

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
APRIL 11, 2017**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Mark Burns
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present,
Kulpmont Borough Council held the meeting for general purpose on
Tuesday, April 11, 2017

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor Novakoski, Bruno R. Varano, Stephen Motyka, George Malakoski, Walter Lutz, Mark Burns and Richard Zigarski.

ABSENT: Nicholas Goretski

ABSENT: Solicitor William C. Cole, Treasurer Paul A. Niglio

PRESENT: Code Officer Russ Moroz, Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk, Chief of Police Patrick McAndrew and Borough Supervisor Bruce Graff.

OTHERS PRESENT: Stephanie Niglio, F. Diminick, Joe Pancerella, Bernie Nestico, Jan Nestico, Nick Bozza, Ray Siko, Steve Bielskie, Rose Bielskie, John Grinaway, Russ Moroz, Joe McGinley, Sr., Joe McGinley, Jr. and Jeffrey Gilotti.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON ANYTHING THAT IS ON THE AGENDA:

Joe Cesari of Kulpmont stated that some of the banners have arrived and displayed one of the banners with the picture of Councilman Motyka's father to Council and the public at the meeting. He stated that he is very pleased with them and stated that they should start going up before May 30th and will most likely be taken down in November. Mr. Cesari stated that we do not have any gals on any of the banners yet and stated that he is waiting for a gal to get one of these banners. He stated that once they start to go up he expects that there will be some additional inquiries to purchase a banner. Mr. Cesari stated that they will probably go up when the 100th have their flags and are ready to go.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Bruno R. Varano)

Mr. Varano stated that the Highway Occupancy Permit has been obtained for the 6th Street Project and that Council will need to advertise for sealed bids for the 6th Street Project.

MOTION- A motion was made to advertise bids for the 6th Street Project by Mr. Lutz and seconded by Mr. Zigarski.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Mr. Varano stated that Bids will be accepted until 3:00 pm on May 8th and then the bid is expected to be awarded at the May 9th meeting. Mr. Varano stated that they do not have to be opened at a public meeting they just need to be opened right here in public.

Mr. Varano stated that a motion is needed to reject all bids on the demo project of the building.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion to reject all bids on the demolition for 860 Spruce Street and was seconded by Mr. Malakoski.

Mr. Varano stated that none of the bids received for the demolition of the Wilson Building met our specifications as far as abating the asbestos and all concerns on the hazardous materials. He added that some members of Council met with the demolition contractors at the site on Monday and so they are all on the same page now. He added that the project will be re-bid and a clause will be added on asbestos removal.

Mr. Motyka questioned if the motion includes the bid to purchase the building being rejected also and asked if that should be done in the same motion. Mr. Varano replied that he thinks so and asked Mr. Lutz if he wants to add that to his motion. Mr. Lutz replied yes. Mr. Varano asked Mr. Malakoski on his second. Mr. Malakoski seconded the motion to reject all bids for the demolition and the purchase of 860 Spruce Street.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion to reject all bids on the demolition and purchase bid for 860 Spruce Street and was seconded by Mr. Malakoski.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), ZIGARSKI (yes), VARANO (yes)
6 YEAS and 0 NAYS

Mr. Varano stated that he has been notified by the Northumberland County Housing Authority that there is one full HOME grant available to a resident that qualifies in the Borough of Kulpmont and that the amount is \$20,000.00. Mr. Varano encouraged anyone in the borough that would like to apply to pick up an application.

Mr. Varano stated that he heard today from John Klinger from Aqua Water Co. and stated that they agreed to re-pave the streets in the upcoming project curb to curb. Mr. Varano stated that was good news adding that he went back to his superiors and put some pressure on them and so that is good news. Mr. Lutz questioned how many streets. Mr. Varano stated that he thinks that there were three on Scott and then 14th and part of 13th, Mr. Varano stated that he is not sure. Mr. Lutz stated that he thinks Mr. Motyka expressed some objections and he did a good job, a very very good job. Mr. Lutz continued to say they were only going to do a little piece and asked if that was correct. Mr. Lutz stated that you all met with him and stated that he thinks Mr. Varano was at the meeting and stated that they all did a good job. Mr. Varano stated that on two streets they were going to only do half of the street. Mr. Lutz made the comment to Mr. Varano "good for you."

It was questioned what streets would be paved in the borough. Mr. Varano replied that John Klinger from Aqua agreed to pave all streets curb to curb involved in the Aqua project. Mr. Varano stated that the borough did not do any paving last year with the Aqua project either. He stated that if there is a street or streets that need to be paved this year, Mr. Malakoksi and Bruce Graff can see which one or one's need to be considered and contact Barry Gaverick from PennDOT.

MAYORS REPORT- (Bernard P. Novakoski)

Mr. Lutz asked Mr. Varano if he could tell a little bit about the USDA loan, just a little bit. Mr. Varano asked Mr. Lutz what it is he wants to know. Mr. Lutz replied that he does not want to know adding that he wants the citizens to know. He stated getting ready to close out the loan and.....

Mr. Varano replied that The USDA loan amount will be \$790,000.00 which the original 3 mill increase will cover the loan without any additional increase in taxes. Mr. Varano stated that the building purchase price was \$250,000.00, plus the remodel for another \$305,000.000 or \$308,000.00 and said don't hold him to that because he is not sure of the number exactly, \$28,500.00 architect fees, approximately \$100,000.00 or so to take care of the Wilson Building, put a roof on the garage and if we have money left over we will build a small pole building to house equipment.

Mr. Lutz commented that with the money that we have got so far, there is still some left, the biggest issue we have is the Wilson building and stated that we should have more than enough money to take care of the Wilson building.

Mr. Varano stated that we are well within our budget and we may have a few extra pennies left to help with the 6th Street project. Mr. Varano questioned Rhonda if we have \$10,000.00 left in that, for that grant we got. Rhonda Wilk replied that it was \$15,000.00 that we had for that project. Mr. Varano stated that he thinks the project is going to cost \$35,000.00 or somewhere around there and so we will need another \$20,000.00 for that. Mr. Varano stated that he is thinking \$15,000.00 for the roof and another \$5,000.00 for the parking lot across the street and asked Mr. Motyka if that is what he is thinking. Mr. Motyka agreed and stated that he is thinking that we may cover that with grants.

Mayor Novakoski wished everyone a Happy and safe Easter.

SECRETARY'S REPORT- (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk stated that approval is needed on the meeting minutes from the March 28, 2017 regular meeting and the meeting held on October 25, 2016 meeting minutes.

Mr. Varano stated that the October 25th one fell through the cracks somehow, with all that has been going on up here.

MOTION- A motion was made by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. Zigarski to approve the minutes from the March 28th 2017 and the October 25th 2016 meeting minutes.

Mr. Lutz questioned if the abbreviation FHWA on page (4) is correct or if it should read USDA. It was agreed that it was USDA and will be corrected. Mr. Lutz stated that on page 16, the 4th paragraph on the bottom, you have to, t o and it should be too, t o o. Mr. Varano commented that he would guess that spell check did not catch it.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), ZIGARSKI (yes), VARANO (yes)
6 YEAS and 0 NAYS

Mr. Varano stated that Mr. Goretski called and stated that he was passing a stone. Mr. Varano stated that he told him he would relay that adding that he is sure everyone wanted to know.

Mr. Lutz stated he has a few things and thinks that it falls under the secretary deal adding that he just wanted to mention briefly and then he will pass it over. Mr. Lutz stated that we have an incorrect for January 4, 2016, there are two sets of minutes for January 4th, the 10th of January minutes are missing and then in the description and things of that nature..... just to clean it up. He stated that in regards to minutes, he thinks that people read the minutes. Mr. Varano replied that one of the January 4th minutes is probably the re-organization meeting. Mr. Lutz stated that January 10th is missing adding that he will pass the list on and if there are any questions to give him a call.

TREASURERS REPORT (Paul A. Niglio)

Rhonda Wilk stated that everyone received a copy of the financial statement and a list of the bills to be paid and stated that a motion approval is needed to accept the financial statement and to pay the bills.

MOTION- Mr. Zigarski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to accept the financial statement and to pay the bills.

Mr. Lutz questioned what the bill for Rileigh's Outdoor Décor was for. His question was answered by Mr. Varano stating the bill for the Hometown Hero Banner order and that money used to pay Rileigh's was the money collected with the banner applications.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), ZIGARSKI (yes), VARANO (yes)
6 YEAS and 0 NAYS

Rhonda Wilk stated that a motion is needed to advertise and accept the 2016 audit.

MOTION- Mr. Burns made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to advertise and accept the 2016 Audit.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), ZIGARSKI (yes), VARANO (yes)
6 YEAS and 0 NAYS

SOLICITORS REPORT (William C. Cole)

Mr. Varano stated that we did go over the loan close adding that Council will have a quick meeting next week to adopt an Ordinance for loan closing at 7:00 p.m. adding that it should last only 10 minutes, we should be out of here in five to ten minutes and onto the Sewer Authority meeting.

POLICE CHIEFS REPORT (Patrick McAndrew)

Report attachment # 2. Chief McAndrew stated that he has placed an ammunition order.

FIRE CHIEFS REPORT- (Kevin O’Hearn)

Report attachment #3.

Bruno Varano stated that he does not see Kevin O’Hearn here, but he does see Ray and Jeff and asked if anyone has any questions for the Fire Chief’s. Mr. Lutz stated that they all did an incredible job on that fire on Scott Street adding that the whole block could have went, incredible. Mr. Varano commented absolutely and asked if they could stick around a little bit after the meeting for an executive session.

Ray Siko asked the President if he could have the floor a little bit. Mr. Varano granted the request. Ray Siko stated they had the fire down on Scott Street, which in this town was a unique challenge because it was the first fire here with a tin roof and so they got a lot of learning experience out of it. He stated that he had a couple of negative feedbacks brought back to him from a borough resident who lives nowhere near this fire.

Ray Siko addressed the News-Item and stated that this is for the paper, no disrespect to anyone in this room because this person is not here. He stated that if anyone has any concerns in regards to the operation of the Fire Department he asks that they contact one of the Fire Chiefs. Ray Siko added that if anybody has any questions of reference to tactics and strategies at a fire they know where he lives, his phone number is everywhere and they know where he is at. Ray Siko stated that he has been involved with this fire department for 33 years and stated that he takes it to heart when this nonsense starts, people running their mouths. He stated that the gentleman was lucky that he was busy doing other things or they would have had a nice talking to with him over the situation. Ray Siko stated that his point is and this is for everyone who sits on council. He stated don’t defend us, you don’t have to do that, when you hear something he asked that they call him and stated that he will be more than glad to address it and especially when it comes to tactics fighting a fire. He stated that they do not need an arm chair quarterback and stated that they have over 150 years of experience. He added that they do not need an arm chair quarterback that thinks this is how things should be done, or knows better, or seen it on you tube or google, he stated that does not fly with him adding that he could give two shit’s.

Ray Siko stated that if you hear something to call him, he will be happy to address it with anybody. Ray Siko stated that for their community and their size adding that he is not speaking on behalf of being a member. Ray Siko stated that he has seen firefighters come and go and has seen members stick it out through thick and thin. Ray Siko stated that our Fire Department in this town has something to stand up for and stated that it was recognized by multiple companies of mutual aid that came in to help fight this fire.

Ray Siko stated that they were behind the eight ball from the get go with this fire adding that he does not know what kind of watch this person has and if the mickey mouse fell off his arm, but he has the official report from the County 911 center and from the time of dispatch until the East End Engine pulled up in front of the house it was seven minutes and that is volunteers, the West End Engine was right behind them. Ray Siko stated that when he said called on scene he wants everyone to know that they responded and hit the hydrant at 10th and Scott Street, laid their line all the way up Scott Street and then called on scene.

Ray Siko stated that he understands that this gentleman wanted to get his knocks in and ran his jib to anyone who wanted to listen except to the people he should have, he would have been put in his place. Ray Siko stated that as a fire official in this town, it won't be tolerated and that he personally plans on seeing the gentleman and speaking with him about it. Ray Siko stated that if you hear anything negative to please let him know. Mr. Varano stated that as far as sticking up for them, he stated that they have had their in's and out's in the past but that he will always stick up for them adding that he always has said that they are the best fire fighters in the area, if not in the state, seriously.

Ray Siko commented that the last thing that volunteer fire fighters need is negative press from someone who does not have a clue. Ray Siko stated that it is no big secret and that everybody knows in this town that we don't know if we are going to be out on the street next week or are we going to have a station, everybody knows it. Ray Siko stated that they are getting over it and working through it and everybody understands it. He added that these volunteers hear it and they don't have to deal with it adding several of his guys were at that fire and left for work in the morning after being up all night and then after work came back to clean the apparatus and get it restored.

Mr. Lutz commented to Mr. Siko that he is preaching to the choir. Mr. Siko replied that he understands that and that he already established that when he said no intention to anybody here. Mr. Lutz stated that you always need to put it in context of the source. Mr. Varano stated as he said we have had our beefs but as a fire department you guys cannot be beat.

Ray Siko thanked Mr. Varano and Council. Mr. Lutz made the comment to Ray Siko to come over his place and he will give him some counsel. Ray Siko stated that he hopes about 32 ounces worth. Mr. Varano thanked the fire department again and said they did a fine job.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Kevin O'Hearn)

No Report

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT (TRI County COG)

No Report

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT (Russ Moroz)

Report Attachment 4

Mr. Varano questioned if anyone has any questions for Russ Moroz.

Mr. Lutz stated that he has become Russ's assistant and, but in any event, what he did was put some statistics together looking at code enforcement. He stated that the whole ordinance issue, the number of citations issued other than for the mill there were only two in January, \$50.00 and zero paid.

Mr. Lutz stated that February there was six, \$200.00 and \$100.00 paid, March there were 44 and if you recall, I think the snow storm was the 12th and Mr. Moroz being the good soldier that he is was very involved in the snow removal, the total was \$1200.00 and we already got \$250.00 worth of fines paid. Mr. Lutz stated that it was 44 in a very short period of time and stated that his notion is that if they would have had reasonable weather we would have had 200, and the deal with all of those citations, adding that we can talk about it later there were some citations that we had a particularly terrible situation up on Pine Street. Mr. Lutz stated that we fined the person a couple of times and she paid it. He stated that they went up and looked if there was four inches of dog droppings in her yard.

Mr. Lutz stated that is what it is going to take a very concerted effort. He added that certainly the ordinances he came to understand quite a bit more but that the action is to say "no you can't do that." He added that you must be persistent and do it every single day, but Russ needs some help and so he will be his assistant for a while. He commented that what pisses him off is that he must call him Mr. Moroz. Mr. Lutz stated 44 and we are just getting going adding we got some problems in the borough.

Mr. Varano asked Mr. Lutz if he is on that committee. Mr. Lutz replied that he thinks Mr. Goretski is the head of that committee, but he is cool with it. Mr. Varano asked if he is number two on that committee though. Mr. Lutz again said he is cool with it. Mr. Lutz stated that we could track down New York Bank, track down 947, 949 and said that we are getting there. Mr. Varano stated that he does not know if he has anything planned for spring clean-up but stated that they did one last year, the Mayor and the Police Department went out and stated that they went out with the Code Officer and stated that he thinks they will do the same again this year but that he will not say when.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), ZIGARSKI (yes), VARANO (yes)
6 YEAS and 0 NAYS

Mr. Lutz stated that they were called for an inspection on Monday and they walked in and there were two containers of garbage sitting in the yard and said that they did not even go inside the house stating that he said we're done and asked council if they could imagine.

Mr. Burns questioned what could be done with all the cars around town with orange stickers on them. Russ Moroz replied that the unfortunate thing is that they need to be in a secured locked facility and stated that Ray Siko will know more about this but that they need to be in a secured locked facility and when we tow it they become our responsibility. Ray Siko stated that with a police tow there has got to be a licensed salver adding that he is sure that the Chief is well aware of it.

Mr. Varano asked that when we tear the building down and if we fence it in..... Ray Siko interjected and said that you don't want the headache, you are talking ground insurance, it must be lit and secure and until the owner is located you are responsible for the property so if the owner comes back and says that the car ran perfectly fine, you towed it and now it doesn't run.

Mr. Lutz stated that the thing with that is, Mr. Burns has a good point we have vehicles all over town trashing the town and stated that his argument would be that we need to do what is necessary to clean up town and if we have got to go ahead and build an impound and go through all of that, that is what we have to do, we will have to pay the money and that is what we will have to do. Mr. Lutz stated that hopefully then we have some sort of a fine situation. Mr. Lutz stated that it is incomprehensible that somebody is just abandoning cars in the middle of the neighborhood.

Mr. Varano stated that when you put a tow sticker on them, they are moved to another part of town and then we will have to start all over again and the law states 90 days.

SERVICE AND FACILITIES – (George Malakoski)

Mr. Malakoski stated that the Food Surplus will hold a distribution on April 20th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at the Borough Garage for Borough residents enrolled in the program.

Mr. Malakoski announced that the playground is now open.

Mr. Malakoski stated that he does not know if anyone followed the street sweeper when it was out in the beginning of the month, it was a dust ball. Mr. Malakoski stated that they had to get a guy in to look at it and see what the problem was. He added that the pump that spreads the water around was what the problem was and the part is \$410.00 plus labor cost.

MOTION- Mr. Malakoski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lutz to repair the street sweeper at a cost of \$410.00 for the part plus the cost of labor to repair.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Malakoski stated that the Borough buys the work clothes and stated that Bruce has not got anything for three years and stated that he has a price quote from Academy at Mount Carmel for jackets and a quote for jeans at a cost of \$876.63.

MOTION- Mr. Malakoski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lutz to purchase uniforms at a cost of \$876.63

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Varano stated that he would just like to mention that in the past we rented uniforms monthly and council did away with that because they would much rather have their own.

Mr. Lutz questioned Mr. Malakoski if we have any idea if Charles is coming back. Mr. Malakoski replied that we do not know adding that it is very early to tell when he will be back. Mr. Malakoski stated that he will still need some surgery and is going through therapy. Mr. Varano added that he is in good spirits and has movement in his fingers.

Mr. Lutz stated that what happened today was that the guys were doing recycling and being the good soldier that he is Mr. Moroz was right there helping with the recycling adding that the fact of the matter is that we are a little short.

Mr. Lutz stated that he does not know if we could get some temporary help. Mr. Lutz stated that we have a lot of code stuff and we have a lot adding that he does not think that Mr. Moroz should be taken away from that.

Mr. Lutz questioned if we could put a motion on the floor to advertise to hire some part time help for thirty hours or so. Bruce Graff spoke up that he is against that adding that he does not have the time to train a new guy, Bruce stated that he would just approve him for more time. Mr. Lutz questioned what about the situation like today, you were short. Bruce Graff replied that the only reason he needed help today was because he was meeting with the guy for the street sweeper.

Mr. Lutz replied that is the way it goes sometimes. Bruce Graff replied that he understands that, but everything works out and stated that if Russ couldn't make it then Doug and Barry could have handled it. Bruce added that today was only tin, and he figured that he would call Russ.

Bruce Graff stated that his thing is that if someone is hired that he does not have time to train somebody right now. Mr. Lutz commented "let's not kill Mr. Moroz." Mr. Varano directed the Street Department to work overtime if they must do that. Bruce Graff commented that he will work 10 hours a day if needed adding that he does not have a problem with that.

Mr. Lutz stated that the signs coming into town need some attention and commented that he is not interested in doing it adding that he may get arrested. Mr. Varano agreed and stated that Bruce could look at it and that it should be brought up to Nick and asked that they to make sure to include him.

FINANCE/PURCHASING/GRANTS (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka stated that at the last meeting they talked about dates when we could re-vamp the parking lot. Mr. Motyka stated that the parking lot is not ideal for parking vehicles because of the curb across the whole front. Mr. Motyka stated that he is going to be here Thursday morning and is going to put the application in to get some prisoners for help. Mr. Motyka stated that they would build a retaining wall and level off the alleyway. Mr. Motyka stated that if we build a retaining wall and step it towards Pine Street and make that work, adding that you would probably be able to get twelve cars over there if it is done right. Mr. Motyka stated that last year we had a price of \$2874.00 for material and we will need to feed the inmates as part of the agreement.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lutz to purchase materials needed for the retaining wall and to provide lunch for the inmate help at a cost of \$3500.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), ZIGARSKI (yes), VARANO (yes)
6 YEAS and 0 NAYS

Mr. Motyka stated that the retaining wall would be step one and then step two would be to grade it and then pave or concrete it.

Mr. Motyka stated that the walking track is .6-mile around and stated that some of the grants we applied for, we got a pretty substantial grant from one of the businesses that promised over half the cost to install six park benches with landscaping and mile markers around the track, we are still working out some the details they are working out and will have an announcement at next month's meeting. Mr. Motyka stated that we are a couple of bucks short of the total.

Mr. Motyka stated that he would like to put it out there that if any organization wanted to purchase a bench that the cost is \$450.00 and stated that a name plate would be engraved and attached to each bench. Mr. Lutz questioned Mr. Motyka on how short he came up.

Mr. Motyka replied that we asked for \$4500.00 and that they came back with more than half of that. He stated that we will just prioritize and that there are a lot more grants we are working on and that would probably be in June. Mr. Motyka stated that we have some good grants. He added that we should hear news on one of them on Earth Day.

Mr. Lutz questioned if the track would be fixed. Mr. Motyka stated that the track is in rough shape adding that the school district usually puts cracker dust down and stated that he didn't approach them this year but thinks that he will need to do so.

Mr. Varano questioned what about DCNR. Mr. Motyka replied that when we lost the Degenstein Grant we lost a big chunk of change. DCNC requires a 50% match. Mr. Varano commented that it is better than nothing.

Mr. Lutz stated that someone is riding the four wheelers there and questioned if that is Kulpmont or Mt. Carmel Township and who should be called asking would it be the Chief and if we are good to do that. Mr. Motyka replied yes and stated that right now there is a 99-year lease agreement. Mr. Varano commented that it is Kulpmont's basically. Mr. Motyka stated that he is planning on a pedestrian bridge and has seen plans for a 6 x 6 post every three feet which would prevent the four wheelers from getting through and stated that he agrees they shouldn't be where you are walking. Mr. Lutz commented on the good job Mr. Motyka is doing with this.

Mr. Motyka stated that on the recycling grant, we still have the money there to do a brochure and stated that he has it figured at nineteen cents per resident, a three tri-fold brochure with our magnet adding that he is still working on that.

Mr. Motyka stated that the police bullet proof vest grant, we have some money there to use on a 50/50 grant.

Mr. Motyka stated that the borough still has money for concrete adding that next week or the week after we plan to pour the concrete up at the playground for under the picnic tables. Mr. Motyka stated that it will be about 2 yards of concrete.

Mr. Lutz questioned if we got reimbursed for the sign yet. Mr. Motyka stated that he and Rhonda finalized all the receipts and we are moving some things around where money was not spent and more money was spent between categories, that is where the question is, everything is ready receipt wise. Mr. Lutz stated that we still have not been reimbursed for the sign and questioned if Mr. Motyka thinks we will be reimbursed. Mr. Motyka stated that everything is together to get reimbursed and will all be sent. Mr. Motyka stated that we applied for the same grant for this year.

CODE/HEALTH/SAFETY (Nicholas P. Goretski, III.)

No Report

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz stated that he read the notes from March 14th on the discussion on Ordinances and getting some help. He stated that he has spent a great deal of time and essentially where we are at, he stated that he thinks that the first thing we need to do is enforce what we got now. Mr. Lutz stated that his sense is that he can give a list to the office, we have extra help and say look dig this stuff out year by year. Mr. Lutz stated that essentially what he is saying..... *(Mr. Lutz then asked Mr. Varano how long he has been on council and Mr. Varano replied 23 and one half years)* Mr. Lutz continued to say that he thinks they go back 20 years we would be ok. He stated that if you look at how we have the Ordinances on the website they are by the year and Ordinance number and then they have a little description. He

continued to say that if we went back twenty years and put that into kind of like a spreadsheet database we would then see what we think that we have.

Mr. Lutz stated that as part of that process we can go and get a sense and description and then categorize it as well this is parking, this is this one, this is this one. Mr. Lutz stated that he has a bunch of Ordinances here, some go back to 1992 that are ones that we use and stated that is what he thinks we should do. Mr. Lutz stated that once we kind of have a sense and scope of the Ordinances then he thinks we should go back through and rescind a bunch of them and then make new ones.

Mr. Lutz stated that it will take a little bit of time to do that and stated that frankly if we could get the information at the next meeting he could make a report to the council and say this is what we are looking at. He added that later down the road we can get some legal help to put it in code, we are not doing it, we don't know. Mr. Lutz stated that what is interesting about it is that he will make a report and hopefully have it to council before the next meeting and added that the fines are ridiculous. Mr. Varano agreed and said that the fines are from the 1980 or 1990 fines.

Mr. Lutz stated that the fines are ridiculous adding that \$25.00 for improper disposal of trash, when you go and there are eighteen bags of trash on the porch. Mr. Lutz stated that when he sees that number one he thinks what the hell is wrong with you and number two is that the fine should be \$250.00. Mr. Lutz stated that the fines should all be increased by a factor of 10. Mr. Lutz stated that he is going to go through and say let's do this Ordinance.

Mr. Lutz stated that he does not know what the procedure is if you look at the Ordinance for garbage and say you want to increase it, you would have to put the Ordinance in the newspaper and go through the whole rig-a-ma-row. Mr. Lutz commented that is ok, its better if we get started right now.

Mr. Lutz stated that we have a situation where people put trash out and it is clear in the Ordinance that you are not supposed to put trash out. Mr. Lutz stated that Mr. Moroz may ask how he knows that it is trash, Mr. Lutz continued to say that if you go by on Sunday morning and it is still out there then fine them \$250.00. Mr. Lutz questioned who in the hell does not know that their grass is 6 inches. Mr. Lutz stated that the first time \$100.00, \$250.00, \$500.00 adding that we need to make these things to get people's attention.

Mr. Lutz stated that as part of that when we have a hearing at the magistrate, we need to have an attorney there adding that we got our butt kicked with Bango's problem, he had two attorneys. Mr. Lutz stated that we will have someone question if we are going to spend \$150.00 per hour... Mr. Lutz stated that yes, we are going to spend that if that is what it takes to clean up the town. Mr. Lutz stated that he needs to get a little caught up on the finances of the Borough adding that he thinks that we have plenty of dough.

Mr. Lutz stated that he thinks we need to sue the Department of Environmental Protection at the state level. He stated that Russ took him down to the mill and kids are going in there adding that someone is going to get killed down there. He added that he does not care that the state does not have any money adding that they have plenty of money and that is not his problem. Mr. Lutz stated that he thinks that

we should send a letter to them and offer them to come up and if they say no then he stated that he thinks that we should sue them. Mr. Lutz stated that all the Ordinances are outdated.

Mr. Lutz stated that the fact of the matter is that 99% of our landlords are good citizens with an exception of one or two, we need to say that it is unacceptable. Mr. Lutz stated that those are some of the things and stated that he will put a little memorandum before the next meeting adding that he has a whole list of things just like the Ordinance 2015-08, if you go through the Ordinance and look at it we have got to have some sort of committee or group so that if you fine people they can come and appeal it, it is right in the document. He added that there is language in there that we suggest that the tenant keeps the place clean. Mr. Lutz stated "suggest, what the hell is that."

Mr. Lutz stated that when you look at them the Ordinances are straight forward; we need to enforce them and when we go to the magistrate we have to spend the necessary money. Mr. Varano stated that we do have an attorney present with our major cases, we sent an attorney up there when we were up there with Dubbs.

Mr. Lutz state that he understands that there was some suggestion that Mr. Bango did not receive notices and stated that the deal with it is, we have to get serious about it. Mr. Lutz stated that if somebody did not receive their notices then somebody is screwing with the mail and that is a federal offense and we should have immediately filed a claim at the post office immediately. They take that pretty seriously, someone would have been knocking on people's doors saying "hey what's the deal with this?" Mr. Lutz stated those are some of the things, we need to send certified. Mr. Varano asked if we send them certified. Russ Moroz replied that he does not send them out certified. Mr. Varano replied that he knows that we sent them certified when John Timm was here.

Mr. Lutz said we need a whole kind of a deal there adding that the thing of it is everybody that is in violation needs to get cited every morning and then we will work on the Ordinances. Mr. Lutz stated that we are going to get them. Mr. Lutz stated that the problem we had up on Pine Street, we went up there and we cited them and stated that he goes up there every morning.

Mr. Varano stated that the Ordinances is that they are all over the place and they need to be codified. Mr. Lutz replied that when Mrs. Wilk opened that safe there was a skeleton in there and then jokingly asked "who was missing." Mr. Lutz stated that this did not happen overnight adding that we have to build a data base and when we do then we have to start knocking away at this. Mr. Lutz stated that he will have a report at the next meeting.

RECREATION (Mark Burns)

No Report

PERSONNEL (Richard Zigarski)

No Report

FIRE/EMA/POLICE COMMITTEE (Varano, Zigarski and Burns)

No Report

Mr. Varano stated that he will need a short executive session to discuss a few items.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

John Grinaway Scott Street, Kulpmont. Mr. Grinaway stated that his concern is with the property he brought up at the last meeting. He stated that he showed council pictures of high weeds and high grass and asked if they were fined and said they were not. Mr. Grinaway stated that there were no fines on that property from August 2016 to March of this year. He stated that the grass is getting higher and higher and the yard has not been cleaned up yet and stated that he does not know if they are being fined for that. He showed a picture of what is on the other side of his fence to council.

Mr. Grinaway stated that there is an open drain on that property and stated that he talked to Mr. Moroz in September and talked with the Sewer Authority in November and they said that it needs to be capped. Mr. Grinaway stated that the Sewer Authority said they can't issue a fine to them and said that he had to go to the Borough with that. Mr. Lutz stated that in March he thinks that they have 19 citations there and posted an unfit for human habitation sign. Mr. Lutz stated that it is awful and stated that they appreciated his problem.

Mr. Grinaway stated that if the Ordinance was put in years ago that you had to re-route your drain, it can't go into the sewer or drain water. Mr. Grinaway stated that it is still not covered. Mr. Lutz replied that the deal with the buckets of water sitting there adding that he does not know what Ordinance he is talking about but stated that he will look through it and stated that should not have been. Mr. Lutz stated that we have serious problems with water all over and mosquitoes, and said that mosquitoes gestate within 48 hours.

Mr. Grinaway stated that he called Harrisburg and they referred him to DEP in Williamsport and they said water should not be standing and this has been standing since March. Mr. Grinaway stated that now that water was dumped, probably into the sewer with mosquito's eggs, and everything and asks if that is alright. Mr. Varano replied that it will not hurt anything. Mr. Grinaway asked that stagnant water going down into that drain and if it is supposed to go into the sewer. Mr. Grinaway asked that if he takes his downspout and routes it into the sewer if it does not matter. Mr. Varano stated that he is now talking about a larger volume of water and that is different than the water spilled out compared to a line routed directly into the sewer.

Mr. Varano stated that all you can do is to tell the Police Department or Code Department. Mr. Lutz stated that he has been cited for that and that is the homeowner it is not council. Russ Moroz stated that he has been fined. Mr. Grinaway stated still something has not been done, when the weather breaks he was supposed to cap it. Mr. Varano stated all we can do is fine them and if they pay the fines there is not much we can do. Mr. Moroz stated that he cannot go in and grab the guy by the throat and make him clean it up. Mr. Varano stated that if he gets a fine and pays it and does not clean it up then he gets fined again.

Mr. Grinaway stated that if nobody cuts the grass this year and it gets 5 feet high and nobody does anything, he is stuck with the smell of dog shit and cannot even open up the windows, the smell will kill you and nobody cleaned up dog shit all last year. Mr. Lutz replied that they don't see that problem happening this year and stated that they are down there every day and said that getting fined he may find it is cheaper to cut the grass. Mr. Grinaway replied that he doubts it. Mr. Lutz replied that he understands his frustration. Mr. Grinaway stated that he knows nothing will be done about it adding that if nothing was done last year, nothing will be done again next year.

Joe McGinley Jr. 1201 Poplar Street stated that first off he commented that he has heard nothing but good things about firefighters. Mr. McGinley stated that the firefighters do a really good job and with all of the training they do and stated that he is very proud. He said that if his house were ever on fire he would hope they respond that quickly.

Joe McGinley stated that they had talked about an impound and stated that he would like to talk more about that and has some experience with that and stated that if any help is needed on the Ordinance he would be happy to sit down with the Ordinance Committee as a citizen and help with that.

Joe McGinley stated that he was going to come in to look at the Ordnances but he had some appointments so he looked at some on line and agrees that they need updated and that one problem he sees is that you can't get a handicap parking space if you have a garage to park your car in and stated that there are people that park other cars in their garage, but still deserve a spot in front of their house and it seems like something we need to work on.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Easter

Mr. Varano stated that Borough Council will now meet in executive session to meet with the Fire Department

Bruno Varano, Council President stated that the board met in executive session for approximately Twenty- Five minutes for personnel, contractual and litigation matters.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Zigariski to authorize renovations at the East End Truck Room, Kulpmont Fire Co. #1 at a cost of up to \$10,000.00 by Giorgini Construction.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), ZIGARSKI (yes), VARANO (yes)
6 YEAS and 0 NAYS

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

**RHONDA WILK
BOROUGH SECRETARY**

DATE OF APPROVAL