

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
February 13, 2018**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Robert Chesney
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present,
Kulpmont Borough Council held the meeting for general purpose on
Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor Bozza, Stephen Bielskie, Robert Chesney, Robert Fanella, Keith Tamborelli and Walter Lutz.

ABSENT: George Malakoski and Michael Sinopoli

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Solicitor, Edward Greco and Treasurer Paul A. Niglio

PRESENT: Borough Supervisor Bruce Graff, Code Official Russ Moroz and Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk

OTHERS PRESENT: Rose Bielskie, Stephanie Niglio, Jeff Gilotti, Bruno Varano, Joe Pancerella, Barry Fetterman, Joe Politza, Bruce Graff, Robert Michalcovich and Joe Meyer.

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

Bruno Varano of 34 S. 10th Street stated he is addressing the budget listed on the agenda and questioned what the cash carry over was as of January 1st this year. Mr. Lutz replied \$295,000.00. Mr. Varano questioned if you take the \$130,000.00 deficit off there you have a \$165,000.00 surplus. Mr. Lutz replied, "No." Mr. Varano questioned his response.

Mr. Lutz replied the cash carryover is one thing and the budget is another thing, it shows a deficit and so how you finance that deficit remains to be seen. Mr. Varano replied a \$165,000.00 surplus is going to cover anything that we need. Mr. Lutz questioned Mr. Varano if he knows that for certain. Mr. Varano replied "yes."

Mr. Lutz replied there is a difference between cash carry over and financing a deficit. Mr. Varano replied that we have been doing that kind of a budget for thirty some years. He then commented, "so you did not factor it in."

Mr. Varano questioned the allotment for the West End, a \$3,000.00 grant allotment. Mr. Varano asked if Council could clarify what that was all about. Mr. Varano stated they are no longer a fire company and they do not store any kind of firefighting equipment, everything was moved up here during the consolidation. Mr. Varano questioned why we

are giving them, \$3,000.00. Mr. Lutz replied there is all kind of firefighting equipment. Mr. Varano replied it is not in service. Mr. Lutz replied not as far as the trucks are concerned and stated he is talking hoses and uniforms, all kind of stuff that is down there.

Mr. Varano stated the reason for the consolidation and to move into this building was to basically close off that truck room and stated he knows that for a fact. Mr. Lutz stated the situation is such that there are all kinds of firefighting equipment there in addition to the street sweeper and the landscaping equipment. Mr. Varano stated the sweeper would come under that \$1.00 lease that you told us on the September 13th meeting, on page 8 or 9 of the minutes from that meeting to store all our equipment. Mr. Lutz replied that he will have to look that up and stated he will get back to him.

Mr. Varano stated if they are getting \$3,000.00 what about all the other barrooms and organizations in Kulpmont. Mr. Lutz replied we are not going to give any money to barrooms. Mr. Varano replied that is all it is right now. Mr. Lutz replied, "no, it is not." Mr. Varano replied that he begs to differ.

Mr. Diminick from Elysburg stated the Borough is supposed to have an agreement ready for him to complete the demolition. Mr. Diminick stated he came in yesterday to talk with Russ on plans to bring his equipment in and as they were talking Mr. Fanella came into the office. Mr. Diminick stated he was about to tell him what he proposed to do when Mr. Fanella then told him that the remaining work he was going to be put out on bid. Mr. Diminick stated pursuant to that there was an agreement that he was to forgive the interest and the attorney fees in turn for the completion of the work that needs to be done.

Mr. Diminick stated they were supposed to sign a contract on the 12th and pay him for the demolition \$22,999.00, but he stated he added an extra \$1.00 in that to show the contract was ongoing, \$23,000.00. Mr. Diminick stated they made an agreement for him to do the work which he is not going to do now. Mr. Diminick stated that he has the agreement here, but he was supposed to sign it and they did not. Mr. Diminick stated since he is going to advertise for bids, he did not keep up his end of the agreement and stated he does not know how much of this you all knew about this.

Mr. Diminick stated what he is going to do is he wants paid for the interest and his attorney fees and stated he is not going to bid it, he added he broke the agreement and stated he, Russ and Mr. Fanella had an agreement they sat down and he stated he showed it to them, there was an agreement and stated he brought it up to be signed and he did not sign it.

Mr. Diminick stated he forgave them that plus the mobilization and stated that was in exchange for the extra work and that is where he is at and he then gave Mr. Lutz the bill for the ongoing contract and stated that he just wants paid for the interest fees and the attorney fees.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz stated UGI Gas Company has sent an agreement to us to move forward on installing service to certain parts of the Borough. Mr. Lutz stated they plan to put a gas pipeline in and this will be approximately 3 ½ blocks, they will go from 11th to Pine Street and then 11th Street to 8th Street. Mr. Lutz stated they are suggesting digging a 1' trench and then paving 1' on each side of the ditch.

Mr. Lutz stated UGI agreed to Street Restorations in the amount of \$31,973.52 and stated they will not agree to pave curb to curb, they will pave 1' on each side. Mr. Lutz stated they will bore underneath. Mr. Lutz stated it is his opinion it is that it is a take it or leave it deal. Mr. Lutz then asked if anyone would like to make a motion to accept the agreement.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to agree to the UGI agreement.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned if they are only doing Pine. Mr. Chesney stated they will start at Maple, all the way up 11th to Pine, south side of Pine down to 8th. Mr. Tamborelli stated they are currently ending at Maple now and they are going to continue that line. Mr. Lutz stated through the survey that was done they had a high concentration of interest and it is very expensive to put in and so they want to try three blocks.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned if they are intending to trench the middle of the street and then go left or right. Mr. Lutz replied they will start curb line and will bore underneath to the other side of the street.

The Solicitor Edward Greco questioned if it is correct that there is an Ordinance that would require them to pave curb to curb. Mr. Lutz replied that is correct. The Solicitor then stated it is his understanding that Council previously waived that for other projects, or not. Mr. Lutz stated he is not aware and stated when the Aqua project was done, which he is most familiar with went curb to curb.

Mr. Lutz stated Mr. Varano may be able to shed some light. Mr. Varano then stated the gas line that was ran from Poplar Street up to 11th we waived the paving curb to curb because they keep it close enough to the curb that they only had to pave approximately 18" or 24" from curb into the street. Solicitor Greco then stated his point is that precedence has already been set by prior Council to waive that requirement in the Ordinance.

Mr. Lutz stated this is not a sure-fire deal, it is like a pilot plan that involves 11th Street and then a few blocks on Pine Street and it may not go anywhere after this. Mr. Lutz stated if it does go anywhere after this, but if it does they are going to probably come back and say we were able to pave 1' on each side and that is how we are going to do it. Mr. Lutz stated that he feels if we don't agree to it it's a done deal.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned if we have any idea on how many people are interested in that footprint. Mr. Bielskie replied that he believes they said they will do their own survey when the time comes.

Mr. Lutz stated they will go door to door and if a person is interested a survey would be done, the cost to the homeowner will be case by case, because something may or may not need to be done with your furnace, chimney, appliances, the cost is case by case. Mr. Lutz stated the cost to hook up is \$1,594.00 and you can pay up front or pay \$24.00 per month for up to ten years and stated that allows you to hook up, it's a get gas program that takes the bite out of the cost to hook up. Mr. Lutz stated the homeowner would have to get a contractor and they would bust up your concrete and it would be the homeowner's responsibility to repair that, not UGI.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned if the Borough is waiving and extremely high cost from not having to pave curb to curb then why would UGI not go to those people and say we are going to give you gas, we are saving them thousands of dollars. Mr. Lutz replied that we cannot speculate on UGI and what their motivation is. Mr. Lutz stated the fact of the matter is if they dig that trench in July nothing is going to happen until the next meeting, if it happens then.

Mr. Chesney stated he is still not pleased with just their basic presentation and stated there are still a lot of questions that need to be answered and there was no UGI representative that could attend tonight.

Mr. Chesney stated that back in November 11, 2014 Becky Eshbach was here and gave a presentation about this gas program and at that time she estimated that it would cost each customer that would hook up approximately \$10,847.00 and she did propose \$21.75 per month for 10 years that would equate to \$2,610.00 just for the hook up and that has nothing to do with many other major things that would occur on your property, like the customer replacing any damage that they do getting the gas in there.

Mr. Chesney stated they have been very vague with the proposal that they sent down and with the gas company providing \$31,973.52 for paving is very little for paving any damaged streets. Mr. Chesney stated the program that they presented will run until 2030 if they start. Mr. Chesney stated until we have another representative from UGI here to answer citizen's questions and his questions he is not in favor for voting for this agreement.

Mr. Lutz questioned what it is that he wants to do. Mr. Chesney stated he thinks they are not being totally transparent with the information that they are giving us. Mr. Varano stated at the one meeting that they had with UGI they said they are probably going to run it down the middle of the street and the reason that they don't want to pave it curb to curb is because the following year they may run a lateral and then the following year run another one and they would have to keep..... Mr. Chesney stated the proposal that

they gave is coming down the west side of 11th and the south side of Pine and so it's only coming down along the curb and stated he understands that but in what time frame.

Mr. Chesney stated he thinks he saw somewhere that repairs would be within 6 months and so we are looking that our street could be under repair for many, many, years. Mayor Bozza then added it would just be the curb line though and laterals would be bored. Mayor Bozza stated if a resident wants to get gas they will be responsible to repair the sidewalk. Mr. Tamborelli commented that we are discounting the gas company and the citizen who has paid to put those roads in, we are penalizing them we are telling them it is going to cost you a couple thousand dollars to get hooked up to gas but we just discounted where we would have normally said you need to blacktop the whole thing.

Mr. Lutz asked if he would like to table the motion and stated he sent the gentleman's contact information around in an email and he would be able to answer any questions. Mr. Chesney stated we need him here, in the document it says they are willing to wait until December of 2019 and so why do we have to do it February of 2018. Mr. Lutz stated he could ask him to come to a meeting and stated he did invite him to this meeting but he was unavailable.

SUBSIDIARY MOTION- Mr. Tamborelli made the motion to table agreeing with the UGI agreement and was seconded by Mr. Chesney.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (yes), LUTZ (yes)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Lutz stated we need to appoint a floodplain administrator. Mr. Lutz asked for a motion to appoint Mr. Russ Moroz.

MOTION – A motion was made by Mr. Bielskie and seconded by Mr. Chesney to appoint Russ Moroz as Flood Plain Administrator.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Lutz stated we opened the budget and went over it and advertised that we have a new revised budget and what happens now is due to some of the reductions that we had the deficit was reduced, nothing further has happened with the revenue side of it, that is less certain and stated the revenue forecast was \$622,000.00 and the deficit went from \$130,000.00 to \$61,000.00.

MOTION- To accept the revised budget for 2018 by Mr. Chesney and seconded by Mr. Tamborelli.

Mr. Lutz stated we are using the revenue numbers from the budget that was put together back in November, December \$622,000.00. The Expenditure side of the budget originally came in at \$117,395.00 and we went ahead and people didn't take salaries and made some reductions here and there and it is still showing a deficit was \$61,000.00.

Mr. Lutz stated there is a bunch of things that are happening and stated there may be an increase in revenues and the situation with the police, the budget for the police is nearly 45% of the budget and so if we do something with the township the deficit nearly goes to zero.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (yes), LUTZ (yes)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Lutz stated everyone has received a copy of the Police Protection Ordinance to review and before we do anything with the Township we need to adopt this ordinance and stated it must first be advertised and so he asked if someone would like to make a motion to advertise this Ordinance.

MOTION- A motion to advertise the Police Protection Ordinance 2018-02 by Mr. Fanella and was seconded by Mr. Chesney.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (no), LUTZ (yes)
4 YEAS – 1 NAY

MAYORS REPORT- (Nicholas Bozza)

Mayor Bozza stated until Council decides what we are going to do with our Police Department he stated he will continue to work with our Police officers. He stated that they are very helpful and have been more visible and stated the Borough has two great officers and wished we had two more just like them.

Mayor Bozza commended the residents on Chestnut Street for cooperating during the past snow storms by getting their vehicles off the street and stated we had only given five tickets.

Mayor Bozza stated throwing snow back into the street and we need an Ordinance that would not allow snow to be shoveled into the street. He stated he gets calls that the streets are a mess and it is caused by people throwing snow back into the street. Mr. Lutz stated we will draft something up and bring it to the council.

Mayor Bozza stated that his opinion is that the fine for snow emergency on Chestnut Street is now \$100.00 and stated he feels that is too high and stated many people cannot afford to pay a \$100.00 fine. Mayor Bozza said he feels that \$25.00 is more reasonable and asked Council to consider lowering the fine Mr. Tamborelli stated it would make

more sense to not park in a snow emergency and get no fine, if the fine is low then people will just park there. Mayor Bozza said some people are elderly and not able to get out.

Mr. Bielski stated they could possibly look to do something with the Quality of Life Ordinance and put something in there; it may be something we could add into it. Mr. Lutz stated the point is not to give a fine it is to clear the street.

Mayor Bozza stated he was told the Kulpmont Fire Company fire siren on the West End ground was obsolete and could not be used. Mayor Bozza stated he took it upon himself to call County and he was told they encourage municipalities to use the sirens if they have them.

Mayor Bozza stated from what he understands it must be hooked up to a pager, adding he talked to Chief Siko today, he said it can be done but every time there is an accident it will go off. Mr. Tamborelli stated you could have a pager and County could put a secondary tone, you can have pager and County can have hundreds and thousands of tones. Mayor Bozza stated he is not an expert on this. Mr. Tamborelli replied “no, but I am.”

Mr. Fanella stated they only go out in one tone. Mayor Bozza stated if he thinks there is a way, but if not then they should take it down. Mayor Bozza stated he is all for the siren and thinks it is great thing if there is a catastrophe, tornado or whatever comes through town.

Mr. Tamborelli stated it could go off Monday through Friday 9 to 5 or whatever it is and stated he will talk to County about it. Mayor Bozza stated when he was on Council it was already approved to have it sand blasted and painted. Jeff Gilotti stated the downfall of using a pager is every time they have a call someone has to reset that pager and so someone must take ownership at the West End to reset the pager and stated some days they have three calls.

Mr. Tamborelli stated he can talk to County. Mr. Lutz asked Mr. Tamborelli if this is his project, along with Mr. Gilotti. Mr. Tamborelli stated he will volunteer Jeff and himself. Mr. Lutz stated there was an agreement to spend up to \$2200.00 to sandblast and paint but we will probably need to revisit that.

SECRETARY'S REPORT- (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk stated approval is needed on the January 2, 2018 and January 9, 2018 Meeting minutes.

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to approve the meeting minutes from the January 2, 2018 re-organization meeting and the January 9, 2018 meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (yes), LUTZ (yes)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Rhonda Wilk state the following correspondence was received and copied to the Mayor and Council.

A letter was received from Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Municipal Authority concerning 2018 MMO.

A letter was received from Northumberland County Conservation, erosion and sediment fee schedule.

A letter was received from Mrs. Stephanie Niglio and that letter was copied to Council, Mayor and the Solicitor.

TREASURERS REPORT – (Paul A. Niglio)

Mr. Niglio stated that all received a copy of the financial statement and list of bills to be paid and stated a motion is needed to approve and pay the bills.

MOTION- Mr. Bielski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to approve the financial statement and to pay the bills.

Mr. Chesney stated he would like to suggest holding off on paying the Ehrlich bill until they receive some additional information.

Mr. Lutz stated it is a yearly contract and stated given the confusion on the bill could we have a motion to table that one bill until we look into it.

Bruce Graff stated that is the wall and Ash Street as well, wither that or we weed whack for 8 hours.

Mr. Niglio stated you are spraying over 27,000 square feet. Mayor Bozza stated this is something that needs to be done. Mr. Niglio looked at the contract and stated they monitor the situation and will treat as needed and asked what further explanation to do they need. Mr. Chesney stated he did not understand and so he was asking and did not want the bill paid until he understood.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned the Diminick payment. Mr. Lutz stated that was the last payment withheld and was agreed to be paid at the last meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (no), LUTZ (yes)
4 YEAS – 1 NAY

SOLICITORS REPORT- (Edward Greco)

The Solicitor stated an issue was brought to his attention by Mr. Kevin O’Hearn which he believes there is approximately \$1,500.00 being held by the County from approximately 1975, restitution paid in from the old “Snow Gate,” that has been held in County Coffers, none interest bearing. He added the Borough of Kulpmont brought an action against the members of Council and the defendants paid some money into an account.

Attorney Greco stated it is a little unclear to him because when he went to look at the County records they did not even have a file anymore, which is unusual because they have all the county lawsuits. Solicitor Greco stated he was able to get the pleadings from another attorney. He stated he believes the last action taken on this was in the 1980’s and stated he believes that the Prothonotary sent correspondence to former Solicitor Cole on April 26, 2017 and nothing was really done about it.

Solicitor Greco stated there is \$1500.00 in there and it will cost some attorney fees to get it and asked if Council wants him to proceed with that.

MOTION – to proceed to recapture \$1,500.00 held by the County in coffer from “Snow Gate” by Mr. Tamborelli and seconded by Mr. Bielskie.

Mr. Chesney questioned if there can be a stipulation or if we know what kind of a cost will be involved because if it is going to cost \$2,000.00 to get \$1,500.00 it will not be good. The Solicitor replied it will cost several hundred dollars because you must prepare a petition to the court and he stated he would certainly keep Council abreast of the activities and stated it will not be a surprise.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (yes), LUTZ (yes)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

The Solicitor stated at the re-organization meeting Council had authorized for him to send letters to the HVAC Contractor, the architect and stated all the letters went out and stated he believes that we got some pretty quick response back and a lot of those issues have been addressed. Mr. Bielskie replied that he had a meeting with the architect, Mr. Fanella and Russ Moroz. Mr. Bielskie stated the following day the heating system was fixed adding that all that time nobody pushed it and stated the newspaper was wrong on their statement on that also. Mr. Bielskie stated we will be having a meeting on the front steps and then everything will be done.

The Solicitor stated Northumberland County has a Tax Collection Committee and Paul Niglio was the appointed person. The Solicitor stated each year they need a letter stating who the appointed person for Northumberland County Tax Collection Committee is.

Solicitor Greco stated it is a committee that was mandated by the state to oversee EIT Collector.

Attorney Greco stated Mr. Niglio is the primary person and stated he believes council previously appointed himself as the alternate, because he goes there and it is important that they have a quorum. The Solicitor stated if we could have a motion to appoint Mr. Niglio as the appointed person and himself as an alternate because if he is there, he could count as a body.

MOTION- A motion by Mr. Tamborelli and seconded by Mr. Bielskie to appoint Mr. Niglio as primary and Mr. Greco as secondary to Northumberland County Tax Collection Committee.

The Solicitor stated the only thing that would be required is for the Borough Secretary to send a letter stating who the primary is and who the alternate is.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Mr. Niglio stated about two weeks ago the Auditor General's Office was in to do an audit on the Police Pension Fund and there were two findings. He stated he had given them to the Solicitor to take care of and stated one was the Police Pension Plan fails to contain an intervening military service credit provision and the second finding was that the Police Pension Plan contains an unauthorized provision for killed in service benefit.

Mr. Niglio stated number one is just something we always missed and number two is that a new law was passed about 5 or 6 years ago that if a police officer is killed in service they will receive a benefit from the state and so we are not allowed to have that in our Police Pension Fund.

Mr. Niglio stated he handed those over to Attorney Greco and he will be preparing that Ordinance and correct those findings. Mr. Niglio stated there was also an observation that we need to pass some resolutions because currently our pension plan is well funded, it is over funded and it does not require any contributions from the police officers and so we need to pass resolutions that state that.

Mr. Niglio stated he and Rhonda will be having those resolutions prepared and at the next meeting he will be presenting those to Council for passage.

POLICE CHIEFS REPORT – (Patrick McAndrew)

Police Report Attachment #2.

The Police Chief reported two tourniquets were donated to the Police Department by the Kulpmont Fire Department.

Jeff Gilotti referred to the Thanksgiving Day shooting adding there was a need for a tourniquet and stated the Fire Department bought them and put them on all the apparatus and donated some for the police cars.

Mr. Lutz thanked the Fire Department for their donation.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT – (Raymond Siko)

Report Attachment #3

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – (Kevin O’ Hearn)

No Report

BUILDING INSPECTOR’S REPORT– (Tri County COG)

Attachment #4, December’s Report

Mr. Bielskie reported no building permits were issued by Tri County Cog Inspection Service in the month of January 2018.

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICER’S REPORT – (Russ Moroz)

Attachment #5 Code Report

Mayor Bozza questioned who does the inspection before a new renter comes in when someone moves out of a rental. Russ Moroz replied he inspects the rentals when a tenant moves out. Mayor Bozza questioned if it is being done. Russ Moroz replied yes.

Mr. Bielskie added the ones that he knows about. Mayor Bozza asked The News Item to please put it in the paper that if anybody sees somebody moving out of a rental and someone moving in to let us know about it. Russ Moroz state Coal Township has an Ordinance where every two years they go in and inspect a property and stated that may be something we need to look into.

Mayor Bozza stated he has been driving around and is going to give a list of some of the properties to Russ. Mayor Bozza stated on 16th Street there are vehicles parked down there without tags and stated they have been down there for months. Russ Moroz stated that does not fall under him that would be the police. Mayor Bozza stated they have been down there for months and stated the 1600 block of Oak Street is all lined up with cars without tags adding they should all have tow tags on them. The Mayor stated the cars are parked so close to the stop sign that when the garbage man comes through he is going on people’s property trying to make the turn. The Mayor stated he will get with the Chief on that.

Mayor Bozza stated another problem is the appliances all over town and stated something should be done and suggested if nothing else possibly put these people in the paper. A discussion took place between Council on what could be done or where electronics could be taken and that is something to look into.

Mr. Tamborelli stated some of the sidewalks are not being cleared and stated the Ordinance states when a storm hits you have 24 hours to clear the sidewalk and he stated that should be enforced, the sidewalks should be cleared and it would not be so bad when the ice hits. Mr. Tamborelli stated our street department is doing a phenomenal job and then the sidewalks are a mess.

Mr. Lutz stated there is a situation in the Borough with all kind of things, electronics, the snow and people totally ignoring the yellow stripping where you are not supposed to park. Mr. Lutz stated they are going to go around and cite these folks and send them out and wait the appropriate period of time and if they don't pay the fine, then we go to the magistrate.

Mr. Tamborelli stated he is not saying Russ did not do that he is saying clear your sidewalk or you are going to get fined.

SERVICE AND FACILITIES – (Robert Fanella)

Surplus will be held on February 15th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at the borough garage.

MOTION - Mr. Fanella made a motion to advertise the 2018 Street Sweeper schedule and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (yes), LUTZ (yes)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to purchase 2 sets of brooms for the Street Sweeper at a cost of \$228.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (yes), LUTZ (yes)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated that we have three bins at the borough garage for recycling one for newspaper, one for cardboard and the new one is for any paper products, magazines anything paper.

Mr. Fanella stated when Mr. Diminick said that he had made an agreement, Russ was with him and he stated he did go up to the building with Mr. Diminick and Russ and he

did take pictures. Mr. Fanella stated they told him what they wanted done but he did what he did with the first Council that he did so much and wanted to get paid to finish the job.

Mr. Fanella stated he came back with a bid but to finish the job he wanted more money, he gave a bid of \$5,000.00 but it was not going to be done. Mr. Fanella stated all the concrete sticking up not of the ground was not going to be touched. Mr. Fanella stated at no time did he ever say that he had the job, he came back two days later and asked if he signed the contract and was told not because it would have to be approved by Council first at a meeting. Mr. Fanella stated he did receive some other bids to finish the demolition of the old building adding he has three quotes now.

Mr. Fanella stated we have a big hole in the road on 10th and Fir Street. He stated he believes that a pipe had rotted out and we will have to act on that. Mr. Fanella stated he talked with Bruce and it is probably the same thing that happened by the Sportsman's Club where the bottom of the pipe has rotted. He stated we can open that road up and put a piece of plastic in there but the only problem he sees is going up the hill there is water on the bottom and we are only putting a Band-Aid on to open up the Street.

Mr. Fanella stated we just must do a PA One Call and open it up and see if it is the drain pipe or the hydrant, if it is the hydrant that is the water company.

Russ Moroz stated that the question is that if there is a two-year warranty on this we would have to contact the contractor for the water company that did the project, but that two years is coming up.

Mr. Lutz questioned if it is blocked off and signs.... Russ Moroz stated that it is blocked off and stated that the recommendation for a dig down there because there is a gas line down there he would get someone with experience.

Mr. Bielskie stated people told him they drove all the way down and had to back up and questioned if it can be blocked off at the other end, and signs placed before someone would drive all the way down. Bruce Graff stated that you can't miss the signs.

Mr. Fanella stated he talked to the Mount Carmel School District and Mr. Sacavage is going to get in touch with the Mount Carmel Athletic Committee meet to with our Committee about the agreement down at the baseball field to discuss what they are responsible for and that will be coming up.

Mayor Bozza state the 100 block of Chestnut Street, the alley (Maple Street) is bad, a certain contractor, and it is all heavy equipment he is using down there. The Mayor stated it in very bad condition and the property may be in Mount Carmel Township but we need to get with them on the condition of that alley, a lot of our residents use that road and it needs to be addressed. Mayor Bozza suggest Mr. Fanella to get with a Township Supervisor on the matter.

FINANCE/PURCHASING/GRANT COMMITTEE – (Keith Tamborelli)

Mr. Tamborelli stated none of the Boroughs information data was backed up at all. He stated a couple of hard drives were purchased and now we have a backup schedule and now we have data is backup daily, offsite and we have recoverable data.

Mr. Tamborelli reported Mr. Lutz returned the check for a refund of the QuickBooks he had purchased and the Secretaries Class he attended. Mr. Tamborelli stated the entire check was returned and Mr. Lutz returned the QuickBooks he had purchased.

Mr. Tamborelli stated the Borough directly purchased our bookkeeping program and stated it has now been implemented and it was purchased at a cost discount, we went directly to the manufacturer and we got a deal on that. Mr. Tamborelli stated a lot of energy has been put in to getting a set of books and records on that program.

Mr. Tamborelli stated concerning the service contract for the phone system, he has reviewed it and the second part they are trying to charge us for the service contract is covered by the first one. Mr. Tamborelli stated he is tabling getting that service contract because he believes that we already have it.

Mr. Tamborelli stated that there is a lot of information that we would like to get out to the public and he would like to put a motion on the floor to spend some money for a public display in front of the municipal building that the public could see what is going on in this Borough. He sated a 52-inch weather proof TV outside that could provide all Borough information.

Mayor Bozza stated that the Kulpmont 100 has talked about this in the past and they are working on this, which would take some of the burden off the Borough. Mr. Tamborelli stated that we could make a motion not to exceed budget we could work with Kulpmont 100 and if we find it then it is done with.

Mr. Lutz suggested it would be more prudent that we do the investigation and then come to the Council and say we want to spend a certain amount of money. Mayor Bozza suggested to let the Kulpmont 100 do the investigative work. Mr. Lutz stated he would like to remind everyone that with the new budget we are still \$61,000.00 in the hole.

Mr. Tamborelli stated that he just wants to let everybody know what is going on and fill this room up for every meeting adding he will not put a motion on the floor for now.

Mr. Lutz explained about how QuickBooks is set up and displayed some reports that can be accessed from QuickBooks and stated what is interesting about this is how timely he information is. He stated there are little problems here and there but we will work through it.

Mr. Lutz stated the process in the office are inherited and are somewhat laborious and stated we have a spreadsheet for disbursements and receipts and stated to print out these reports, which would be in the accounting world a subsidiary ledger, they would be 7000

lines long, 10 columns wide, manually put in, 150 to 160 pages. Mr. Lutz stated you could only imagine how much time that took, to update it and make sure it was correct and the tie in process, several hours each month. Mr. Lutz stated in January November and December was not done.

Mr. Lutz stated that he looked at something we did for the landlords, we were putting all the landlord information as if it was all brand new, we copy and paste in and start all over.

Mr. Lutz stated the deposits go in one time and the bills will go in one time now in the QuickBooks it shows the details and that is it, the other way it was over several spreadsheets.

Mr. Lutz stated we made a lot of progress and are much more efficient and detailed reports and stated it is all here for anyone who wants to see it if they would like to see it.

CODE HEALTH AND SAFETY (Stephen Bielskie)

Mr. Bielskie stated he and Mr. Fanella, Mr. Chesney and the Code officer Russ Moroz had a meeting with Rocky Baer and discussed the heating system in detail. He stated that day Mr. Baer contacted the HVAC contractor and the next day it was resolved. Mr. Bielskie stated the settings were off.

Mr. Bielskie stated there was an issue with some issue with the back door and that was taken care of.

Mr. Bielskie said they had discussion on the ramp and stated they were told not to do it many times and have paperwork to prove that. He stated he talked to him on the 7th and he was making arrangements within fifteen days and contacting anyone that was involved with that and then we will go legal.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE - (George Malakoski)

No Report

RECREATION/GRANTS - (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz stated the Pennsylvania Association of State Boroughs have a Grant Writing Course and asked if anyone would like to make a motion for him to go to the Grant Writing Course and stated he thinks it is \$100.00.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Tamborelli for cost and mileage for Mr. Lutz to attend PSAB grant writing class to be paid, not to exceed \$200.00.

Mr. Chesney stated that according to our budget as councilman there is an allotment for meetings and such and stated that he feels by attending workshops such as this it is very beneficial and helpful to the Council and stated by the cost of attending the meeting and mileage would be very feasible and in the best interest of the community.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned if there would be any difference if Rhonda attended the class as an employee. Mr. Lutz replied the cost would be the same. Mr. Lutz stated he spoke to Mrs. Jeremiah down at the county and stated that if you have a good project and it is documented well there is a very good chance you could get money.

Mr. Lutz stated that when we move further along and become more proficient in the office grant writing will be a big part of what we do in this office. Mr. Tamborelli stated West Mahanoy got an entire police car paid for by the public from private grants. Mr. Bielskie stated at this point until we get some of the workload off Rhonda Mr. Lutz should be writing grants. Mr. Chesney added that Rhonda is busy during the day working.

Mrs. Niglio questioned where the conference is. Mr. Lutz stated it is in Dauphin County and stated his notion is that it is in Harrisburg. Mrs. Niglio questioned if there is a cost. Mr. Lutz replied there is a cost and stated he believes it is \$100.00 and does not know what the mileage is. Mrs. Niglio stated the motion needs to include a dollar amount.

Mr. Bielskie changed his motion not to exceed the cost of \$200.00 and Mr. Tamborelli seconded that motion.

Mr. Varano stated that as far as mileage, the Borough has their own gas and if you fill up your tank before you leave and then fill it up when you come back it will save a few bucks.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned if we have a spare vehicle here. Mr. Lutz stated we will look into it and try to minimize the cost adding he thinks it will really pay off.

Mr. Beilskie stated there is a government guideline on mileage anyway. Mr. Lutz replied that if he can get borough gas and use a vehicle, sure.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned in the event something would happen if he was traveling as a non-employee verses her going as an employee is there a difference in liability. Mr. Niglio replied no difference. The Solicitor state the class is on March 15th PSAB members \$100.00 and non-members \$150.00 lunch and breaks included. Mr. Lutz stated that the Municipal Secretary PSAB Class he attended was invaluable.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (yes), LUTZ (yes)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

PERSONNEL- (Michael Sinopoli)

No Report

Mr. Lutz reported that Council and the public is in the process of making up job descriptions and stated a rather detailed job description has been made up for the Code Officer. Mr. Lutz stated we are going through all the departments and making up job descriptions.

FIRE/EMA/POLICE COMMITTEE – (Chesney, Sinopoli and Fanella)

Mr. Chesney thanked the Chief and all the firefighters and stated on the past report they had 117.4 hours in response time, 30 hours of training and 41.6 hours of work at the station and stated they are dedicated to keeping our community safe. Mr. Chesney stated it was brought up for clarification of the allotment that was given and stated the hoses and nozzles, equipment and coats and all safety devices that are now stored down there do need a warm environment, it is needed and asked that the public to please understand.

Mr. Chesney stated they met with the Fire Department and discussed what their needs are and stated we now understand what the Fire Company needs from the Borough. Mr. Chesney stated it seems that they are self-sufficient in many areas adding they will come to the Borough when it is on a need basis on anything we could help them out on. Mr. Chesney stated they do have the capability to take care of themselves and have been taking care of themselves. Mr. Chesney stated he hopes that door of communication remains open so that we can help each other when needed adding there is nothing that will replace safety of our citizens.

Mr. Chesney stated he is happy to report that the lines of communication are open concerning the Mill and stated he has open communication with Congressman Lou Barletta, EPA and the DPA. He states he has had numerous communications with them and have a meeting toward the end of the month scheduled to discuss blight issues and also some additional laws that put some teeth into the situation that we may face at the Mill. Mr. Chesney referred to the Abington community and how they passed to enforce how you cannot just put boards up and board up windows and doors and safety factors. Mr. Chesney stated they are looking into different ideas and laws from other communities that may help us out with some issues. He stated they are attacking the Blight issue and what could be done.

Jeff Gillotti, Deputy Fire Chief spoke briefly and explained when they consolidated they lost their storage adding when the apparatus was moved to the East End under one roof. Jeff Gillotti said they have equipment that must be in a controlled environment and stated their storage facility is now at the West End, taking up probably one bay and stated they have minimum equipment now at the West End stated most equipment is at the West End.

Mr. Varano questioned why we are paying \$3,000.00 a year for that and questioned if it cost \$3,000.00 for storage at that one bay. Mr. Chesney, it is for the heat and stated prior

to this we gave each the East End and the West End \$4,000.00 per year and coming in we dropped that down to \$3,000.00.

Mr. Varano asked when the motion was made who voted for it and questioned if any officer of the West End should have abstained? Mr. Lutz replied yes and stated Michael Sinopoli abstained. Mr. Varano questioned Mr. Fanella if he is not an officer. Mr. Lutz replied he is a director. Mr. Varano said he is a director, an officer. Mr. Varano questioned Mr. Bielskie if he is a director. Mr. Bielskie replied he is a trustee. Mr. Lutz stated he is a Financial Secretary. Mr. Varano then stated, "there is four people that can't vote on that."

Mr. Lutz questioned where Mr. Varano gets that from and asked if he could provide a citation and stated they will look into it. Mr. Varano replied, "it is a conflict of interest, you are all officers there." Mr. Lutz stated Mr. Sinopoli is the president and he abstained adding "the deal with it is that we have all of the fire company equipment down there and all of the fire company's surplus equipment down there. Mr. Varano stated the trustees have more power than the President and the Financial officer. Mr. Varano asked the Solicitor if he could provide some legal insight. Solicitor Greco along with Mr. Chesney replied they will look into it.

Mr. Lutz stated if indeed it was illegal or inappropriate they will make sure that the money is returned not like when we spent tens of thousands of dollars down at the Fir Street project. Mr. Chesney stated he does not understand and stated if there is equipment in there for the safety of the community and stated he does not know what the cost is to heat that building but he is sure it is not just \$3,000.00. Mr. Varano stated he is sure that some of that money is going over to the social quarters. Mr. Chesney replied that he will not deny that and stated he does not know how the heating system is set up.

Mr. Lutz addressed Mr. Varano saying he thinks all his questions are fair and stated they will make sure to have detail out for you for the next meeting adding we will figure out the square footage of storage and see where the heating units work and Solicitor Greco will check in if it is a conflict of interest because of various people on the Council being officers and directors.

Mr. Varano stated it is in the Borough Code they need to give an accounting for and any money spent by the Borough and stated they are supposed to give an accounting of their expenditures every year. Mr. Lutz replied the East End also. Mr. Varano then stated he has been waiting from three years for an accounting of their expenditures. Mr. Lutz questioned Mr. Varano if he was on Council then. Mr. Varano replied, "yes." Mr. Lutz replied by saying that he takes his comments seriously and will address them.

Mr. Tamborelli questioned if the previous Council in previous years provided funding of any nature to the West End which it is currently. Mr. Lutz replied yes and stated the exception was that we did not have borough equipment down there and the amount was \$4,000.00. Mr. Varano stated they had all kind of equipment, operating fire trucks. Mr. Tamborelli replied the barroom was still there the fire company was still there, the

heating system was still there. There was a discussion on the heating system and concluded the system is now different. Mr. Tamborelli stated the amount in previous years was \$4,000.00 and this year is being cut back to \$3,000.00. Mr. Lutz stated he would need to check but that he does not believe the full allotment was paid last year. Mr. Lutz stated we do not pay anything to the East End, we pay all their heat and expenses.

Mr. Lutz stated he could see what the cost would be for storage, but they need heated storage and stated there is a significant amount of fire related equipment and an important part of Kulpmont's history stored in there, the antique fire truck.

Mr. Tamborelli stated he was in the truck room recently and it is full of equipment, not only fire equipment but history and trophies that is in the interest of this community. Mr. Tamborelli stated it is a basically a warehouse for this community in general.

Mr. Tamborelli stated some people wanted to throw all that stuff in the dumpster and the community took the effort to take all that stuff out of the dumpster and put it in storage, which was most readily available. Mr. Tamborelli stated a great amount of effort is being taken by the community to preserve the history and heritage of this community and stated we must do our part to maintain the history and make sure that stuff stays safe.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Stephanie Niglio 415 Spruce Street Kulpmont said regarding the September 12, 2017 meeting a statement was made about storing equipment at the West End and during the discussion it was questioned on what the rental price would be and Mr. Lutz stated it would be \$1.00. She stated during further discussion Mr. Lutz stated if Council would like something drafted up on the cost they would do that.

During further discussion Mr. Lutz questioned if Mr. Varano wanted a letter stating the rental cost would be \$1.00 and Mr. Varano replied yes. Mrs. Niglio stated she does not believe that letter was ever done.

Mrs. Niglio stated back when she sat on Council it was discussed with the East End on what could be housed and where and the members of the East End felt that they had enough room at the East End Building.

Mrs. Niglio stated she does not have hard copies on the January 2, 2018 and January 9, 2018 meetings but stated there was a motion to purchase Quick books by Mr. Lutz and a statement made by Mr. Lutz that he had already purchased Quick Books and was home on his counter.

Mrs. Niglio stated at the January 9th meeting Mr. Tamborelli made a motion to reimburse Mr. Lutz \$710.85. Mrs. Niglio stated she appreciates the transparency here tonight telling everyone what is what and conferences and what was gained by going to those things. Mrs. Niglio made the statement that she is old hat at all those tricks.

Mrs. Niglio continued to say that when she questioned Mr. Tamborelli for clarification on the motion he stated there was a motion at the January 2nd meeting. Mrs. Niglio stated she first said there was no motion and stands corrected but added that the motion did not include a dollar amount. She then stated out of the \$710.85, \$317.99 was for QuickBooks and \$167.00 for mileage reimbursement to some type of conference which at that time we did not know, there was no motion for him to attend that conference never the less to have anything charged back to the borough.

Mrs. Niglio stated the amount of the differential there was \$225.86. She continued to say she submitted a Right to Know request on January 16 asking for copies of receipt for all expenses to attend the said conference, the location, dates, gas receipts etc..... and stated on January 23rd she received written response to her request. She stated the response was that Quick Books was purchased on January 19th and the invoice was for \$524.65. Mrs. Niglio stated the response was that there are no receipts on file for Walter Lutz for the PSAB Secretary Seminar and stated this was not and will not be reimbursed by the Borough. Mrs. Niglio stated we then had a motion to spend up to \$1500.00 for a payroll service.

Mrs. Niglio then questioned Mr. Tamborelli why he made a motion to reimburse Mr. Lutz money for gasoline and questioned if he saw a receipt for that. Mr. Tamborelli replied that the document that he got was broken down showing mileage, the QuickBooks program and the class and that was the document provided to him and approved by. Mr. Tamborelli then explained Mr. Lutz took the position and returned the check to the Borough.

Mrs. Niglio questioned which QuickBooks are we using now stating the second purchase says it includes everything for payroll and questioned what happened to the \$1500.00 for the other payroll with ADP. Mr. Tamborelli explained when Mr. Lutz sat down with QuickBooks they recommended Pro-Plus with the payroll module and it was saving the municipality the entire expense of that by going with the QuickBooks Pro with payroll and a two-user environment.

Mrs. Niglio questioned the Solicitor if Council could just go and purchase things and asked if a second motion is not needed to purchase. Solicitor Edward Greco stated Council may make purchase and Mrs. Niglio interjected stating, "emergency purchases." The Solicitor then asked, "was this an emergency" and then stated from what he understood the state of our financial books was antiquated adding that Mr. Niglio did an outstanding job but it required some time, it was certainly a necessity in today's date and time. Mrs. Niglio commented according to some.

The Solicitor continued to say Mr. Tamborelli has indicated there will be backups now so that in a catastrophic loss to the building, backup will be stored off site and so it would not set the borough back months or years trying to reconstruct something. Mrs. Niglio then replied to the Solicitor that he does not need to go on and on and stated she is not against it adding she just wants clarification on how things are done and that they are done appropriately.

Mrs. Niglio stated at the end of 2017 we had contractor fees from 15 companies yet 33 had worked in the borough and stated that was to be looked into and asked if there was an outcome to that yet. Mr. Bielskie then stated those fees will come as they apply for a permit and then they must re-new. Mrs. Niglio then replied, “so you are not going back to get money off the people that never registered in the Borough. Mr. Bielskie then replied they don’t here, they wait until they get a permit and they don’t get a permit until they pay their fee. Mr. Chesney commented they should have paid before.

Mrs. Niglio then questioned about the large parking lot behind the Roosevelt Court asking where we stand with that. Mr. Bielskie replied that was County and Federal money and so there was no permit fees.

Mr. Tamborelli stated he would like to clarify to Mrs. Niglio that we approved at the meeting a dollar amount specifically for a payroll service, but we also agreed at a meeting on a dollar amount for the purchase of QuickBooks and then explained when the two amounts are combined together we ended up getting the QuickBooks with the payroll system at probably 50% savings. Mr. Tamborelli explained the license covers two people adding two people will be able to do things in the program at half the money.

Mrs. Niglio directed a statement to Mr. Lutz stating that on all of the documentation on the spreadsheets that Rhonda did, many of those things were done and cut and pasted to the following year adding not to think it was all done manually and did not take 200 hours. Mr. Lutz replied that does not think each one was entered manually but he stated what he does know is those things were 7500 lines and stated he never saw so many spreadsheets in his life and stated we will probably save 500 hours by moving accounting systems and we have reports that are 3 hours old.

Mr. Myers asked if there was an article in the paper in the month of February that there was no recycling. Mr. Fanella replied there was an article on just the glass being cancelled for February.

Mr. Myers commented on UGI and the digging up the streets, he lives on the 800 block of Spruce Street which was just paved by Aqua last year during their project and stated he would be a little upset if his street is dug up and then not resurfaced curb to curb adding he thinks that would be a mistake.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Chesney stated there is a PSAB boot camp for new Council, a two-day course to school council people in procedure, role of the Mayor, setting agendas organizing meetings and stated there is a cost of \$100.00 or \$150.00 to attend the two-day event.

MOTION- Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to approve any council member to attend PSAB Boot Camp Conference not to exceed \$200.00 per person.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (absent), TAMBORELLII (yes), LUTZ (yes)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Lutz stated that we probably will have a meeting before the next meeting before the March meeting to address the situation with the Township Police. He stated they had a town hall meeting today and some citizens were there asking questions.

Mr. Lutz stated his sense of it is they are ready to enter into final negotiations and we are going to try and clean up the agreement and get it nailed down to be available for everyone to look at and we can get a thing in the paper and say come on up, we can chat or visit about this, be totally open and stated we will see if we are going to vote on it or not.

Mr. Lutz stated still they could say no thank you, we are not at that point yet. He stated we will be making an announcement in the paper about the next meeting primarily about the police issue.

Mr. Tamborelli announced Kulpmont 100 is fundraising they are trying to do for the community and things the community need. He stated there is a Bingo g=coming up on March 3rd and there are tickets available for that and stated all of the funds raised are going back to the community for the parades and all of the things that happen in the community.

Happy Valentine's Day

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION- To adjourn by Mr. Chesney and Seconded by Mr. Bielskie

VOICE VOTE

Unanimous

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Rhonda Wilk
Borough Secretary

Date of Approval _____

