole is trying to understand the EMS needs of all communities and the potential to have a discussion regarding a more regional approach. The focus of the discussion centered around EMS response time. Currently, Wind Gap's monthly report gives a response time from dispatch to response, when actually the important information should include amount of time from dispatch to on scene. He does not know if Council wants to be part of the discussion or not. James Potter, Fire Chief Portland Hook & Ladder Co #1, is looking to put some numbers together from EMS response times from all municipalities. The

information can be obtained from the 911 Center. Council can ask Wind Gap EMS if they want to be a part of this as they did have representation at this meeting. There are a lot of complaints regarding ALS and BLS response calls. George Hinton said that the Slate Belt Council of Governments had invited Suburban EMS to give a presentation. George believes that WG EMS can answer the questionnaire, but the Borough should be part of this ongoing conversation regarding EMS.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Green Knight Economic Development Corporation – Green Knight Industrial Park II - Roadway Dedication – Collura Engineering Recommendation Letter dated May 14, 2024 – Accept the Offer for the Dedication of Beers Way and Green Knight Drive Bond Amount to be \$166,903.75 \ 128 months from date of Acceptance

Brian Pysher reported that there is a resolution that we voted on to be released and put into maintenance and dedicated. Attorney Karasek said that the deed of dedication was sent to him by Attorney Schlegel to confirm that it is good and meets with approval. It does appear to do that, and we have attached exhibit D and E to the description for the northerly line of Beers Way and the westerly line of Beers Way. He received an email last week stating that it has been reviewed and all information is accurate. It can be signed and recorded. Once recorded, the date can be included on the document.

2. Shooting Range – Update on Meeting with Property Owned / Police Chief Proposed Action Discussion – George Hinton reported that a meeting was held to discuss the ongoing issue with the shooting range. In attendance were property owner Mike Goffredo, Police Chief Jonathan Hoadley, Council President George Hinton, Borough Manager Louise Firestone, and Borough Engineer Brian Pysher. George recapped the discussion which the parties agreed should include signage at the end of the driveway, installation of a gate with a lock so anyone using the range needs to sign in and get the key from the borough office. Where the driveway turns to dirt, from that point back will be authorized vehicles and personnel only, all other vehicles will be towed. Upon conclusion of the Slate Belt Regional Police annual qualification at the end of June, the shooting range structures will be removed for the year. We are dealing with private and borough property, and we are taking every effort to make this a workable situation. Removal of the structures should discourage any outside parties from shooting on the range and afford the police department that opportunity to locate a new shooting range for next year's qualifying.

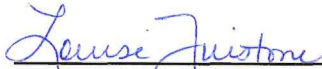
3. Jason Boulette reported that Mayor Smith was able to schedule interviews with prospective junior council members for later this week. He along with Mayor Smith, and Council President Hinton will meet Thursday and Friday.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Richard Smith had questions regarding the clean-up of the shooting range and ambulance membership.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Dave Manzo to adjourn the meeting of June 3, 2024. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting of June 3, 2024, adjourned at 7:49 p.m.



Louise Firestone, Borough Manager