

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
SPECIAL MEETING FOR GENERAL PURPOSE
July 20, 2018**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Robert Chesney
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present,
Kulpmont Borough Council held the Special Meeting for general purpose on
Friday, July 20, 2018

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor Bozza, Stephen Bielskie, Robert Chesney, Robert Fanella, George Malakoski, Michael Sinopoli, and Walter Lutz.

ABSENT: Robert Slaby

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

PRESENT: Police Officer Nathan Foust and Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Michalkovich, Lisa Owens and Todd Owens.

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

No One Spoke

PRESIDENTS REPORT – (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz stated a letter was received from the Kulpmont 100 and stated they are requesting Street Closure on Route 61 on September 8th for First responder parade and request approval.

MOTION- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to approve closure for Kulpmont 100 first responders parade to be held on September 8th and send a letter.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Mr. Lutz stated a town hall meeting will be held at the West End Social Hall to provide the citizens with an update on the Police situation and the situation at the Mill on Thursday July 26th at 6:00 p.m. Borough citizens are encouraged to attend.

PERSONNEL – (Michael Sinopoli)

Mr. Lutz stated a letter was received from Police Chief Patrick J. McAndrew effective July 30, 2018.

MOTION- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to accept the resignation of Chief McAndrew.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

MOTION- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to hire Nathan Foust at \$21.00 per hour as Chief of Police.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (absent), LUTZ (yes)
6YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mayor Bozza then asked Chief Foust to step forward and proceeded to swear in Chief Nathan Foust.

Mr. Lutz stated we had four very good candidates and stated we got all the background checks and credentials and had four very good candidates.

Mr. Lutz stated we are going to go ahead and hire three full time officers today. He stated that he had gone ahead and did all the financial analysis and stated we have the funds to do this.

MOTION – Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to offer John Mchugh full-time employment as a police officer at \$18.00 per hour with benefits and one-year probation.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (absent), LUTZ (yes)
6YEAS – 0 NAYS

MOTION- Mr. Sinopoli made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to offer Stephen Mazzeo full time employment as a police officer at \$18.00 per hour with benefits and one-year probation.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (absent), LUTZ (yes)
6YEAS – 0 NAYS

MOTION- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to offer full time employment to Brandon Toter as a police officer at \$17.00 per hour contingent upon him receiving all his certifications and necessary licenses to work as a police officer.

Mr. Chesney stated Mr. Toter just graduated from the police academy first in his class and from Bloomsburg University, criminal justice. Mr. Chesney stated with no experience whatsoever he would hope we could bring him in part time, it may take some time for him to get all of his MPOETC he would hope that everyone would consider that. Mr. Chesney feels that would be better and questioned how long it will take for all his certifications to come in.

Mr. Lutz stated we don't know it all depends on how quickly the certifications and licensing and all come in.

Mr. Chesney stated he does not know if we could hire somebody if they are not qualified for the job and questioned the Chief if he could offer any insight on that. Chief Foust stated it could take several months for the MPOETC numbers.

SUBSIDIARY MOTION- Mr. Chesney made a subsidiary motion for intention to hire Mr. Toter once he receives all his certifications.

Solicitor Greco stated the subsidiary motion fails for lack of second and so a roll call may now be taken on the Motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (no), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (absent), LUTZ (yes)
5YEAS – 1 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated he would like to mention Mr. Toter is his second cousin and he votes yes.

Mr. Sinopoli stated all three officers will receive a letter of offer of employment that will outline benefits and request for a return letter of acceptance.

Mr. Sinopoli stated that Administrative office will be closed on July 27th, 30th and 31st.

Mr. Sinopoli stated Code office hours will be as follows:

7:30 – 9:30 -Office Open for Permits
9:30 – 12:00 noon- out in the field
12:00 – 12:30 – Lunch
12:30 – 3:30 – Office Hours by Appointment Only
3:30 – 4:00 – Office Open for Permits

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Lutz stated our Solicitor received a letter from the Kulpmont Marion Heights Sewer Authority requesting our assistance on the repair of a storm water line on Maple Streets between 14th and 15th Streets. Mr. Lutz stated he would appreciate someone making a motion that we would pay up to 50% on the pipe repair.

Solicitor Greco stated he does not like to say up to 50% and stated he thinks that a dollar limit should be put on it. The cost is approximately \$6700.00.

MOTION – Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to pay up to \$3300.00 as the Boroughs share to fix sewer storm water line pipe.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (absent), LUTZ (yes)
6YEAS – 0 NAYS

MOTION – Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to authorize our Solicitor Greco to enter discussions with Attorney Rovito over some Wilson Building demolition disagreement.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (absent), LUTZ (yes)
6YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Lutz asked for a motion to spend up to \$300.00 to set up teleconference for meetings.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to spend up to \$300.00 to have telephone conference participation at the meetings.

Solicitor Greco stated there are specific guidelines that must be followed to do that, they must participate the entire meeting and be able to hear everyone else's comments.

Mr. Lutz stated this could be done in accordance with the Solicitors direction.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (absent), LUTZ (yes)
6YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated that according to Rhonda it was brought up under the past council for approval to have the police car detailed and stated he will make his motion under old business.

MOTION – Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to spend up to \$700.00 to decal the police car.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (absent), LUTZ (yes)
6YEAS – 0 NAYS

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Chesney stated he has been in conversations with Ann from EPA who has been very informative. The EPA through Ann will very shortly again request access to enter the Mill, asking permission from Mr. Luzon to do that. Mr. Chesney stated to ascertain if the asbestos level of the airborne products is still within the building. Mr. Chesney stated Ann from EPA will try to attend a borough meeting somewhere in the near future to answer any questions of council or the general public. Mr. Chesney stated this is an ongoing problem and we have no idea where it is going to go but we just need to solidify the safety of that building and any immediate threat to the community because of the product still remaining.

Mr. Lutz announced the Holy Angels picnic will be held August 4th and 5th.

Mr. Lutz announced that there will be a town hall meeting held on Thursday July 26th at 6:00 at the West End Social Hall and the topics will be the Mill and the Police Force.

ADJOURNMENT

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Rhonda Wilk
Borough Secretary

Date of Approval _____