

**Wrightsville Borough
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2007 \$ 7:00 PM
Borough Council Meeting Room, Wrightsville PA**

The November Borough Council meeting was called to order by President Dixon, who led a salute to the American Flag. Also in attendance were N. Habecker, Mayor Steve Rambler, E. Pennell, M. Lentz, S. Young and M. McDonald. Mr. President also announced that the Treasurer, Engineer, Solicitor, Chief of Police and Secretary were present.

Mr. President announced that the meeting was being recorded.

FIRE: Deputy Chief Smeltzer gave the October report. See attached. He mentioned that all certifications are up to date.

PATRONS

Sandy Dosch – Mrs. Dosch of 4th Street came to say how embarrassed at how this Council is representing this town. She said that this Council should be representing this town as a whole, and not be on Council for their own personal agendas. She wants to read about good things about this town and is tired of reading bad press. She said that she reads Council minutes for other towns in the newspaper, and asked if minutes can be published in the paper. She has a concern for the children that live on the North side of town and asked if there is a playground planned for the future for the children. She said that she never sees open positions being advertised in the newspaper. She asked why employees that work for the Borough are either relatives or friends of Council.

Sandy Waugh – Mrs. Waugh voiced that she enjoyed reading about the police and fire departments in the newsletter, but had a problem with the Mayor's article in that he did not mention all Council members in his statement.

Sherry Jordan – Ms. Jordan came to represent The Dutchman. She said that the owner of that establishment couldn't be present and she read a statement concerning a newspaper article being published by The Columbia Ledger.

Brandon Holtzinger – Mr. Holtzinger said that he thought it was rude of the Mayor to only mention only 4 of the 6 Council Members. He publicly thanked Council persons Young and McDonald for the job that they also do. He mentioned that it took Officer Leaman to get an emergency list from Rivertown Pub. He also mentioned that there have been car break-ins that happened around 3:45 am, so he thinks that vandals know when police are not patrolling. He reported that the Borough web site has not been updated since the beginning of the year. He asked how many police officers are employed.

Robin Geesey – Mrs. Geesey voiced her second request for who approved Bryan Rambler’s certification. She asked why there was no money received from J & K Salvage from clean-up day. She said that she wants information on the clean-up day charges broken down. She asked if any money was given to the Wrightsville Youth Sports from the WVB Recreation Commission. She asked Mr. Habecker how he can see that the Borough is not over budget. She said that she didn’t think that the Sewer Plant permit motion was approved. She asked the Chief why he said that his officers stop in the Northwest Bank every hour on the hour. She showed a sign in log that proved different. She asked if a \$395.21 bill will be repaid to the Borough from the Recreation Commission. She asked how the preliminary budget could show the police budget at \$260,456.00, and possibly also purchase an SUV for \$17,000.00, with donations. She wanted to know if that included equipment inside the vehicle. She asked if there is going to be a tax increase for 2008.

Marlene Lawrence – Mrs. Lawrence voiced that handicapped and older residents should be priority when it comes to snow removal for the winter, even if they live near an alley.

Anna Weirich – Mrs. Weirich brought another letter written to the Council asking for Bryan Rambler’s termination. She mentioned that someone saw Bryan Rambler driving the Chief’s unmarked police car. She asked who is going to pay for him to go to the police academy.

Crystal Bolton – Mrs. Bolton came to voice how discussed she is with the Council. She said that she used to work in Harrisburg for the Representative Party, and understands how legislation works, and sees through some of the members on Council, especially during an election year. She mentioned that she has a son that skateboards, and wants to know if there are plans in the future for a skate park, or something of the sort. She said that he has been run off the street by the police. She said that if there was a membership to a park for skateboarders she and her husband would pay that.

Galen Shaud – Mr. Shaud wanted to know if the rumor was true that every resident was going to be charged \$1,000.00 for new water lines and back flow valves for the construction being done on Walnut Street. President Dixon confirmed that it was not true. Mr. Shaud mentioned that the contractor made an error in cutting the sidewalk too close to his house. Mr. Dixon told Mr. Shaud that an inspector from CSD would check into it.

N. Habecker moved, E. Pennell seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed. N. Habecker moved, E. Pennell seconded to approve the recessed minutes as presented. Mr. Pennell stated that the 7% increase was for the Streets Dept. and the police budget was going to increase by 19%. S. Young said that she did not have any changes for the recessed minutes. N. Habecker mentioned that \$10,000 for the police pension would be reimbursed by the state. President Dixon read the motion from the recessed meeting that stated the preliminary budget motion was passed by a role call vote. The motion to approve the recessed meeting minutes passed unanimously.

POLICE: Chief Pearson gave the October report. See attached. M. McDonald asked the Chief that when Bryan Rambler is in a police car and a shooting happens is he covered by insurance. Chief Pearson said that Bryan was not in the police car, and the person who said he was, needs to come forward. She asked if Officer Leaman is going to be permitted to stop in the Northwest Bank more often.

TREASURER: Mr. Brenner supplied an updated spreadsheet for the preliminary budget and explained some of the changes. He mentioned that he and S. Young have not been able to meet to discuss the health insurance figures. He explained that the Liquid Fuels amount coming to the Borough for 2008 will be about \$4,000.00 more than 2007. He reported that he has included the Recreation Commission checking account. A motion to accept the check register as presented was made by N. Habecker and seconded by M. McDonald. M. McDonald asked why Bryan Rambler is not on the check register for payroll. Chief Pearson said that is because he has not worked lately. The motion was passed unanimously. Mrs. McDonald then asked why Bryan still has keys to the police station and why he is seen going in and out of the police station if he is not working.

ENGINEER: Mr. Klinedinst reported on the Walnut Street Project, and said that requisition #7 for \$14,618.00 to B & R Construction, and requisition #6 for \$1,045.28 to CSD need Council President's signature to be paid. He said that a notice to proceed needs to be signed by Council President due to the contractor having to pull off the job when Columbia Gas had to come in and do work. He mentioned that he had a no cost change order to extend the contract time of 14 days. A motion to that effect was made by E. Pennell and seconded by M. Lentz. Motion passed.

He reported that Susquehanna Dodge was proceeding as a surprise to him. He understood that they should have submitted a plan to the County. He said that CSD has not seen a land development plan, and that there are two plans. He said that the parking lot was approved, but the plan on Tenth Street was not approved by Council. Mr. Dixon said that the plans have changed since the Council approved the first version. Mr. Klinedinst said that he is planning on sending in an inspector to check into the situation. He said that they did file for a permit with Penn Dot for the opening of Tenth Street. Solicitor Tilley said that he and Mr. Klinedinst will work on correcting the situation.

Mr. Klinedinst commented on Royal Farms, saying that he needs to review their most recent plans and that YCPC has given their comments. E. Pennell asked if the Council will need to approve anything more at this time. Mr. Klinedinst said that they need approval of the land development plan because they moved the building and changed parking space size, which Council did not specify the size to Royal Farms just the number of spaces, and may not be able to control that now.

President Dixon mentioned that the Borough Secretary has saved the Borough and Authority \$80.00 per month on the cell phone bill.

M. McDonald asked the Engineer if he had the numbers for the EDU's for the Sewer Plant permit. Mr. Klinedinst thought the calculations were done by the Authority, and he said that he did not have them. She said that she thinks they did not vote on the permit, because that is what they were waiting for. Mr. Klinedinst said that he will contact the Authority Secretary and get the numbers and bring them back to the Borough.

SOLICITOR: Mr. Tilley brought the finalized Local Services Tax Ordinance, which was advertised. He explained that this tax was previously the Occupational Privilege Tax and then became the Emergency Services Tax. He said that it is \$52.00 per year and will be taken from employees checks that work in the Borough at \$1.00 per week. Ordinance # 2007-7 was approved by motion from N. Habecker and seconded by E. Pennell.

Mr. Tilley announced that on January 10, 2008 at 6 pm at Stock and Leader, there will be a seminar to educate elected officials, new or old.

HELATH & SAFETY: Mr. Habecker asked how much the LST will impact the income. The Solicitor explained that the LST has also changed in that if a person makes less than \$12,000 per year, they will not be required to pay the \$52.00. He also explained that the total income from this will decrease by 30%, statewide.

Mr. Habecker mentioned that the fire department asked for \$1,500.00 for fuel for 2008, due to the fact that the revenue that will be passed on to them will be reduced.

Mr. Habecker reported that the stop sign Ordinance needs to be drafted and advertised. N. Habecker made a motion for the Borough Solicitor to draft and advertise and ordinance for the stop sign at Orange and South 6th Street. E. Pennell asked if the ordinance has to be exclusive or if other changes such as speed limit can be included, saving the Borough money. Mr. Habecker felt that the speed limit issue needs more discussion. He reported that there are also traffic studies for Willow Street and Garden Avenue that he would like to take some time and meet with residents that will be affected. Motion passed.

Mr. Habecker addressed what streets would be posted if the ordinance for the speed limit change is approved. He said discussion is needed to decide what streets should be posted. The Chief said that all streets have to be posted. Mr. Dixon said that a list of streets is needed as well as the cost of the signs.

Mr. Habecker reported that the latest COG meeting resulted in that quoting on the third party code administrator needs to be done, and then the COG as a whole will decide what company will be chosen.

Mr. Habecker reported on the animal control contract. He said that SPCA contract has been received but would like to see another yet. He explained that Hemler's only increase will be for mileage due to gas price increases. Council agreed to wait until the December meeting to decide.

Mr. Habecker noted that a handicapped parking space application for 505 Hellam Street needs approved. He said that everything is in line, and made a motion to approve. E. Pennell seconded with unanimous approval.

He brought up the subject of duty transferal from Treasurer to Assistant Treasurer. Mr. Brenner asked that the Solicitor look into it to make sure it is consistent as far as the Borough Code is concerned. It was decided that the personnel department look into it and come back with a recommendation.

PERSONNEL: S. Young handed out copies of insurance quotes with Bud included and without Bud included, because she said that he should not be covered by the Borough's insurance and that he should be on Medicare. She has recommended that the Borough go with an HMO plan and require employee contribution. The Solicitor verified that the Borough can force Bud to take Medicare. She said that she and Keith still need to coordinate a meeting to discuss health insurance budget figures.

S. Young asked about Josh's review and Mr. Dixon asked M. Lentz if he had the numbers. M. Lentz was instructed by Mr. Dixon to get the number for Josh's increase for the next meeting.

Mr. Pennell asked about possibly getting figures about offering a cafeteria plan for the employees to choose from. S. Young said that she would provide that.

S. Young asked if the Mayor received Sharon Amato's resignation from the Civil Service Commission.

M. McDonald said that the Columbia Ledger prints articles about the meetings. She mentioned that she agreed with Crystal Bolton concerning kids and skateboarders having a park to skateboard.

She asked if the Sewer Plant was started yet.

She asked if she should return the cat traps.

She had a suggestion that in the winter the top of Lockwood Hollow be opened up by the plows.

She said that she received a complaint about 210 South 2nd Street having junk in their yard.

She asked Mr. Dixon why he doesn't know how many police officers we have. The Chief said that there are 2 full time and 3 part time. She also wanted to know if Council can get a schedule of when the police are working.

She suggested that the cell phones be taken away and go back to walkie talkies.

S. Young asked if anyone checked into uniforms. E. Pennell didn't know he was supposed to find out about it.

She wanted to know that if Bryan Rambler was going to be certified, why wasn't it brought to Council, and why if Carol was doing Keith's job, that wasn't brought to Council. She found out that the police were on probation at the minute market.

STREETS: E. Pennell gave the October report. He said that the guys were collecting leaves all month. Mr. Pennell mentioned that Josh said that the air compressor was found in violation. He reported that the backhoe needs a new motor due to a missing airline. Mr. Dixon said that Groff's gave Josh a cost of \$11,000 to fix it. He said that he got three written quotes and the best deal he got was that he can get a reconditioned block for \$3,500, and approx. \$2,000, (which will be split with the Authority), to have the old engine taken out and fixed. Mr. Pennell made a motion to that effect and have the backhoe fixed, with a second from M. Lentz.

RECREATION: Mayor Rambler reported that the Recreation Commission meetings are held the last Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Council chambers. He reported that Louie Anderson was named the Baseball Commissioner for 2008, and Bob McKee will be the Softball Commissioner.

MAYOR: Mayor Rambler reported that Sharon Amato resigned from the Civil Service Commission and a new position will be advertised. He said that applications will be available in the Borough office.

He reported that there is going to be another annual Christmas Parade, and will be held the first Saturday in December at 2 pm. He also reported that the annual Christmas tree lighting will be held at 6 pm on the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

S. Young asked if the Recreation money is under the Borough.

M. McDonald asked who will be in charge of the money with baseball and softball.

AUTHORITY: Nothing to report.

SENIOR CITIZEN/SUS CHAMBER: M. Lentz said that the Bridge Bust went well, and that this year was the largest one so far.

PRESIDENT: President Dixon suggested that Council look at putting the building lot at Willow and Front Streets up for sale, and that income could be put in the Capital Reserve account.

Mr. Brenner wanted to clarify that everyone understand that the 7% increase is being misunderstood and is an increase of the expenses and it was not said that it was going to be a tax increase.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm was made by N. Habecker and seconded by M. Lentz.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol A. Jud
Borough Secretary