

**KULPMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 12, 2013  
7:00 PM**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Stephen Motyka  
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present, Kulpmont Borough Council  
Held its Regular Monthly Meeting Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor Myron F. Turlis, Clarence H. Deitrick, Stephen Motyka, Stephanie Niglio, Philip Scicchitano and Bruno Varano.

**ABSENT:** Nicholas Bozza and Joseph A. Winhofer

**APPOINTED POSITIONS:** Borough Solicitor William C. Cole, Treasurer Paul A. Niglio

**PRESENT:** Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk, Police Chief Richard L. Wilson and Code Official John E. Timm

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Gilotti, Joe Politza, Bill Redd, Al Blugis and Ray 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** (Myron F. Turlis)

Mayor Turlis states that the winter parking restrictions on the North and South Streets will be lifted on April 1<sup>st</sup>, effective that day parking on the North and South Streets must park with traffic and if not a citation will be issued.

Mayor Turlis states that he will need an executive session at the end of the meeting for possible litigation.

**SECRETARY REPORT** (Rhonda Wilk)

A motion is needed to approve the meeting minutes from the February 12, 2013 regular monthly meeting.

**MOTION-** Mr. Deitrick makes the motion and is seconded by Mr. Scicchitano to approve the meeting minutes from the February 12, 2012 monthly meeting.

**VOICE VOTE-**

Unanimous

**TREASURERS REPORT** (Paul A. Niglio)

Mr. Paul Niglio states that a motion is needed to accept the financial statement and to pay the bills.

**MOTION-** Mr. Deitrick makes the motion and is seconded by Mr. Motyka to accept the financial statement and to pay the bills.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BOZZA (absent), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent)  
5YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio states that everyone has a copy of the proposed operating budget for the Borough 2013, actually 2014, that was submitted concerning our USDA loan package. We need a motion to approve this operating budget for 2014.

**MOTION-** Mr. Deitrick makes the motion and Mr. Motyka seconds the motion to accept the operating budget for 2014.

Mr. Scicchitano directs a question to Mr. Niglio and states that he knows that we just went over those numbers and questions if the numbers are with the loan from USDA projected into that budget for 2014.

Mr. Niglio states that it is. Mr. Scicchitano states just so everyone understands that.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BOZZA (absent), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent)  
5YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio states that we have been asked to draw up a resolution, we have a sample one here for review and states that council will have to complete the information and assign the proper number and after legal council reviews it then Rhonda can put it in correct format. Mr. Niglio states that it is not required at this time but it will be down the road.

Mr. Varano states that Mr. Wellington had told us that we will need to accept this with the budget in order to move along with this project, so someone could make a motion to accept this resolution upon the consent of our Solicitor after he looks it over and gets back with us.

**MOTION-** Mr. Deitrick makes the motion and is seconded by Mr. Motyka to accept this resolution #694 upon the consent and approval of our Borough Solicitor.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BOZZA (absent), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent)  
5YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio states that the auditors are in doing the audit right now. Mr. Niglio states that he is working on the lease with Susquehanna to purchase the equipment for the street department.

**SOLICITORS REPORT** (William C. Cole)

The Solicitor requests an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss some matters.

**POLICE CHIEFS REPORT** (Richard L. Wilson, III)

Attachment #4

No questions

The Chief states that the only thing he has is that the Street Sweeper starts this month, the last Thursday and Friday of the month starting March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**FIRE CHIEFS REPORT** (Raymond Siko)

Attachment #5

No Questions

Mr. Niglio states that in the comment section of the fire chiefs report, engine 221 will be going for inspection.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** (Kevin O’Hearn)

No Report

**BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORT** (Tom Nowroski)

No Report

**CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REPORT** (John E. Timm)

Attachment #6

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** (Philip Scicchitano)

Mr. Scicchitano states that everybody received a copy of a building permit for review and states that he feels we should switch to something like this because the cost is less than what we would pay for the ones we are currently using and they are more visible.

Mr. Scicchitano states that they are a 3 part and card permit for posting.

**MOTION-** Mr. Scicchitano makes the motion and is seconded by Mr. Deitrick to purchase the new building permits from Rekord Printing.

Mr. Motyka asks how many of the old ones do we have.

Mr. Scicchitano states that we have approximately 100 left.

Mr. Varano questions if we will be finishing up the ones we have before using the new ones. Mr. Scicchitano states that is correct.

Mrs. Niglio questions if we need to go over this or anything.

Mr. Scicchitano states that he did go over it pretty good, if we want to wait until the next meeting it may cut us short.

Mrs. Niglio questions if that is all part of the motion to go ahead and purchase them now.

Mr. Scicchitano states that is correct.

Mr. Deitrick states that other municipalities are using the very same forms.

Mr. Varano states that the permits will have to be contoured to the Borough and Borough information. Mr. Scicchitano states that is correct.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BOZZA (absent), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent)  
5YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Scicchitano states that price quotes were received for a new copier/printer for the borough office. Mr. Scicchitano states that he is waiting for some additional information before a decision is made. Mr. Scicchitano states that he did not think that we received the best prices on the item we were interested in, then we received a better price but it was on a lesser product he feels. Mr. Scicchitano states we will wait on some additional price quotes.

Mr. Scicchitano states that we received information of the Green Thumb program, which would provide someone to work here in the borough for up to 18 hours per week at no cost to the borough.

Mr. Varano states we have done that in the past, and asks if we had to give a donation in the past.

Mr. Niglio states that he does not know if that is a requirement anymore or not and states that he was in one day when he was in the office and states that he was told they have someone ready to go right now.

**MOTION**- Mr. Deitrick makes a motion and was seconded by Mr. Scicchitano that we contact and participate in the Green Thumb program to pursue a worker for the street department,

Rhonda Wilk states that she just spoke with him and the person ready to go is for a janitorial position.

Mr. Deitrick states we could request for a street worker and they would contact us with anyone who may fit that position, Mr. Deitrick states that the borough would also be able to interview the individual.

Mr. Motyka questions where the money comes from.

Mr. Deitrick states it is state funding.

**VOICE VOTE-**

Unanimous

**SERVICE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE** (Nicholas Bozza)

Mrs. Niglio states that she would like to remind everyone that the street sweeper starts this month on March 28<sup>th</sup> and March 29<sup>th</sup> and runs through September.

Mrs. Niglio states that concerning the crosswalk line painting where the pedestrian devises are placed, this subject came up at the end of the year to help us with having more attention called to the pedestrian devises.

Mrs. Niglio states we pretty much have to follow the regulations set by Penn-Dot and states that Rhonda gave everyone a copy of that.

Mr. Bozza did review this before he left and states that he would like the one foot lines and he would like them to get painted as soon as possible.

Mrs. Niglio states that Mr. Bozza also would like council's thoughts on what date we could put into effect to put the pedestrian devices back out.

Mrs. Niglio states that she believes that we have paint but, with George not here I do not know how much we have or if there is enough.

Mr. Varano questions if the line painter is working and states that he though we had some trouble with it.

Mrs. Niglio questions if anyone knows when Penn-Dot comes and sweeps Chestnut Street. Mayor Turlis states anytime between now and May and states that it is contracted out and states we also have to be careful with the paint because it has to be a certain degree and road temperature.

Mrs. Niglio states she does not know if that is on this spec or not.

Mrs. Niglio states maybe we can just table the when until the next meeting and I can call Penn-Dot and see if they have a time frame as to when they will be sweeping Chestnut Street.

Mrs. Niglio asks if everyone is in agreement on the piano key lines going across the walkway. Mrs. Niglio states they can be straight or on a diagonal.

Mrs. Niglio states that they catch your eye a little better.

Mr. Varano states that he agrees.

**MOTION**- Mrs. Niglio made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Scicchitano to paint 1' lines in each crosswalk where pedestrian crosswalk devices are located based on the timeline of the street being cleaned.

Mr. Scicchitano asks if there are four locations.

Mrs. Niglio states that we may have six, and states that we only did away with the ones that were on Mr. Scicchitano's block and the rest of them were still in tact.

Mr. Scicchitano states that the one by the Chinese restaurant is really a tough spot to put one. Mr. Scicchitano states that they seem to be moved or constantly knocked over.

Mrs. Niglio states that coming into town from the opposite direction is bad because they are coming into town faster and then they have to stop.

Mr. Varano states that we could do away with that one.

Mr. Scicchitano states that he is not sure that they get a lot of foot traffic by the Chinese Restaurant.

Mr. Varano asks if they all agree not to put that one back out.

Mrs. Niglio states that she thinks that there are seven devises.

Mr. Varano states then we will be putting six out not counting that one.

Mrs. Niglio states that is correct.

**VOICE VOTE-**

Unanimous

Mr. Motyka states that the last item on Mr. Bozza's agenda is concerning the ordinance paving curb to curb.

Mr. Motyka states that last fall we had a lot of issues with the water company not paving up to our standards and we had to re-do a lot of work.

Mr. Motyka states that he would like to start working on that ordinance for this year so that maybe we could have that ready for the next meeting, next month in April.

Mr. Varano states that would be nice, and states that he does not know what happened to the ordinance and that we had an ordinance on the books.

Mr. Motyka states that if they rip up the streets they pave curb to curb rather than paving the ditch, get paving done and bring it back up to what we require.

Mr. Varano asks Mrs. Niglio if she would take care of that.

Mrs. Niglio states that she will meet with her committee on that.

**FINANCE/PURCHASING COMMITTEE** (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka states that he has three purchase orders for staples for office supplies for \$140.75 and two purchase orders for the police department a drug test refill pack 2 at \$34.99 and evidence tape at \$19.99.

**MOTION-** Mr. Motyka makes the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to purchase the office supplies at \$140.75 from staples and the drug test kits and evidence tape for the police department.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BOZZA (absent), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent)  
5YEAS – 0 NAYS

**CODE/HEALTH and SAFETY COMMITTEE** (Bruno R. Varano)

No Report

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE** (Stephanie Niglio)

Mrs. Niglio states that she had taken notice that The News Item has start placing code citations in the newspaper. Mrs. Niglio states that she called because she was interested and was told that the Mount Carmel Code Officer forwarded these violations down to The News Item himself and they were for people who had one or more code violations and that was put in the paper on February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Niglio discussed related articles she had read in The News Item from other Municipalities in support and pre-convictions of citations that were sent to the magistrate. Mayor Turlis asks if names were published.

Mrs. Niglio states that the names were published for the citations that were sent to the magistrate.

Mrs. Niglio states that the bottom line is that all municipalities in the area seem to be getting more on board to try and get some type of control and states that she feels that Kulpmont took the lead and states that we cannot let our guard down and that there is still allot to be done.

**MOTION-** Mrs. Niglio makes the motion and is seconded by Mr. Motyka that we list our code fines and violators list and names once filed with the magistrate then they are released to the paper.

Mr. Scicchitano states that he does not see any problem with that. Mrs. Niglio states once they go to the magistrate they are then forwarded to the paper. Mr. Varano states that is when they become public record, when they are filed with the magistrate. The Borough Solicitor states that is correct.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BOZZA (absent), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent)  
5YEAS – 0 NAYS

**GRANTS and RECREATION COMMITTEE** (Clarence H. Deitrick)

**MOTION-** Mr. Deitrick makes the motion and is seconded by Mrs. Niglio to authorize the council president to sign any paperwork involving the building project that needs signatures.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BOZZA (absent), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (yes), NIGLIO (yes), SCICCHITANO (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent)  
5YEAS – 0 NAYS



Mr. Deitrick states that we started our Saturday recycling of the cardboard and the newspaper on the second Saturday of each month. Mr. Deitrick states some people have been asking about the recycling and not being able to participate because of the bins being locked by the time that they get home from work.

Mr. Deitrick states that we had twenty plus residents participate the first Saturday a real good turn out.

Mr. Motyka questions Mr. Deitrick on the playground ribbon cutting or the opening.

Mr. Deitrick states that we will not have a ribbon cutting due to some issues needing to be addressed and the ground is just too soft to get in there yet, the ribbon cutting will be mid April at best.

Mr. Motyka questions when the playground will open.

Mr. Deitrick states that he feels April 1<sup>st</sup> would be a good date.

Mr. Varano suggests then to set an open date as April 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Deitrick agrees that April 1<sup>st</sup> will be a good date.

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (Winhofer, Varano and Deitrick)

No Report

**OLD BUSINESS**

No one spoke

**NEW BUSINESS**

No one spoke

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Deitrick states that he would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter

**OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mr. Adolp "Al" Blugis states that he is here to find out how you determine that the boroughs tentative 2014 budget indicates it is expected taxes may increase as the borough continues its plans for a new borough office and garage to replace its current location, the former Wilson Grade School. Mr. Blugis states that would be considered a wild guess under the pressure of our current economy. The only positive action would be to obtain

an expert estimate. Your mission is to promote, improve and sustain the quality of life to those of us who reside in this community, and manage our resources efficiently and effectively. No pre arrangement to do something to ones advantage shall be laid or made unless a thorough evaluation of the exact costs of such a move is made. Mr. Blugis asks the question of what would it cost to renovate the current municipal building and garage? Probably far less that if would be to build a new one. He states that the an accurate estimate by a professional contractor should be obtained and then compare it to what a new one would cost, then inform and obtain the general consensus from the residents of the borough.

Mrs. Niglio states that we cannot regulate the heat in here, it cannot be fixed the only thermostat in this whole building is right here in this room for the whole building.

Mr. Varano asks what he would like Council to do, we just replaced the boiler five years ago, and we can't do it every year.

Mr. Varano states that the gas company will not run a line here; gas is cheap compared to oil and that would be the way to go.

Mrs. Niglio states Mr. Blugis we can't get it here.

Mr. Blugis stated at least have someone look into it.

Mr. Varano replied "believe me we did look into it."

Mayor Turlis states that he would like to explain something here as far as the heat because I was on service and facilities when that \$50,000.00 boiler was put in here.

Mayor Turlis states that what has to be done here is all of the steam traps are shot and all of the valves are shot.

Mayor Turlis states that all of the piping is embedded in this plaster, not drywall it is plaster and this building would have to be gutted and now we would have to have asbestos abatement to do that and you are probably talking hundreds of thousand of dollars to do so.

Mayor Turlis states that two roofs were put on this building in the last 15 or 20 years and it needs another one and states if you walk down the hall to the other room you will need an umbrella.

Mayor Turlis states the entire roof needs to be replaced again.

Mr. Blugis questions how he knows that and states he would like to see all that in writing.

Mayor Turlis asks Mr. Blugis if he is accusing them of not doing their job, as far as the accusation of us not doing anything to maintain this building.

Mr. Blugis states he has not heard of anything being done to maintain this building.

Mayor Turlis states that a \$50,000.00 boiler was put in, the roof was replaced twice, the building was re-pointed twice already by major contractors. Mayor Turlis states that everything that was done has been done not once but twice. Mr. Varano states that the life span of a building is 40 or 50 years and states this building has seen its better days.

Mr. Blugis discussed an old building in Shenandoah and how it has been maintained and the good condition it is in. Mr. Varano states that we are not going to go through this every time you come up here, listening to the same thing every meeting.

Mr. Varano states that you are accusing us of not maintaining this building.

Mr. Blugis states that he is not; he is accusing of not notifying the public and states that if Council does not want to tell him answers he will file a Right to Know.

Mr. Varano states that the public was notified and you file whatever you feel you have to do sir.

Mr. Blugis states that little editorial in the paper, big deal.

Mr. Blugis states that the constitution states when the Mayor, Myron Turlis interjected stating that the Right to Know Law and the constitution are two different things.

Mayor Turlis states that he feels he is misunderstanding the Right to Know Law.

Mr. Deitrick states that we have been talking about a new building for a few years now.

Mayor Turlis states that Mr. Blugis referenced a school in Shenandoah that was probably as old as this building and stated it is in great shape and states that he probably would agree with him.

Mayor Turlis states that you could go a few blocks down the road and you have the same situation and states that millions went into that building for it to be in the condition that it is in today.

Mr. Blugis asks what will it cost to build the new building and then to get rid of this one.

Mr. Varano states that the building will revert back to the school district and they will probably turn it over to a Housing Authority and turn it into a housing and school on the second floor, you can get money for a school but you cannot get money for a municipal building.

Mr. Varano states that we cannot get money to fix this building.

Mr. Blugis states that a little at a time should get done.

Mr. Varano states that this building can't wait to have a little done at a time.

Mr. Blugis states that some municipalities cannot afford police departments and their workers.

Mr. Blugis states that we have the best police department and workers here and when the time comes we run short of money then what, I think it is a bad idea.

Mr. Varano states duly noted and that his opinion is on the record.

Jeff Gilotti an assistant fire chief requested that someone from council Code, Health and Safety go down and look at the property that he and the Code Officer were at today, he states that the concern is that the masonry facade has began to pull away at 1125 Poplar, the only thing holding it right now is the tree.

Mr. Varano asks Mr. Scicchitano if he can do that.

Mr. Scicchitano states that he will. John Timm the code official is aware of it and will go along with Mr. Scicchitano to check that out.

Mr. Redd of North 10<sup>th</sup> Street states that he probably sounds like a broken record but he is here this evening about the rat-trap next door to him.

Mr. Redd states that they have three dogs and they are supposed to only have two dogs according to an ordinance here.

Mr. Redd states that he does not know how many calls he has had into the Code Officer and Mayor concerning grass, dog waste, trash and garbage on the back porch.

Mr. Redd states that the front porch was condemned in the past and had to be re done.

Mr. Scicchitano asks Mr. Redd if he is aware that property has been checked and cited. Mr. Scicchitano states that just this past Monday the property was checked and when Mr. Venna did not detect any odor and states that not much can be done about the dogs running in the house next door during the daytime hours.

Mr. Redd questions about them having three dogs.

Mr. Scicchitano states that we can look into that and states that when he was out he himself checked on the bags out back and they are soda and beer cans in the bags and not garbage.

Mr. Redd states that they are out there since last year and they attract bugs and bees.

Mr. Scicchitano states that he will talk to him about the cans.

Mr. Redd states that concerning the dogs, when they are not home and anyone goes by the bark and run through the house and urinate as they run through and you can smell it.

Mr. Redd states that is all he has to say and thanks everyone for listening,

**The Borough Solicitor William C. Cole states that the board met in executive session for approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes for personnel and litigation matters.**

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR**

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**RHONDA WILK  
BOROUGH SECRETARY**

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**DATE OF APPROVAL**