

WILKINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2013

The Regular Meeting of Monday, October 14, 2013 was brought to order at 7:00 PM by President Sylvia J. Martinelli. A quorum was present as follows:

Mrs. Martinelli Ms. Criner
Mr. Boyd Mr. Costa Mr. Wilson

(196-13) MOVED COSTA-WILSON to approve the minutes of the Second Stated Meeting of Monday, September 30, 2013. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Communications:

None

Citizens' Comments:

Mr. Gerry Meyer of 103 Linhart Street asked the Board who objected to the fire siren that has been at the municipal building since 1969 and expressed concerns regarding the elimination of the same.

Mr. Paul Romanelli, Fire Chief, VFC #1 also spoke about the concerns over the fire siren. He advised the Board that he would be willing to silence the siren from 10:00 PM until 6:00 AM, absent emergency situations requiring activation.

Mr. N. Leonard Hill, 405 Kingston Drive also spoke about the elimination of the fire siren and the importance of having it to firemen who may not hear their miniters or their cell phones/pagers go off due to varied circumstances such as cutting grass, and/or being in a different area from where the devices are located.

Ms. Thelma Landay of 1444 Laurel Drive stated that she supports having the fire siren continue to operate as it currently does. She is glad that it goes off and thankful that the firemen respond.

Mr. Dan Romanelli of 703 McMasters Avenue and member of VFC #1 spoke about the need to have the fire siren. Mr. Romanelli also addressed his concerns that the Township is not providing an even level of service in the "Two-Hill" section of the community. He stated that there is a street light out, the wall at McMasters is falling, trees are hanging over the right of way and weeds need to be cut.

Mr. Paul Padula of 925 Rita Drive addressed the siren and also stated that firemen do miss calls when relying solely on electronic devices. The fire siren is audible when other devices are not.

REPORTS:

The Engineers Report is on file in the Manager's Office.

Police Report for September 2013:

In addition to the monthly report, Chief Krancic reported the following:

Intoxicated male found sleeping alongside Sunoco, citation issued and released to friend; Forged prescription attempt at Rite Aid and Shop N Save, subject arrested and taken to Allegheny County Jail; Dog locked in car at Home Depot with window up, Cited for retail theft and cruelty to animals; Ultimate Fighting viewing at Buffalo Wild Wings, 24 parking tags issued; Drug arrest in Kuhn's parking lot, 90 Stamp bags of Heroin; Intoxicated male arrested at Applebee's, citations issued for Public Intoxication, Theft of Services and Disorderly Conduct; 5 motor vehicle accidents were reported.

| | <u>2012</u> | <u>2013</u> |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Police Calls Logged | 228 | 292 |
| Total Criminal Offenses Reported | 40 | 33 |
| Criminal Arrests/Persons Charged | 26 | 16 |
| Criminal Offenses Cleared | 18 | 14 |
| Traffic Citations Issued | 4 | 33 |
| Parking Tags Issued | 9 | 43 |
| Parking Citations Issued | 0 | 0 |

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DUI Task Force Traffic Citations
 Monies collected during August \$ 3,386.45 \$ 3,655.58

Mr. Bruener’s PWD Report is on file in the Manager’s Office

Fire Companies:

WTVFD #1 reported the following for September 2013: 13 Fire Calls, Man-Hours 48.5; 2 Practices, Man-Hours 40; 1 Special, Man-Hours 32; Total Man-Hours 120.5.

WTVFD #4 reported the following for September 2013: 11 Fire Calls, Man-Hours 42.5; 2 Drills, Man-Hours 19.5; 1 Public Service, Man-Hours 7.5; 1 Work Details, Man-Hours 7.5; 3 Meetings, Man-Hours 26.25; Total Man-Hours 103.25.

Building Permits Issued for September 2013: #2817-Not Picked Up; #2819-637 Brown, Interior Alterations \$1,129; #2820-Penn Ctr. Blvd., Ste 200, Interior Alterations \$1,379.81.

Deed Transfer Tax: The Township received \$7,200.67 in deed transfer tax in the month of September, representing transfer tax collected by Allegheny County in the month of August. As of September 30, 2013, it was at 103.28% of budget.

George Porado’s Tax Collector’s Report for September:

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|--|--------------|
| Balance Collectable – beginning of the month | \$103,047.73 |
| Assessments | \$0.00 |
| Additions | \$1,155.89 |
| Exonerations – Total Adjustments | \$-2,073.38 |
| Net Adjustments | \$508.80 |
| Net Collectable | \$103,552.53 |
| Face Collections | \$-5,109.15 |
| Balance Collectable – End of the month | \$98,443.38 |
| Face amount of collections | \$5,109.15 |
| Plus Penalties | \$403.50 |
| Less Discounts | \$-21.47 |
| Total Cash Collected | \$5,491.18 |
| Overpayment Refunds | \$0.00 |

Act 511 for September 2013:

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|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Earned Income Taxes:</u> | | | | Difference |
| Current Month | \$83,694.34 | Previous Year | \$92,251.97 | |
| Current YTD | \$634,844.62 | Previous YTD | \$622,311.24 | \$ 12,533.38 |
| 2013 Budget-\$650,000 | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| <u>Local Service Tax:</u> | | | | Difference |
| Current Month | \$20,945.32 | Previous Year | \$22,092.70 | |
| Current YTD | \$112,529.42 | Previous YTD | \$104,059.88 | \$8,469.54 |
| 2013 Budget-\$130,000 | | | | |

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|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| <u>Mercantile Tax:</u> | | | | Difference |
| Current Month | \$2,959.01 | Previous Year | \$49.00 | |
| Current YTD | \$320,482.27 | Previous YTD | \$328,256.50 | (\$7,774.23) |
| 2013 Budget - \$340,000 | | | | |

Business Privilege Tax:

Difference

| | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Current Month | \$7,101.27 | Previous Year | \$3,243.32 | |
| Current YTD | \$234,468.50 | Previous YTD | \$247,097.13 | (\$12,628.63) |

2013 Budget - \$250,000

The Solicitor's Report: Mr. Rushford announced that he will be teaching an all day session at a Local Government Academy workshop on Act 90. He also stated that as the Solicitor for Dormont Borough, he just successfully completed their first conservatorship under the Act.

Recreation Advisory Board:

The total earnings from the 2013 Farmers' Market are \$969.84.

(197-13) MOVED CRINER-COSTA to approve the payment of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$374,645.84. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Old Business:

(198-13) MOVED COSTA-BOYD to approve Mr. Hill's request to attend all three classes in the LGA series on "New Tools in the Blight Fight." The Board previously approved his attendance at one. The cost of all three is \$90.

New Business:

(199-13) MOVED COSTA-WILSON to accept the recommendation of the Manager to award a contract to Duquesne Light Energy, L.L.C. for electrical capacity through December 31, 2015 at \$.064 per KWH.

(200-13) MOVED COSTA-BOYD to accept the recommendation of the Recreation Advisory Board and appoint Ms. Stephanie Bonda of Frazier Drive and Ms. Krystal Huffman of Tynewood Drive to the Recreation Advisory Board.

Commissioners' Comments:

Commissioner Boyd commented upon Mr. Romanelli's statements about infrastructure versus what he perceives as nonessentials like pedestrian and bicycle trails in the community. He stated that the Township must continue to try to balance the social and cultural capital outlay with the infrastructure capital outlay in an attempt to attract younger families to the community and/or retain existing residents. The Farmers Market and Summer Festival for instance, are beneficial to the community on multiple levels. There was a composting class held at the Community Center last week that was well attended and has the side benefit of removing waste from the waste stream, potentially lowering future refuse fees for the community. The discussion has to continue to be about the social fabric of the community as well as the needed infrastructure improvements and how the two competing objectives can complement each other.

Commissioner Criner expressed her dismay that the Fire Departments did not advise the Board of Commissioners that they would be holding a safety day at Home Depot so that the Township could advertise it on the website. She also stated that she votes for the siren to stay.

Commissioner Wilson complimented Chief Krancic on his new police report that really brings to light that there is no fence around Wilkins Township and that crimes are being committed.

Commissioner Martinelli reminded the residents that there will be a Craft Show this Saturday at the Community Center and summarized the discussions that were held at the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce Legislative Breakfast last Friday that she, Commissioner Costa and Mrs. Bradley attended. Mrs. Martinelli reminded the residents that the Seniors have several great trips planned. These trips were outlined in the last newsletter and also are on the township's website.

(201-13) MOVED COSTA-BOYD to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Bradley
Secretary