

3. Mr. Jeff Bergamasco of 720 Negley Avenue questioned how residents who do not have a subscription to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and do not have internet access are supposed to get information on proposed ordinances that affect all of the residents of the township.
4. Mr. John Lazzaro of 733 Negley Avenue stated that although he believes he understands the goal of the ordinance, he was interested in understanding whether there has been any precedent set in any other municipality with a similar ordinance. Also questioned whether the Board has the means to amend the ordinance, if it is not effective.
5. Mr. Frank Fasciano of 661 Mortimer Avenue stated that he does not understand how residents are supposed to get information regarding what is being discussed at Commissioner's meetings. He stated that the proposed ordinance will affect all Township residents and that all residents should have been notified.

Proposed Ordinance #976.

Prior to discussing the perceived problems with the ordinance, Mrs. Bradley gave a general overview of the intent of the ordinance for the benefit of the members of the audience. Following that overview, the Board discussed the following issues:

1. Property Manager: Commissioner Fialla raised a question at a previous meeting regarding whether the Township had the authority to require that a property manager reside within fifteen (15) miles of the township.

Mr. Matta stated that he has researched this issue and finds that while a number of municipalities now require that a property manager live within so many miles of the community, this has never been challenged. Therefore, it appears to him that it would be appropriate to include this language in the ordinance. In the event of a challenge, the Township would have the ability to sever this section. Commissioner Fialla stated that she does not have a problem with requiring a property manager, but does not believe that the Township should restrict that manager to a fifteen (15) mile radius. Commissioner Wilson stated that he believes an out-of-town property owner is taking care of the property, he should not be called the "manager of the property."

2. Dates of Re-inspection: The proposed ordinance calls for a re-inspection of residential one and two family homes no more frequently than once every two years, regardless of the change of ownership or occupancy. The multifamily section of the ordinance, however, calls for a re-inspection no more frequently than once every five years, regardless of the change of ownership or occupancy. Commercial, like one and two family residential, provides for an inspection no more frequently than every two years. Mrs. Bradley questioned whether the Commissioners believed that this was "fair". The Board generally agreed to leave this as written.
3. Fees: The proposed ordinance provides for the establishment of a fee schedule by resolution. However, Mrs. Bradley stated that the Board needed to make some decisions about the fee schedule so that a resolution could be adopted setting that schedule at the same time as the proposed ordinance is approved. The proposed fee schedule is: \$50.00 for one and two family residential inspections: Forty-percent of \$50.00 (or \$20.00) for inspections of properties with three (3) or more units; for simultaneous inspections, \$50.00 for the first and then \$33.00 for each additional inspection; and a re-inspection fee (after two inspections) of between \$35.00 and \$50.00. For commercial inspections, the proposed fee is \$100.00. A resolution will be drafted reflecting this fee schedule.

The ordinance will be presented for adoption at the regularly scheduled meeting of April 10, 2006.

Local Government Academy Intern: Mrs. Bradley stated that she had an opportunity to interview four potential candidates for the position of personnel manual development in conjunction with the grant received through the Local Government Academy. Mrs. Bradley recommended that the Board authorize her to contact the Local Government Academy and request that they make a job offer to the candidate that she feels is the most qualified for the position, pending her contact with the references listed for the candidate. In addition,, Mrs. Bradley requested permission to transfer the Township's share of the interns salary (\$2,400.00) from the Contingencies line-item of the Emergency Contingency Fund, if that became necessary.

- (6-77) MOVED FIALLA-MARTINELLI to authorize the manager to contact Local Government Academy to request that they make a job offer to the selected candidate, pending a review of references. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (6-78) MOVED MARTINELLI-WILSON to authorize the manager to transfer \$2,400.00 from the Contingencies line-item of the Emergency Contingency budget to cover the Township's share of the intern's salary, if necessary. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILKINS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, EXPRESSING ITS UNWAVERING SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM AND RECOGNIZING THE PROGRAM'S SIGNIFICANT AND UNPARALLELED IMPACT UPON THE COMMUNITIES OF THIS COUNTY; AND FURTHER, CALLING UPON THE UNITED STATES SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING OF THE CDBG FORMULA GRANTS AT \$4.5 BILLION AS WELL AS FULL FUNDING FOR OTHER CRITICALLY IMPORTANT AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

- (6-79) MOVED WILSON-MARTINELLI to adopt Resolution #7-2006, supporting increased funding for the Fiscal Year 2007 Community Development Block Grant Funding. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (6-80) MOVED WILSON-MARTINELLI to authorize the Solicitor to prepare an ordinance creating a Police Pension Plan Committee as requested by the Wilkins Township Wage Policy Committee. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (6-81) MOVED MARTINELLI-FIALLA to approve the request of the manager to attend a seminar on personnel policy development, together with the appointed intern, offered by the DCED Local Governor's Services Center on May 9, 2006 at the Sheraton in Greensburg at a cost of \$25.00 per person. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

- (6-82) MOVED PADULA-MARTINELLI to approve the Chiefs recommendation that the Township will no longer invoice residents for the disposition of rabid or sick wildlife that is removed from their property. Also authorizing the Chief to prepare a General Order to the Officers advising that prior to contacting animal control they are to speak with a supervisor of the department. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (6-83) MOVED WILSON-FIALLA to authorize the request from VFC #1, #3, and #4 for an additional municipal donation during the 2006 fiscal year in the amount of \$15,000.00 per company for the purpose of purchasing radio equipment. Said funds to be drawn from the Emergency Management Fund, line item 190-90411. Further authorizing the purchase of radio equipment for the Fire Marshal. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (6-84) MOVED PADULA-FIALLA to authorize the Township to enter into a joint bid with the Borough of Forest Hills for dye testing of residential structures in accordance with the Consent Order and Agreement. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (6-85) MOVED FIALLA-WILSON to approve the request of Chief Guthrie to attend the annual Police Chiefs training conference held from July 9, 2006 – July 13, 2006 at a cost of \$812.00. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Mrs. Bradley stated that no action would be taken on the Chiefs request to purchase a police vehicle as she had not received all of the relevant information.

- (6-86) MOVED PADULA-FIALLA to authorize the Zoning Hearing Board to retain legal counsel (Attorney Evashavik) for their Zoning Hearing Board meeting scheduled for April 26, 2006. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Commissioners' Comments:

Mr. Padula reminded residents to turn their clocks ahead this weekend and, at the same time, change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Ms. Fialla thanked Mr. Roolf who found some old maps of the Township from 1903 and the 1960's and was kind enough to send them onto the Township. Stated that the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on April 10, 2006. Also stated in response to Mr. Fasciano's comment in Citizen Comments that he does not care about paying \$25.00 for the attendance of municipal personnel at a seminar that the Board of Commissioners is required by the Sunshine law to approve the payment of all expenses of the Township at a public meeting. Congratulated Ms. Nowikowski on her recognition as Citizen of the Year for Wilkins Township and finally, thanked all in attendance for coming to the meeting.

Mrs. Martinelli apologized for the way that the auditorium currently looks, but the Township is in the process of remodeling due to the award of \$10,000. from the State. She stated that the woodwork is to be refinished, the room will be painted and that carpeting will be purchased and installed. She is hopeful that these changes would increase the acoustics in the auditorium. Also reminded the residents that the Recreation Advisory Committee Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 8, 2006 and anyone interested in attending needs to get their slips in by tomorrow. Finally, congratulated Ms. Nowikowski on her appointment as Wilkins Township Citizen of the Year.

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Mr. Wilson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting this evening.

President Greco thanked all in attendance for coming out and showing interest in the Township. Reminded those in attendance that the Board members are residents too. Also congratulated Ms. Nowikowski on her recognition as Wilkins Township Citizen of the Year.

(6-87) MOVED MARTINELLI-PADULA to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Bradley
Secretary