

WRIGHTSVILLE

YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

WRIGHTSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2024

Borough Chambers
601 Water Street
Wrightsville, PA

In attendance: President Giandalia, Vice President Lyle, Councilwoman Barrett, Councilwoman Ferrari, Councilman White, Mayor Slenker, Solicitor Ruth, Treasurer Sahd, Engineer McCoy, Secretary Hoff

On phone: Councilman Gromling

President Giandalia called the Regular Meeting of the Wrightsville Borough governing body to order at 6:30pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

James Singleton – Asst. VP, Glatfelter Insurance:

Mr. Singleton introduced himself to members of Council and those in attendance. Mr. Singleton relayed to members of council during his brief presentation his professional recommendation to ensure that borough personnel is obtaining certificates of insurance from all entities that are having events in Borough parks as an additional layer of protection. Councilwoman Barrett asked about applicability to noncommercial entities and Mr. Singleton recommended that they also provide a certificate of liability insurance as an additional layer of protection making sure that Wrightsville Borough is listed as an additional insured on all certificates.

Mark Henise – ELA Group:

Mr. Henise was in attendance to answer any questions about the recent traffic study that was conducted at Locust and 2nd Streets. Councilwoman Barrett relayed to those in attendance that she meet with concerned neighbors and a few concerns were discussed amongst those she met with noting the following: (1) study focused on the intersection only and not the entire area of concern (2) majority of collisions reported on study were between 2nd and 3rd Streets with only 2 collisions being reported (when in fact there were 8 reported by residents in the area of concern), (3) timing of data collected in study, (4) what other data was collected to conduct the study- seems as if the data collected focused only on the intersection and not entire area.

Locust Street resident Rick Schmidt stated that the whole area is a racetrack.

Mr. Henise noted that the survey was conducted between 6am-6pm and was conducted within 300 feet of intersection in all directions.

President Giandalia asked what the consequences would be if 4 way stops signs are installed now that the survey has been conducted overriding solutions noted in study. Solicitor Ruth replied that the Borough would lose liquid fuel financial allocations.

Councilwoman Barrett suggested that a special meeting should be held to discuss what possible solutions can be taken to decrease the issues that warranted the traffic study.

Sandra Dosch:

Ms. Dosch expressed her dislike that the council is considering abolishing the wards noting “did anyone ask their constituents what they wanted?” Ms. Dosch feels that the whole town should have a choice not just members of council and thinks the question to abolish the wards or not should be placed on the ballot for voters to answer. Solicitor Ruth and President Giandalia replied that it can not be placed on the ballot as it is a nonbinding opinion.

Sharon Young:

Mrs. Young stated to members of council that the PPL pole issue on Vine St. is still not corrected. Mrs. Young asked why the 3 pages of complaints in the complaint report are not being taken care of. Mrs. Young announced to those in attendance that she is not in favor of ward abolishment.

Crystal Bolton:

Mrs. Bolton noted to those in attendance the following: (1) she is disgusted with Council, (2) why are street closures not being approved noting that Front Street should not have been closed for the fireworks and also noted that she was disgusted on how the whole July 4th fireworks event was handled including the personnel and the planning, (3) why are Council email addresses not on the website? Do you not want anyone to contact you? and (4) there is no reason to change what is not broken therefore there is no reason to abolish the wards, and council should be listening to what the constituents want.

Mel McDonald:

Mrs. McDonald relayed to members of council no one wants to get rid of ward and no one cares about the mapping. Mrs. McDonald mentioned that the water issue along S. Front St. is still an issue. Mrs. McDonald asked President Giandalia “why do you want to get rid of wards?” No answer was provided. Mrs. McDonald also noted “Eric can’t stand that Alicia and Sara are doing stuff”.

Cora Rowe:

Ms. Rowe relayed to members of council that she is not in favor of abolishing the wards and asked if a current council member can be voted off.

Robert Heiserman:

Mr. Heiserman relayed to those in attendance to be cautious as “a government got in trouble with taxation without representation”.

Abby Duncan:

Ms. Duncan asked why a gender confusion comment was made in a most recent York Dispatch article by Eric White. Mr. White responded that she was not on the call and doesn’t know what else was said. Ms. Duncan noted that Eric needs to step down as no one wants him on council. Ms. Duncan thanked Councilwomen Ferrari and Barrett for all that they have done for the town.

Kristi Barry:

Ms. Barry asked a series of questions regarding abolishing the wards that included (1) What is the rationale for the changing the wards now, (2) What the motivation is or intended purpose, (3) What the benefits and drawbacks are, and (4) Has ample research been conducted. Ms. Barry also stated the timing of the proposal seems odd.

Christina Runkle:

Ms. Runkle asked members of council why individuals cannot have a say about abolishing the wards and she is concerned that we will only have one polling place.

Councilwoman Barrett read aloud a statement she received via email from Joseph A. Moore.

See Attachment section at end of meeting notes

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Fire:

Report was provided with meeting materials. Chief Livelsberger reported to those in attendance that 87 calls were received for service in June and a total of 533 calls were received year to date.

Police:

Report was provided with meeting materials. Chief Pollock relayed report highlights to those in attendance.

Emergency Management Coordinator:

Report was provided with meeting materials.

Ambulance:

No report was provided with meeting materials.

Zoning:

No report was provided with meeting materials.

Streets & Parks:

Report was provided with monthly meeting materials.

Engineer:

Report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Engineer McCoy relayed report highlights to those in attendance

Treasurer:

Treasurer Sahd provided monthly reports with meeting materials and relayed report highlights to those in attendance.

Councilman White made a motion to approve the July check register as presented by the treasurer. VP Lyle seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Councilman White made a motion to approve the July financial report as presented by the treasurer. Councilwoman Ferrari seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mayor:

Mayor Slenker relayed to those in attendance a complaint committee meeting was held on August 1, 2024. Mayor Slenker noted that she thinks that a part-time code enforcement officer is needed because things are getting worse with property maintenance matters. Councilwoman Barrett noted that she has reached out to Marietta Borough and spoke with the borough secretary, Julie Hall. She offered to share the job posting they used to recruit an in-house part time code enforcement officer.

Solicitor:

Report was provided with meeting materials.

ACTION ITEMS:

Councilwoman Ferrari made a motion to approve the Recreation/Entertainment Permit Application for Brotherly Love Scratch Kitchen -Makers Market vendor event at John Wright Restaurant on Sunday, September 8, 2024, from 9am-4pm. Councilman White seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Councilman White made a motion to approve the Recreation/Entertainment Permit Application for Noels Café -Makers Market vendor event at John Wright Restaurant on Sunday, September 8, 2024, from 9am-4pm. Councilwoman Barrett seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Councilman White made a motion to approve the Recreation/Entertainment Permit Application and Road Closure for Burning Bridge Tavern fundraising events on the following dates:

- Saturday, September 7, 2024
- Friday, September 20, 2024
- Saturday, September 28, 2024
- Saturday, October 12, 2024
- Friday, October 25, 2024
- Saturday, October 26, 2024
- Saturday, November 9, 2024
- Saturday, November 16, 2024

Event time: 5pm-11pm

Road Closure:

- N. Front Street from Hellam Street to Locust Street
- Division Alley from Alley A to Locust Street

VP Lyle seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Councilwoman Ferrari thanked everyone who came to the meeting this evening. Councilwoman Ferrari distributed a Ward Discussion Handout to members of council which highlighted when the 3 wards were established in Wrightsville noting that Ward 1 has 425 voters, Ward 2 has 445

voters and Ward 3 has 567 voters – Source: York County Board of Elections. The handout included other PA Municipalities:(1) Greensburg, (2) Conshohocken and (3) Mount Joy that have ward based voting in their municipality and finally the handout included information from Chapter 600 –(titled Wards) of the PA Borough Code Councilwoman Ferrari stated that after discussing the abolishment of wards at the last meeting, her and Councilwoman Barrett did some homework and noted that there are options rather than just abolishing the wards as Councilman White stated was the only option. Councilwoman Ferrari stated that this is a significant decision that is being made and there are other options to consider noting that she contacted York County Planning Commission and boundary lines can be drawn for voting districts with their assistance for \$25/hour to reapportion the wards, so abolishment is not the only answer. Councilwoman Ferrari also noted that she has spoken to other municipalities that have gone through redrawing ward boundaries and no consultant has ever been used. Councilwoman Ferrari stated that our job as council members is to uphold what our constituents want, and abolishment of the wards is not what they want.

Councilman White made a motion to advertise Ordinance 2024-4, an Ordinance of the Borough of Wrightsville, York County, Pennsylvania, abolishing all wards within the Borough in accordance with Section 601 (A)(6) of the Pennsylvania Borough Code. VP Lyle seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Roll call vote recorded as the following:

President Giandalia – yes

Vice President Lyle – yes

Councilwoman Barrett – no

Councilman White – yes

Councilwoman Ferrari – no

Councilman Gromling – yes

The vote passed with a 4-2 vote.

Vice President Lyle made a motion to approve Application for Payment for 2024 Street Improvements Project on N. 6th Street as follows: (1) Liquid Fuels payment in the amount of \$35,145.00 and (2) General Fund payment in the amount of \$4,840.00. Councilman White seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Vice President Lyle made a motion to approve the July 1, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Councilwoman Ferrari seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

No July Planning Meeting was held. No minutes to approve.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:

President Giandalia asked members of council to present items for 2025 budget consideration to Treasurer Sahd as soon as possible.

PUBLIC WORKS:

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

No report.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Councilman White relayed to those in attendance that July 4th fireworks were held with no major issues.

Councilman White announced that Hellam Township will be hosting National Night Out on August 6, 2024, starting at 6pm. The event will be held at Hellam Township Municipal building.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Councilwoman Barrett relayed to those in attendance that she has no major announcements to report. Councilwoman Barrett noted that she is continuing to communicate with local organizations and businesses interested in hosting events in Borough parks.

COMPLAINT:

Vice President Lyle relayed to members of council that an estimate was received from Doolittle's Tree Service for \$1600.00 to clean up 319 Vine St. health and safety property maintenance violations. Councilman White made a motion to modify meeting agenda to add expenditure item as an action item. VP Lyle seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Vice President Lyle made a motion to authorize Doolittle's Tree Service to clean up health and safety property maintenance violation at 319 Vine St. Councilwoman Ferrari seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Councilwoman Barrett relayed to members of council that she is communicating with Albright Design Studio to incorporate a web-based solution program to manage the influx of complaints and assign tasks to council to manage action taken with complaints received. Councilwoman Barrett relayed that preliminary costs to implement this program will be \$750 to \$975 for a one time set up fee with a \$79 annual fee.

PERSONNEL:

No report.

OUTREACH:

Councilwoman Ferrari relayed to members of Council and those in attendance that she would like to see some improvements made to the format of the Borough website, particularly noting that the website is not mobile phone friendly. Councilwoman would like to have all Council members email addresses posted on the website, Right-To-Know forms and complaint forms on the website. Councilwoman Ferrari would also like to have all meetings live streamed for those that can not attend the meetings. Secretary Hoff told Councilwoman Ferrari that the Right-To-Know and complaint forms are already on the website.

Councilwoman Ferrari relayed to those in attendance the Summer Lunch Program will be ending on August 16th and thanked everyone who assisted with the program for their help and generous donations.

ATTACHMENTS:

From Mr. Joseph A. Moore:

I want to start by reminding the council that they are public servants. It seems that in their authoritarian quest they have forgotten that simple fact. Ever since the election of the current mayor, the council has repeatedly ignored the wishes of the voters of Wrightsville. This is evidenced by the dictatorial means they chose to appoint Eric J White to the council immediately after he lost his seat in a legitimate election. This is pertinent because now they want to use those same dictatorial means to change how elections are held in Wrightsville. The champion for this change to the election system is someone who failed to win his seat by election.

Let's think about that for a moment – someone who failed to win his seat by election is now wanting to change how the election system works. HUH? This goes way beyond being inappropriate, this is an awful lot closer to insanity. You have to be pretty delusional – or just in dictator mode – to think this comes anywhere near being an appropriate decision.

You are public servants. Instead of being self-serving and focused on what you want, take heed to what the people you serve are telling you they want.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:

President Giandalia announced that no August Planning Meeting will be held. Council will reconvene on Monday, September 9, 2024.

ADJOURNEMENT:

Councilman White made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:20pm. Councilwoman Ferrari seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammie Hoff
Borough Secretary

