



Reports:

Police Report for February 2009

	2008	2009
Total Police Calls Logged	290	319
Total Criminal Offenses Reported	26	21
Criminal Arrests/Persons Charged	10	12
Criminal Offenses Cleared	13	12
Traffic Citations Issued	43	56
Parking Tags Issued	17	33
Parking Citations Issued	4	4
Total monies collected during February	\$5,392.86	\$4,121.90

Mr. Paul Vargo’s DPW Report for February is on file in the Managers’ Office.

WTVFD #1 reported as follows: 22 Fire Calls, man-hours 118; 3 Practices, man-hours 122.5 : and 2 Meetings, man-hours 61. Total man-hours for month 301.5.

WTVFD #3 reported as follows: 14 Fires, man-hours 33.57; 1 Training Session, man-hours 65; 16 Activities, man-hours 326.5. Total man-hours for month 384.07.

Building Permits issued during February: #2574CS 1 Roof cost \$700.00. #2575CS P/C/E Interior Alteration + Plan Review \$248,109.56. #2576CS 1 Structural Roof Repair, cost \$350.00.

The Township received \$51,035.95 in real estate transfer taxes during the month of February representing deed transfers which were recorded by the County in January. Of the \$51,035.95 received, \$50,151.50 (after 2% commission) is attributable to the sale of Penn Towers in January at a price of \$10,235,000. The budget for 2009 Deed Transfer Taxes was set at \$50,000,000. With this sale, the Township is now at 105.84% of budget, having received \$52,922.35 between January and February 2009.

PA MUNICIPAL SERVICES – ACT 511 TAX REPORT:

Earned Income Taxes:

Current Month	\$92,710.72	Previous Year	\$72,833.90	Difference
Current YTD	144,101.49	Previous YTD	98,270.89	\$45,830.60

Local Service Tax:

Current Month	\$34,290.20	Previous Year	7,385.61	Difference
Current YTD	42,162.23	Previous YTD	7,385.61	\$34,776.62

Mercantile Tax:

Current Month	-0-	Previous Year	-0-	Difference
Current YTD	-0-	Previous YTD	-0-	-0-

Business Privilege Tax:

Current Month	-0-	Previous Year	-0-	Difference
Current YTD	-0-	Previous YTD	2,725.13	(\$2,725.13)

The Solicitor’s Report for February is on file in the Managers’ Office.

Mr. Rushford reported on the recent Supreme Court Ruling in the case brought by Huntley & Huntley against the Borough of Oakmont. This issue was recently decided in favor of municipalities as it pertains to a municipalities’ individual right to assign a zoning district for gas and oil wells. This issue should be referred to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation of gas wells on Union Railroad property. Also discussed at this time was Mr. Hill’s recommendation to request that the Planning Commission review the definition of “dwelling” in the Zoning Code and to review the

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requirements relative to the use of residential dwellings for transient and non-transient uses.

- (9-79) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to refer the issue of gas/oil well zoning transient/non-transient residential uses to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

The Engineers' monthly report for February 2009 is on file in the Managers' Office.

- (9-80) MOVED SZOKO-FIALLA to approve the Schedule of Bills, for February, in the amount of \$234,647.59. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

- (9-81) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to authorize the appropriate officials to execute a settlement agreement and final release between the Township of Wilkins and Chief Guthrie as outlined in the Settlement Sheet executed by Attorneys Sorek and Kane in the presence of Judge Lenihan. The motion was adopted by a 3 to 2 vote with Ms. Fialla and Mr. Szoko voting "NO".

- (9-82) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to authorize a salary adjustment, as per the settlement agreement between the Township and Chief Guthrie retroactive to March 2006 in the amount of \$22,890.87. The motion was adopted by a 3 to 2 vote with Ms. Fialla and Mr. Szoko voting "NO".

- (9-83) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to accept Chief Guthrie's application for retirement from the Wilkins Township Police Department effective March 14, 2009. The motion was adopted by a 3 to 2 vote with Ms. Fialla and Mr. Szoko voting "NO".

- (9-84) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to appoint Officer Edward Krancic as interim Chief of Police and appointing Mr. William Gamble to the position of consultant to aid the Township in the determination of a permanent Chief of Police. The motion was adopted by a 3 to 2 vote with Ms. Fialla and Mr. Szoko voting "NO".

- (9-85) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to authorize Ms. DeOrio and Mr. Hill to attend training sponsored by the PA Municipal Planning Education Institute entitled "Course in Zoning Administration" to be held at the North Huntingdon Township Municipal Building on Monday, March 16, 23 and 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM until 9:30 PM at a cost of \$95.00 each. The motion was adopted by a 4 to 1 vote with Mr. Szoko voting "NO".

- (9-86) MOVED COSTA-FIALLA to accept the recommendation of Mr. Vargo to appoint Mr. Ryan Hohn of 112 Gardenia Drive, Mr. James Albanese of 147 Gardenia Drive and Mr. Shane McClelland of 332 Dunbar Drive as part-time seasonal laborers for the Department of Public Works for a maximum of 640 hours each at \$9.00 per hour with no additional benefits. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

- (9-87) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to authorize the appropriate officials to execute an Investment Agreement with the PA Local Government Investment Trust Certificate of Deposit Placement Program. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

- (9-88) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to accept the recommendation of the Recreation Advisory Board to approve contracts for the following bands for the Summer Festival contingent upon the review and approval of the Solicitor: Joe Grushecky and the House Rockers \$3,500.00, Jimmie Ross and the Jaggerz \$3,500.00; Tom Watt – "The Buffet Man" \$2,050.00 and The Billy Price Band: \$2,500.00. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

- (9-89) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to accept the recommendation of the Recreation Advisory Board to approve the contract with Pyrotechnico for a fireworks display for the Summer Festival in the amount of \$3,500.00 contingent upon the review and approval of the Solicitor. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (9-90) MOVED COSTA-FIALLA to accept the recommendation of the Recreation Advisory Board to appoint Ms. Sandy Albert of 969 Elizabeth Street as a member of the Recreation Advisory Board. The motion was adopted by a 4-1 vote with Mr. Szoko voting “NO”.
- (9-91) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to accept the recommendation of the Recreation Advisory Board to contract with Event Services for the provision of tents, booths, tables and chairs for the Summer Festival. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (9-92) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to accept the recommendation of the Recreation Advisory Board to place an e-blast advertisement with the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of soliciting booth registrations and donations for the Summer Festival at a cost of \$100.00. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Commissioners' Comments:

Commissioner Szoko stated that he would like for individuals seeking appointment to the Township's various boards to attend a meeting to discuss their interest in the position and made the following motion:

- (9-93) MOVED SZOKO-FIALLA to require individuals seeking appointment as members of the Township's boards to attend a public meeting to discuss their interest in the position. The motion was defeated by a 3 to 2 vote with Messrs. Costa, Padula and Wilson voting “NO”.

Commissioner Szoko thanked Sergeant Lamb for a job well done on the drug arrests; stated that he thinks of the Township's police department as a junior military police. He respects and appreciates the ranks achieved by individual officers and he will vote for only the most qualified candidates; also thanked Chief Guthrie for his professionalism and stated that he will be greatly missed; finally stated that in seeking Chief Guthrie's replacement, he will look for the qualities that Chief Guthrie possesses.

Commissioner Fialla stated that in order for corruption to prevail, it takes a good man to do nothing and that she appreciates Chief Guthrie's courage to stand up for what he believed in; thanked the Recreation Advisory Board for their work on the Summer Festival; questioned whether or not a business plan had been developed for the Community Center so that the Township could begin the process of offering naming rights for the building and reminded the residents that the Children's Easter Party will be held at the Community Center on March 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 12:00 PM.

Commissioner Padula extended his sympathy to the Martinelli family and stated that Mr. Martinelli donated many years to Wilkins and that the Board should consider naming the Community Center after him; congratulated Officer Krancic on his appointment to Interim Chief of Police; congratulated Sergeant Lamb on his letter of commendation from Chief Guthrie and stated that Sergeant Lamb is an excellent Sergeant who does an excellent job on the road and that is where he is needed; thanked the Recreation Advisory Board for selecting and recommending the bands; stated that he disagrees with Commissioner Szoko with regard to badgering individuals who have volunteered to serve on the Township's committees and questioned Commissioner Szoko relative to the

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Solicitor's bill for February in which over \$3,000 was spent defending the lawsuit that he filed against the Township.

Commissioner Costa expressed his condolences to the Martinelli family; stated that the Community Center project is moving right along thanks to the multi-talented members of the Department of Public Works and stated that we will have a grand opening ceremony for the facility within the near future.

Commissioner Wilson thanked Mrs. Bradley, Mr. Vargo and Mr. McKeever for their efforts in finally resolving the outstanding issues remaining from the boundary dispute with Penn Hills; stated that the article published in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette relative to the settlement of Chief Guthrie's lawsuit was inaccurate, indicating that Mr. Wilson served as Chief of Police at the incorrect times, further supporting that he did not speak with the press relative to the settlement terms; stated that the sad thing about volunteering is that after you volunteer, someone always wants to tell you a better way to do things after you have already done them and finally stated that the Recreation Advisory Board is doing a great job of soliciting funds. He remembers a time when the Township paid for the entire event. Commissioner Wilson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

(9-94) MOVED PADULA-FIALLA to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.  
The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted ,

Rebecca Bradley  
Secretary