

WILKINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SECOND STATED MEETING, MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2011

The Second Stated Meeting of Monday, April 25, 2011 brought to order at 7:00 PM by President Sylvia J. Martinelli. A quorum was present as follows:

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

(112-11) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 11, 2011 with the following correction under Commissioner Szoko's comments: delete the period after \$50,000, make the "E" in "Each" lower case, place a period after "year," delete the word "and," capitalize "FOURTH", the motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Correspondence:

Mr. Paul Eiswerth, CSO Coordinator, Waste Management with the Department of Environmental Protection submitted correspondence reminding the Township of its obligations under the Consent Decree and Agreement and specifically those obligations with ALCOSAN; requesting that the Township review with the Municipal Engineer the status of its ALCOSAN submissions and Consent Order and Agreement task completion progress.

Mr. Kraig Makohus, Special Olympics Western Development Director and Inspector Darrel Parker, Office of the Allegheny County District Attorney submitted correspondence requesting that the Township approve the Law Enforcement Torch Run Campaign which will be held from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> benefitting Special Olympics. The fourth leg of the run scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup> will begin at the Churchill Municipal Building and end at Sheetz on Business Route 22. The Commonwealth requires a letter of indemnification pursuant to the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

(113-11) MOVED COSTA-FIALLA to approve the Torch Run and authorizing the submittal of a letter of indemnification pending the Solicitor's review and approval. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Citizens' Comments:

Ms. Tara Lafferty Reis of 19 Garden Terrace requested permission to speak. Mrs. Martinelli stated that if she chose to speak about her election campaign, that this was not the forum.

ORDINANCE NO 1015

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILKINS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE WILKINS TOWNSHIP CODIFIED BOOK OF ORDINANCES, PART II, GENERAL LEGISLATION, CHAPTER 117, PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS, SECTION 117-21, FIRES, TO CREATE TOBACCO-FREE ZONES AT TOWNSHIP PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

(114-11) MOVED COSTA-SZOKO to read Ordinance No 1015 for the first time by title only.

(115-11) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to accept the first reading of Ordinance No 1015.

(116-11) MOVED PADULA-SZOKO to read Ordinance No 1015 for the second time by title only.

(117-11) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to adopt Ordinance No 1015.

Motions 114-11 through 117-11 were adopted by unanimous roll call vote

(118-11) MOVED FIALLA-COSTA to authorize the Manager and Engineer to continue discussions with DEP Office of Surface Mining and to meet with PENNVEST for a pre-planning meeting on the proposed sanitary/stormwater separation project in the Highland Avenue area. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO 4-2011

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILKINS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE No. R-19772 INTO WILKINS TOWNSHIP, PENN CENTER EAST, 3448 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15235 FROM 11655 FRANKSTOWN ROAD, PENN HILLS, PA 25345.

(119-11) MOVED SZOKO-COSTA to adopt Resolution No. 4-2011. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

(120-11) MOVED COSTA-FIALLA to authorize Mockenhaupt & Associates to develop a policy relating to Conflicts of Interest and a proposed Resolution for Procuring Professional Services pursuant to the requirements of Act 44 of 2010, with payment to be drawn from the Police Pension Plan. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

(121-11) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to authorize the distribution of budgeted funds to WHEMS in the amount of \$6,917. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

(122-11) MOVED PADULA-COSTA to authorize the Manager to advertise a proposed ordinance authorizing the Township to participate in joint civil service testing with the municipal members of the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

(123-11) MOVED COSTA-FIALLA opting in to the Allegheny County Economic Development, Department CDBG and HOME program during program years 2012, 2013 and 2014. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

(124-11) MOVED FIALLA-COSTA to accept the recommendation of Mr. Bruener to employ the following individuals for 640 hours during the summer at a rate of \$9.50 per hour: Mr. James Albanese, Mr. Robert J. Pistella, Mr. William Hornick and Mr. Josh Hoffee. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Commissioners' Comments:

Mr. Szoko stated that his number one goal as an elected official is to balance the budget without raising taxes; further discussed his idea for merging fire services as presented at the last meeting; stated that he was bothered that when he asked for specific numbers at the last meeting, he was told that that was not the way it worked and that he is standing by his proposal and hopes to hear recommendations for improvements to that proposal.

Mr. Costa commented on the Letter to the Editor written by James Dick which was published in the Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and stated that if Mr. Dick attended any meetings of the Board, he would understand that donations for the fire departments are way down and that we cannot continue to require our volunteers to fundraise to provide funds for firefighting equipment. Residents should be aware that if we do not have a fire department, they will not be able to get fire insurance on their homes and then we will all have to hook up our garden hoses to help our neighbors if their houses catch on fire.

Ms. Fialla stated that she believes residents of Wilkins Township are experiencing extreme anxiety because of the budget cuts that the Woodland Hills School District is going to make and because of increasing fuel and food prices. She believes that residents want to support their local fire departments, but are unable to due to economic conditions. She stated that she believes that it is up to the Board of Commissioners to find out how we can run things more efficiently without raising taxes and continue to provide funding to the VFC's. At this time, she believes that a dedicated fire tax should be an option of last resort.

Mr. Padula stated that VFC #3, of which he is a member, recently sent out 1,037 subscription applications to residents in their district. Of those applications, they received 226 back. They have received funding in the amount of \$10,750. Out of that, they have to pay \$1,300 to the company that sent out the subscriptions. VFC #3 just got done holding fish fry's and will have a dance next week and sell hoagies for Election Day. Mr. Padula questioned how much more the volunteers are expected to do. He stated that he is not asking for a tax, but a service fee, similar to Forest Hills.

Mrs. Martinelli stated that she does not want to add fuel to the fire department debate, but she cannot envision the merger of the departments. She also advised everyone that the new date for Clean-Up Wilkins will be on May 7<sup>th</sup> and stated that she has received a complaint about littering from on Highland Avenue.

(125-11) MOVED FIALLA-COSTA to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Bradley  
Secretary