

WILKINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING, MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011

The Regular Meeting of Monday, December 12, 2011 was brought to order at 7:00 PM by President Sylvia J. Martinelli. A quorum was present as follows:

Mrs. Martinelli
Mr. Padula
Ms. Fialla
Mr. Costa
Mr. Szoko

(276-11) MOVED COSTA - PADULA to approve the minutes of the Budget Meeting and the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2011 with one correction: Under Commissioner Fialla's comments change \$2,500 to \$3,500. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

Communications:

Mrs. Eleanor Miller of 540 Lucia Drive submitted correspondence expressing her appreciation to the Wilkins Township Police Department and Officer Schlanger for recovering her jewelry, which was stolen in a break-in at her home.

Mr. William Wilson of Dorothy Street submitted correspondence advising the Board that he is interested in serving in any open position.

Mr. and Mrs. James Callas of Oak Pointe Drive, Monroeville, submitted a letter requesting the help of Wilkins Township in slowing down traffic on Electric Avenue in front of the Presentation of Christ Greek Orthodox Church.

Sally Bogie, Library Director for C.C. Mellor Memorial Library, submitted correspondence thanking the Board of Commissioners for their donation of \$2,000.

Citizens' Comments:

District Judge (05208) Tom Caulfield advised the Board that December 2, 2011 was the last date that a Wilkins Township case could be filed in his court due to redistricting. The Township will now be served by District Judge Hromyak of Penn Hills. Judge Caulfield praised the Wilkins police and Mr. Hill for their professionalism and knowledge in his courtroom and stated that he is very sorry that he will no longer be able to serve Wilkins Township.

Reports:

Police Report for November, 2011:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Total Police Calls Logged	185	234
Total Criminal Offenses Reported	22	32
Criminal Arrests / Persons Charged	4	13
Criminal Offenses Cleared	3	9
Traffic Citations Issued	19	14
Parking Tags Issued	5	9
Parking Citations Issued	0	19
Monies Collected During November	\$ 2,906.61	\$ 3,578.48

Mr. Bruener's DPW Report is on file in the manager's office. Mrs. Martinelli announced that there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Balint Bridge on Wednesday at 11:30 A.M.

VFD #1 reported the following: 14 Fire Calls, Man Hours 55; Drills 2, Man Hours 44.5; Total Man Hours 99.5

VFD #3 reported the following: 14 Fire Calls, Man Hours 40.86; Activities 9, Man Hours 161.75; Total Man Hours 202.61

VFD #4 reported the following: 14 Fire Calls, Man Hours 63.75; Drills 3, Man Hours 66; Public Service 3, Man Hours 72.5; Work Details 3, Man Hours 40.5; Meetings 2, Man Hours 28.5; Total Man Hours 271.25

Building Permits:

521 Negley & 652 Highland	Demolition	114.85
The Brentmoor (Penn Towers)	New Roof	1,132.75
Sharyn Fialla – 309 Dunbar Dr	Porch Roof	54.00
Penn Center Building #4 (Ste 741)	Interior Alteration	876.50*
810 Negley Avenue	Replace interior stairs	44.00

(*\$525 is Site Plan Review)

Deed Transfer Tax:

The Township received \$3,493.18 in deed transfer tax in the month of November, representing transfer tax collected by Allegheny County in the month of October.. As of the end of November, this account is at 97.6% or 5% over budget. However, the Township received notification of transfer taxes posted for November. The total amount that the Township will receive in December for November is \$318.01. Therefore, this account will finish the year at \$34,476.40, or \$523.60 short of budget.

Tax Collector’s Report for the month of November, 2011:

Balance Collectible – Beginning of the month	\$83,493.67
Additions & Exonerations	- 0 -
Adjusted Collectible	83,493.67
Less Face Collections	- 7,146.79
Balance Collectible – End of the Month	\$76,346.88
Total Cash Collected	\$ 8,016.58

Act 511 Tax Report:

Earned Income Tax:

Current Month	\$69,736.05	Previous Year	\$32,226.81	Difference
Current YTD	598,949.40	Previous YTD	546,677.63	\$52,271.77

Local Service Tax:

Current Month	\$ 8,614.65	Previous Year	\$11,743.21	Difference
Current YTD	121,937.57	Previous YTD	144,889.90	(\$22,952.33)

Business Tax (Mercantile & Business Privilege)

Current Month	\$ 5,203.86	Previous Year	\$ 989.88	Difference
Current YTD	587,615.36	Previous YTD	539,996.64	\$47,618.72

The Solicitor’s Report is on file in the Manager’s Office.
 The Engineer’s Report is on file in the Manager’s Office.

(277-11) MOVED SZOKO - COSTA to approve the payment of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$91,535.88 as presented. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(278-11) MOVED PADULA - COSTA authorizing the Manager to advertise for a public hearing at 6:45 P.M. on Monday, January 9, 2012 for the purpose of hearing comments on a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance as it pertains to the above ground storage of

Flammable and Combustible liquids and further authorizing the Manager to advertise the Ordinance for adoption. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

ORDINANCE 1021

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILKINS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPROPRIATING OUT OF REVENUES AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012 SPECIFIC SUMS REQUIRED AS SHOWN BY THE BUDGET AND FIXING THE REAL ESTATE TAX LEVY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2012.

(279-11) MOVED PADULA - COSTA to read Ordinance 1021 for the second time by title only (Note: first reading was done on November 14, 2011). The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(280-11) MOVED PADULA - COSTA to adopt Ordinance 1021 The motion was adopted by a three to two roll call vote with Ms. Fialla and Mr. Szoko voting "NO".

ORDINANCE 1022

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILKINS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 822 OF 1992 AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NUMBER 960 OF 2004, DECREASING THE RATES OR CHARGES FOR THE USE OF THE MUNICIPALITY'S SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR SAID RATES OR CHARGES.

(281-11) MOVED COSTA - FIALLA to read Ordinance Number 1022 for the first time by title only. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(282-11) MOVED PADULA - COSTA accepting the first reading of Ordinance Number 1022. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(283-11) MOVED PADULA - FIALLA to read Ordinance 1022 for the second time by title only. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(284-11) MOVED FIALLA – SZOKO to adopt Ordinance 1022. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILKINS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE MANUAL OF RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE OPERATION OF THE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DEFINING THE DUTIES OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.

(285-11) MOVED SZOKO - PADULA to adopt Resolution #16-2011. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(286-11) MOVED PADULA - SZOKO accepting the decision of the Allegheny County Board of Viewers in establishing the assessed value of the Pittsburgh East Nissan at \$2,895,000 for the years 2006 through and including 2011. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(287-11) MOVED PADULA - COSTA authorizing the Solicitor to review the proposed agility agreement between the Township of Wilkins and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(288-11) MOVED COSTA – PADULA authorizing the Solicitor to review the proposed agreement between Tropical Amusements and the Township of Wilkins. The motion was adopted by roll call vote of 4 to 1 with Ms. Fialla voting “NO”.

(289-11) MOVED FIALLA - SZOKO to table action on the recommendation of the Recreation Advisory Board to eliminate the Pumpkin Patch Party for 2012. The motion failed by a roll call vote of 2 – 3 with Commissioners Costa, Martinelli and Padula voting “NO”.

(290-11) MOVED PADULA – COSTA accepting the recommendation of the Recreation Advisory Board to eliminate the Pumpkin Patch Party for 2012. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(291-11) MOVED COSTA – PADULA granting the request of C.C. Mellor Memorial Library to use the Community Center every Friday from 10:00 AM until 11:30 AM for the year 2012 for a year round story hour for preschoolers and a summer reading program for all children, with the understanding that a paying event at the Community Center will supersede this authority. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present.

(292-11) MOVED COSTA – PADULA cancelling the second stated meeting of the Board of Commissioners which was scheduled for December 26, 2011. The motion was adopted by a 4 to 1 roll call vote with Ms. Fialla voting “NO”.

Commissioners' Comments:

Commissioner Fialla stated that the Board of Commissioners will need to reopen the budget in January to take into consideration the changing landscape of the County's reassessment of properties as well as a new Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Police Department. She stated that it has been her honor and privilege to have served the residents of Wilkins Township for eight years and that she received many phone calls over the last couple of months thanking her for her service. She commented that it is extremely challenging to determine what the essential governmental functions are and how these should be funded. She hopes that the newly elected Commissioners will find their public service to be as rewarding as she has and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Szoko provided the Commissioners and Department Heads with a handout entitled “Blueprint for all future budgets”. He also stated that he believes that the Commissioners should treat the citizens with kindness and respect and never get personal. It has been an honor to serve for four years and thanked all of the residents that supported him. He wished the citizens good luck and best wishes and congratulated Ms. Fialla on her eight years of public service.

Commissioner Padula thanked Judge Caulfield for his service to Wilkins Township and stated that he will be sadly missed; thanked Ed Bruener and the Public Works Department; Amber Yon, John Rushford and Rebecca Bradley for their efforts on the Balint Bridge project and for finishing the bridge; asked that Mr. Patchell be invited to the ribbon cutting ceremony; congratulated the recreation Board on another fine job and stated that they continue to step up to the plate and go the extra mile; thanked Mr. Hill and the office employees for filling in during Mrs. Franc's absence and commented that while the 2012 budget is not the best budget, it is balanced and we will make do with what we have. Mr. Padula wished everyone Happy Holidays, and made the following motion:

(293-11) MOVED PADULA – FIALLA authorizing the Manager to send a letter of thanks and appreciation to Mr. Lawrence Patchell for his patience and cooperation during the rebuilding of the Balint Bridge. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present

Commissioner Costa thanked Ed Bruener and the Public Works Department employees on their hard work and for the completion of the Balint Bridge; thanked the Recreation Board for their continued volunteer work; and commented upon the pension audit that was just completed in Wilkins Township as a result of correspondence filed by Commissioner Fialla with the

Commonwealth. Mr. Costa stated that the auditor reported no findings in either the Police Pension Plan or the Non-uniform Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010 and that Ms. Fialla basically wasted taxpayer dollars at both the local and state level for the purpose of her personal witch hunt.

Commissioner Martinelli stated that she would reserve comments on the Balint Bridge for the ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday. She requested that the residents of the Woodland Hills School District take the time to complete the survey which is available on the Woodland Hills website. Mrs. Martinelli serves on an ad-hoc committee which is focusing on where the residents believe the School District should be in five years. Mrs. Martinelli wished everyone Happy Holidays.

(294-11) MOVED PADULA - FIALLA to adjourn. The motion was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote of all present. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Bradley
Secretary