

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2015**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Joseph A. Winhofer
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present. Kulpmont Borough Council
held its regular monthly meeting Tuesday January 13, 2015.

Roll Call was taken and the following members were present. Mayor Novakoski,
Nicholas Bozza, Clarence H. Deitrick, Stephanie Niglio, Philip Scicchitano, Bruno R.
Varano, Joseph A. Winhofer and Stephen Motyka.

ABSENT: Borough Solicitor William C. Cole

APPOINTED POSITIONS: Paul A. Niglio, Jr., Treasurer

PRESENT: Borough Supervisor Bruce Graff, Chief Michael Pitcavage, Fire Chief Jeff
Gilotti.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Sinopoli, Joe Pancerella, Frank Rutkowski, Barry
Fetterman, Tom Balanda, Kevin O'Hearn, Joe Politza, Joe Meyer and Raymond Siko.

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

No one spoke.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Bruno R. Varano)

No Report

MAYORS REPORT (Bernard P. Novakoski)

No Report

SECRETARY REPORT (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk states that approval is needed on the meeting minutes from the December 9,
2014 regular monthly meeting.

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick made the motion to approve the meeting minutes from the
December 9, 2014 regular monthly meeting and was seconded by Mr. Scicchitano.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Correspondence was received from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, concerning the 100th year anniversary, that letter was copied to members of Council and the Mayor.

TREASURERS REPORT (Paul A. Niglio, Jr.)

Financial Report attachment #1

Mr. Niglio states that approval is needed for the financial statement and to pay the bills.

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

ROLL CALL VOTE – BOZZA (yes), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio states that he will be meeting with the finance committee within the next couple of weeks to go over the 2014 figures so that council has a pretty good knowledge on what we can do in 2015.

SOLICITOR REPORT (William C. Cole)

No Report

POLICE CHIEFS REPORT (Michael Pitcavage)

Police report attachment #2

Chief Pitcavage states that he has a request to purchase a lockout kit at a cost of \$53.99 plus shipping and handling and states that this would benefit the police department especially when there is a case where a child may be locked in a vehicle that they would not have to call on the township.

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Scicchitano to purchase a lock out kit for \$53.99 plus shipping.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

FIRE CHIEFS REPORT (Jeffrey Gilotti)

Jeff Gilotti states that the East End unit is due for inspection and states that he would like to send it up to be inspected.

He states that he included a letter on the Fire Chief's salary and states that he would like council to take a look at that and states that it has been like 25 years and states that at one time there was a fuel allotment and that was cut. Jeff Gilotti states that the duties continue to be more and more and the call volume and states that it has to be remembered that with Kevin O'Hearn holding both EMA and Fire chief salary combined you are actually saving money because of his salary being combined.

Mr. Varano thanks Fire Chief Jeff Gilotti for his report and states that he would like him to know that he did have the letter put on the agenda under personnel so that he does not think it was overlooked.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Kevin O'Hearn)

No Report

BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORT (Stephen G. Bielskie, Sr.)

No Report

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REPORT (Russ Moroz)

Report attachment #4

Mr. Moroz states that there is a letter he received from DEP and states that they have actually fined the owner of the mill property here in Kulpmont for failure of cleaning up that property and states that the letter states that they are expecting around March 1st to start the asbestos abatement and asks council if they are alright with that.

Mr. Moroz states that he does not see any reason why they shouldn't be able to start.

Mr. Motyka questions with council approving them to start the asbestos abatement on 1st that it does not justify DEP not giving that fine.

Mr. Moroz replied it does not and states that fine has already been given.

Mr. Moroz states that on the Landlord registrations he would like to say we have 187 properties registered and 65 landlords and states that letters were sent out today to landlords that did not register.

Mr. Moroz states that as a reminder if you did not register he asks that at this time they get them registered and inspected and follow that Rental Ordinance because he will be looking for properties that are not registered and states the fines are substantial and states that he can go back to the first of the year and fine daily.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Philip Scicchitano)

Mr. Scicchitano states that he will need a brief executive session at the end of the meeting and states that is all that he has.

SERVICE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE (Nicholas Bozza)

Mr. Bozza states that Food Surplus will be held on January 22, 2015 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 12:00 noon.

Mr. Bozza states that the last day for Christmas tree pick up is January 31st and reminds residents on Chestnut Street to please take their trees to the back alley and states that they will not pick up trees on Chestnut Street.

Mr. Bozza states that we need to order 3 signs for no tractor trailers beyond this point and also we need to order 3 plow edges which total \$682.05.

MOTION- Mr. Bozza made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to purchase the 3 signs and the 3 plow edges at a cost of \$682.02.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Bozza states that we need to advertise the street sweeper schedule for 2015. Mr. Bozza brought up the question of street sweeping the side streets. He stated that we discussed starting to do this on a Wednesday come spring. Mr. Bozza states that they cannot put signs all of the way up each street because there are not enough telephone poles and states that we have to order 40 8ft poles and then we will have to be drilling into these people's sidewalks and asks if that is what we want to do.

Mr. Deitrick replied that we will have to do that.

Mr. Bozza states that he went through some of these sidewalks and there are some new sidewalks on the side of these houses.

Mr. Scicchitano asks what size pipe is it.

Mr. Bozza states that they are channel poles. Mr. Bozza states that we would have to rent a core drill and drill them all and then put them in.

Mr. Varano questions if we could get by just using the telephone poles.

Mr. Bozza states that there are spots where there is not even a pole on the side streets.

Mr. Deitrick questions if you could put it on the other side or does it have to be posted on that side.

Mr. Winhofer questions on how many holes will need to be drilled.

Mr. Bozza answered that there are 60. Mr. Bozza states that we need to drill with diamond bits.

Mr. Winhofer states that you will need at least a 4" and you will need at least 2 or 3 of them to drill 60 holes at about \$300.00 or \$400.00 a piece. Mr. Winhofer states that he can guarantee that he is going to go through at least two bits.

Mr. Deitrick states that when we put the first poles in for the east and west streets we had to do it and states that it is just something we have to do. Mr. Deitrick states that it is just something we have to do to provide the street sweeping for the north and south streets that have never had it. Mr. Deitrick states that it is an initial cost but those people are tax payers also.

Mr. Bozza states that unless we want to try it as it is and see how it goes this year if people will move and states that he knows he would not like his sidewalk drilled.

Mr. Deitrick questions the Police Chief on how that would work legally to give a ticket if it was put on both sides of a pole on the left side of the street and questions if you would be able to ticket the right side or not.

Chief Pitcavage states that it should be posted on the side where the cars are parking.

Mr. Varano confirms then that we could not get away with that.

Chief Pitcavage replied that is correct, it should be posted on that side.

Mr. Deitrick states that the poles should be purchased and installed and states that we already bought all of the signs, they are here and questions why we should stop now and waste all of that money that was spent already.

Mr. Bozza states that we don't know what it is going to cost to rent that machine but it is not going to be cheap.

Mr. Varano adds that as Mr. Winhofer states you are probably going to use two bits drilling the holes. Mr. Winhofer states that you will easily go through two bits especially if you hit a curb that is 16 inches thick.

Mr. Bozza states that you may be able to rent the machine for \$60.00 per day.

Mr. Winhofer adds that the machine is not expensive to rent but adds that it needs water.

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick makes a motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka that we purchase the poles and rent the equipment and buy the drill bits to install the poles for the side street sweeping signs.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BOZZA (no), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (no), SCICCHITANO (no), VARANO (no), WINHOFER (no)
2YEAS – 5 NAYS

Mr. Deitrick questions what we are going to do with the \$1,000.00 in signs that we already bought. Mr. Varano states that we will put them up wherever we can in the grass. Mr. Bozza states that we will put them up where we can and see how it goes.

Mr. Deitrick questions on how we are going to be able to ticket somebody if it is not posted.

Chief Pitcavage states that if one side of the street is not posted and a person gets a ticket and takes a hearing it will get tossed.

Mr. Bozza states that we may have to re-address this again.

Mr. Deitrick states that the spring is coming and we start sweeping in two months and questions how much time we have to re-address this.

Mr. Winhofer states that we are not going to go out and drill now anyway.

Mr. Bozza states that we have a month and a half.

Mr. Deitrick states that in the beginning of March you can, you have the whole month of March. Mr. Varano states that we have next months meeting.

Mr. Scicchitano states that he feels somebody should look into what it is going to cost to buy those bits and what they are going to cost and states that we may be better off buying our own machine and be done with it.

Mr. Varano adds that we may be better off. Mr. Winhofer states that the core drill is not the expense it is the bit.

Mr. Bozza states that we got the price from LTS plumbing and heating to repair the boiler and that cost is \$3,750.00 to replace the pump, the gravity and the piping, a couple T's and bushings for \$3,750.00 installed.

Mr. Bozza states that he is not going to make a motion to fix it.

Mr. Varano states that if nobody makes a motion then it dies for a lack of a motion. No one spoke and Mr. Varano responded so be it and states that we will move on.

Mr. Bozza states that he would like to put a motion on the floor to give these fire personnel a raise and states that he is not saying how much and states that he thinks that can be discussed before next months meeting.

Mr. Deitrick questions on how he could make a motion on something that he does not know what it is going to be.

Mr. Varano suggests that he wait and have the personnel committee to look into it.

Mr. Bozza questions why he can't make a motion to give them a raise, just to give them a raise.

Mr. Deitrick states that you can't vote on something you don't know what it is.

Mr. Varano states unless you specify an amount you cant do it.

Mr. Scicchitano adds you have to make a motion and set an amount, with no amount you can't make the motion.

Mr. Varano states that he may as well wait until after the meeting and sit down and discuss a reasonable raise, you could always back it up to January 1st.

FINANCE AND PURCHASING (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka states that Paul will be in touch with him and then he will be in touch with the rest of the committee to meet and discuss our finances.

Mr. Varano directs a statement to Mr. Motyka that if somebody on the committee cannot make the meeting to let him know and states that he would sit in on the meeting.

CODE HEALTH AND SAFETY (Mr. Scicchitano)

No Report

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE (Stephanie Niglio)

No Report

GRANTS AND RECREATION (Clarence Deitrick)

Mr. Deitrick states that this afternoon he found out we were approved from DEP for the grant for the new recycling truck, educational materials and recycling bins in the amount of \$76,191.00.

Mr. Deitrick states that he is not sure when we will receive the money but we did get the notice that DEP announced the following grants to municipality's for programs under section 902.

Mr. Deitrick states what that comes down to is \$76,000.00 from them and around \$8400.00 for our share and states that it is not a 100% grant it is a little under 90/10.

Mr. Varano states that is not bad at all. Mr. Deitrick agreed with Mr. Varano.

BUILDING COMMITTEE (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka states that the states architect should have the prints and we have a copy in our possession for anyone from the public that wants to look at them. He states that they include the spec book and the legal end of the document along with all of the blue prints for the floor plans and elevations.

Mr. Varano adds that we just received those this afternoon just for everyone's information.

Mr. Motyka states that as everyone knows the option is that we build the new building or we build nothing at all, or we may end up taking the East End building as the USDA negotiates with us. Mr. Motyka states that it is all going to be based on the cost comparison.

Mr. Motyka states that no matter what we do we will still have to build a maintenance barn at the site on Fir Street and to accomplish that we will need to re-new our Northumberland County Conservation Districts permit and states that will be the same cost as last time, \$400.00 plus \$100.00 per acre.

Mr. Varano questions how many acres.

Mr. Deitrick states that he thinks it is 2.6 acres.

Mr. Motyka states that is how he read the application and states that he thinks it has been revised and the new permit is good for five years and states that at least that is what the engineer had told him.

Mr. Deitrick questions if we should wait until we get our bids back.

Mr. Varano questions on when we got that letter and asks if that was a couple months ago. Rhonda Wilk states that it was a few months ago. Mr. Varano states that renewal comes from the County.

Mr. Motyka states the county government has nothing to do with that it is from DEP and is administered through the conservation district.

Mr. Varano states that it is a discharge permit, and it is needed anyway because we just put that storm water drain in down there and it is discharging over the bank and we probably need it anyway

Mr. Motyka states that he asked the engineer when we need this by and he said we probably should have had it months ago.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bozza to pay Northumberland County Conservation District NPDES Permit.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS

Mike Sinopoli questions if any decision was made on the fire tower. Mr. Bozza states that he thought that was tabled until they see what is going on here.

Mike Sinopoli questions what about the engine 211 and asks if that is in the process. Mr. Bozza replied that he does not know how to do this and states that he never did this before. Mr. Winhofer asks Mr. Bozza what that is. Mr. Bozza replied to get rid of one truck. Mr. Winhofer states that you were going to sign that over to us and that the fire company owns it so they have to sign it over to us. Mr. Winhofer states that the fire company should have the title for it. Mr. Motyka suggests for the solicitor to do the legal end of it for them.

Mr. Motyka made the motion to have our solicitor handle the signing over of the fire truck to the borough.

Mr. Varano states that he does not think we will need a motion for this.

Mr. Scicchitano asks if we are just transferring title. Mr. Winhofer states yes that is what we are doing. Mr. Scicchitano asks why then we need a lawyer to do it. Mr. Winhofer states that we don't they just need to sign it.

Mr. Winhofer states sign the back of it and bring it up.

Mr. Varano states that we will sign that one over to you and you sign the other one over to us.

Mr. Varano states that it does not seem like a fair swap.

Mr. Winhofer states that we are not going to take care of that anymore once we sign it over.

Mr. Bozza agrees he states once its signed over that is it.

Mike Sinopoli asks if the borough is going to have it refurbished or have it sent out to be gone over or anything before it is signed over.

Mr. Winhofer states no, the inspection is all current. Mr. Bozza states that they should try to get that taken care of next month. Mr. Varano states that a motion should be made anyway so that it is on the books as a trade.

Mr. Motyka states that he rescinds his original motion and will make a new motion to swap the two vehicles.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bozza to swap out vehicles with the fire company.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bozza questions what we are going to do with our anniversary and asks if we are going to do anything or not.

Mr. Deitrick states that it is not our anniversary apparently because we had our 100 years anniversary back in 1975.

Mr. Varano states yes, pride of “75.”

Mr. Deitrick states that we were incorporated but apparently we were in existence from 1875 and state that he brought that up.

Mr. Niglio replied that “75” is an incorrect date.

Mr. Deitrick asks then when is it.

Mr. Bozza states that it was 1915.

Mr. Deitrick states that he brought that up and everyone shot it down when he brought that up.

Mr. Varano states that we had a celebration in 1975.

Mr. Niglio replied yes we did, but that was an incorrect date.

Mr. Deitrick stated that we could have been planning something for 6 months now.

Mr. Deitrick asks now what do we want to do in this short time now.

Mr. Bozza states that we still can do something, we don't have to go crazy and have a three day bash, its still not to late to do something.

Mr. Deitrick states we could have a one day parade or something, but we should have started a year ago. Mr. Deitrick asks Mr. Bozza if he is going to be in charge of it, does he need a chairman.

Mr. Bozza states that he already talked to guys and they will help him out with a committee, men and women.

Mr. Deitrick questions on what date we want to do it.

Mr. Winhofer states that he feels if someone wants to form a committee and plan something, he feels that the borough will back them but states that he does not feel that the borough wants to get involved.

Mr. Deitrick states that the 22nd of August is a Saturday and is the closest Saturday. Mr. Deitrick states that the first thing you have to find out is if there are any other picnics going on.

A discussion takes place between council on various church picnics in the area that are usually held.

Mr. Bozza suggest to council to let him take care of a committee and get a committee together and states that he will then report by next meeting.

Mr. Varano states that he will appoint Mr. Bozza and then he can appoint his own committee. Mr. Bozza states that anyone who wants to be on the committee should get in touch with him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Frank Rutkowski 1312 Poplar Street states that last time he made a suggestion that in the event that we do not build a new borough building that we go into the East End, check with the Mount Carmel school board and see what they are going to do with the building, possibly they may grant us where our maintenance sheds are right now.

Mr. Varano states that it is worth looking into because if we move into the East End or build a new building whatever we do, we are definitely getting out of this building and states that they may charge us rent.

Mr. Varano states that this building will have to be torn down so you are talking \$120,000.00 to take this building down, with all of the asbestos in here.

Joe Pancarella 700 Pine Street states that at the last meeting there is notification from the USDA about a certain amount of money to look at adjusting the floor plan at the East End for the municipal building and questions if that was started or if an architect took a look at that to determine what it would take to convert the East End for the municipal building.

Mr. Winhofer states that Rocky Baer was hired at the last meeting and states that he does not know if he did anything yet.

Mr. Varano states that really every thing is stalled right now until we get the new plans out on bid. Mr. Varano states that the USDA wants a number to negotiate with. Mr. Winhofer adds that they will not give us a number on the East End until they see what it will cost us to build new.

Mr. Varano states that the lower the bid the project comes in on Fir Street, the lower the price could be on the East End. Mr. Pancarella states that is interesting. Mr. Winhofer states they want to see our cards but they don't want to show us theirs.

Bruno R. Varano announced that Council met in executive session for approximately one hour and fifteen minutes for personnel, contractual and possible litigation purposes.

MOTION- Clarence Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Nicholas Bozza to give Rhonda a fifty cent per hour raise.

SUBSIDIARY MOTION- Mr. Varano made a subsidiary motion and was seconded by Stephanie Niglio to put a hold on giving any/all new raises for now.

ROLL CALL VOTE – BOZZA (no), DEITRICK (no), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (yes)
5 YEAS – 2 NAYS

Subsidiary motion passes to put on hold any new raises for now.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

**RHONDA WILK
BOROUGH SECRETARY**

DATE OF APPROVAL