

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 8, 2016**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Walter Lutz
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by body present, Kulpmont Borough Council held
its regular monthly meeting Tuesday March 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor Novakoski,
Clarence Deitrick, Bruno Varano, Stephen Motyka, George Malakoski and Walter Lutz.

ABSENT: Joseph A. Winhofer and Nicholas P. Goretski III.

APPOINTED POSITIONS: Solicitor William C. Cole

PRESENT: Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk, Police Chief Michael Pitcavage, Code
Officer Russ Moroz.

OTHERS PRESENT: Joseph Pancerella, Bernie Nestico, Stephanie Niglio, Barry
Fetterman, Jeff Gilotti, Ray Siko, Bob Chesney, Joe Politza, Vince Wasilewski, Keith
Tamborelli and Mike Sinopoli.

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

Joe Pancerella of 700 Pine Street states that he wants to comment on the solar project
idea. Mr. Pancerella states that when the gentleman that was here speaking on the solar
Mr. Deitrick questioned about replacing current lights with LED's and the response was
if you are leasing the poles from PPL there really wouldn't be any savings.

Mr. Pancerella states that according to what The News Item reported that Coal Township
is doing exactly that, replacing their current lights with LED lights. He states that there
are 529 street lights on PP&L poles so it costs them \$1,228.00 and there is a projected
savings of \$200.00 per month but the return on the investment is six months.

Mr. Motyka responded and stated that he read the same article and that back in
September he had contacted DEP and a lady did an audit of our street lights and she had
said at that time that with the rate change that happened in January it would not be
effective for us. He states that he had followed up and it will benefit us now.

Mr. Motyka states that we have 228 lights in Kulpmont and the upfront cost they want is
\$172.00 out of pocket and our average monthly savings will be \$138.00 so in a month
and a quarter we will be paid back.

Mr. Motyka states that he put a request in for the contract and he will have Mr. Cole
review it and that should be a no brainier and states that we do get lucky once in awhile.

Mr. Niglio states that just so everyone knows, the price went up and the new rate for this year is a five or six thousand dollar increase but we are going to get brighter lights.

Mr. Motyka added that it takes thirty one cars off the road.

Mr. Lutz stated that he would like to speak as a citizen and states that he did not bring his passport but stated "trust me, I am a citizen."

Walt Lutz 860 Oak Street states that he has twenty two pages here of an analysis on the solar power project and states that when council met on this he commented that it is wrong, there are errors in it and that it is not done as it should be.

Mr. Lutz states that Mr. Motyka sent him some information and he has some packets here to hand out.

Mr. Lutz added that the number one thing is the measurement of the investment, you have got to do net present value and what the Lenepe did was some simple pay back method and even with what Mr. Motyka sent me you will see in there that this is not the way to do it.

Mr. Lutz states that the way you do it is that you get all of the present values and the net present values and use that formulation to come to a decision.

Mr. Lutz states that you use a discount rate to go ahead and discount the future cash flows back to the present. Mr. Lutz states what does that mean? He continued to say, that means that a dollar today is not the same as a dollar twenty five years from now. He states that so, he goes ahead and built a whole bunch of financial models and he says ok, lets go ahead and see what we got going on with Lenepe.

Mr. Lutz states that the first thing is they just use today's dollar as the same in twenty five years and that is worthless, the second thing is they have an arithmetic error in their financial model and the third thing is that they used a SREC of \$35.00 per mega-watt.

Mr. Lutz states that he went ahead and pulled this as he refers to the package he put together, what he pulled off of the internet and states that you will see that these things trade like the stock market, that's \$14.50 and using the \$14.50 market value and their \$35.00 pulls out \$300,000.00 worth of benefits so he makes a series of models and go ahead and use a discount rate and what happens is that the project goes from what they are saying two million dollars and when you use a 5% discount rate at their \$35.00 residential it goes to \$460,000.00 on the present value and at 10% its negative. Mr. Lutz added that take the SREC down to \$15.00 which is the market value and the present value at 5% goes to \$243,000.00 and at the 10% it goes to negative \$301,000.00. When you take the SREC down to zero, which when we met with Senator Gordner there was a thought that it may go to zero, it goes to \$16,000.00 at 5% and negative \$400,000.00 at 10%.

Mr. Lutz states that Mr. Motyka was in discussions with the Department of Environmental Protection and they said look we have a couple issues with a few things, we think that the rate increases are too high and that the degradation of the solar panels are to low and they really put it in a more favorable showing than maybe that they should have.

Mr. Lutz states that when you go ahead and do that, what the DEP said is that it goes to a negative \$131,000.00 at 5%. He states that these are not his numbers they are Mr. Motyka's numbers and Lenepe Solar numbers and adds that this is a very questionable project. Mr. Lutz states that in addition to that when you look at Lenepe Solars spreadsheet the first year and several years after there is a negative cash flow and in the first year there is a negative cash flow of \$234,000.00 and states that to cover that negative you would have to raise taxes 19 mills to cover that first year and besides that there are other issues.

Mr. Lutz states that it would affect the wine fest, picnic and where people will park and states that it is just not a good proposal and these are just using discount rates and when you start doing simulations and such with the risk, this thing gets all the worse.

Mr. Motyka commented that he has done a lot of research as well and states that he thinks that they over built the project by 40% to cover their payment back and states that if you take 40% out of that 2.2 million dollar project it brings it down to 1.3 and states that he does not think it will take much of a grant to make it a profitable project but as it stands right now he agrees that their numbers don't work.

Mr. Lutz states that he reached out to Mr. Motyka twice and made the statement that we need to go over this, you and I together and if he was able to lead Mr. Motyka through this there could have been a list of questions together for the Lenepe guys and approached this as a team and adds that even at the 1.4 million it is probably a bad deal.

Mr. Lutz added that when you look at the electricity rates and the rates of the sewer authority of eight cents and the municipal rates of forty-eight cents, something is out of whack and what is out of whack most likely is the equipment being the rental of the street lights and so you have to take that out of the analysis and you have to just get electricity and so at the last meeting we agreed to spend \$3,750.00 on a feasibility study and that is a waste of money.

Mr. Motyka replied that at the sewer authority meeting they made the same motion to approve with the stipulation that we run these same numbers.

Mr. Lutz states that he would be happy to work with him before we go ahead and spend \$3,750.00. Mr. Motyka states that he did take Senator Gordner's recommendations and states that he has calls in with the people in Allentown and has calls in with SEDA COG, so he will gain some more information.

Mr. Lutz states that what we need to do if we will go forward with this we need to get our facts and figures so that we roll in there we can say ask me any questions that you want.

I will give packets to Mrs. Wilk and then if the public would want to take a look at it and states this is the kind of work that needs to be done.

Mr. Motyka stated that it is still in progress.

Mr. Lutz replied that you went ahead and brought this \$7,500.00 from the sewer authority and in here and states that in his opinion it should have never went forward.

Mr. Motyka states that the reason he did that was to call it a shovel ready project so that if the funds do become available the project would be ready to go.

Mr. Lutz states that he doubts that the 40% will change the economics but it may and states that you have to be open minded it's a scientific analysis, you go ahead and put the numbers in analysis and it and it comes out.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Bruno R. Varano)

Mr. Varano announced that a meeting is scheduled with the Mount Carmel Township Supervisors and then directed a statement to Mr. Chesney that so he knows and does not have to ask that question again today.

Mr. Lutz questioned on when that will be. Mr. Varano replied that will be a meeting with the Executive Committee and the township supervisors on Monday March 14th at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Lutz questions Mr. Varano and asks if he could tell the topic of the meeting. Mr. Varano states that we are discussing what was brought up concerning the police and added that it is a fact finding meeting.

Mr. Varano states that we have resolutions to hand out however we are missing a signature on these and two of the councilman did not make the meeting anyway.

MAYOR'S REPORT (Bernard P. Novakoski)

The Mayor announced that on April the first we are going back to parking with the direction of traffic, so do not park against the direction of traffic after April 1st.

The Mayor states that he is still looking for volunteers for the auxiliary police force and states that he has only received two at this time.

Mr. Varano states he feels he will get more, it will take some time.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk states that approval is needed on the minutes from the February 9th meeting.

MOTION- Mr. Malakoski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to approve the meeting minutes from the February 9th 2016 meeting.

Mr. Lutz questioned the minutes and states that he feels that there are material omissions and states that one of the omissions is the discussion between he and Mr. Varano on the BB&T loan when he questioned him about the material that he was unable to answer yet you signed the agreement, that is not in here and the other omission is when the solar power discussion took place he tried to suggest that the Lenepe analysis is wrong and that discussion is not in there, yet there will be some discussions in there that are more mundane.

Mr. Lutz states that the discussion on the BB&T loan and the solar power should be put in the minutes and questions how to do that vote on that or how do you do it.

The solicitor Mr. Cole states that actually they would have to be re-done because without the written rendition on what is being voted upon it is very difficult to tell what exactly the minutes contain.

Mr. Lutz states that he does not want to cause anymore work for Mrs. Wilk and adds that she has plenty of work and questions if this is something he should have done this before hand or how should he handle this.

Mr. Cole replied that certainly on a question they could always be amended but it has to be in written form so that it is understood what is being voted on and so that the other members need to be able to review that and determine what it is they are approving.

Mr. Lutz states that he understands and withdraws anything that he may need to be withdrawn.

Mr. Varano adds that it is also in the minutes, Tape Malfunction, and states that is probably why the discussion is not in there.

Mr. Lutz replied yes, he did read that and states that maybe when we get the part-time person they can come to the meeting also and states that he does not know how Mrs. Wilk does it, when we get that person we could have two people.

Mr. Varano states that when the tape is working right, we have no problem.

Mr. Lutz commented that we will get three people.

Mr. Varano states that it happened to be turned down that day for some reason.

Mr. Lutz commented that he thinks Mr. Varano turned it down and immediately commented that he was just kidding.

Mr. Niglio directed a statement to Mr. Lutz that without the tape it is impossible to transcribe a discussion and states that he has been here for thirty years and you cannot do it.

Mr. Lutz states that he agrees but you put a part time helper here and two people can do it. Mr. Niglio states that you could not put five people here you cannot do it. Mr. Lutz replied that five people could do it.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOKSI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent), GORETSKI (absent)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Rhonda Wilk states that correspondence was received from PSAB on the June 5th – June 8th 2016 Annual Conference to be held in Hershey. A response is due May 5, 2016 if anyone would like to attend that conference.

Rhonda states that correspondence was received from the Housing Authority on the Housing Rehabilitation Program and states that applications are available at the Borough office.

Mr. Deitrick added that last year we were one of two communities in the state to receive additional housing grant and there are still five slots available and we are taking applications in the borough office and also at the Housing Authority in Mount Carmel at 420 E. Seventh Street.

Mr. Deitrick states that anyone who may be eligible may come in and fill out an application; there are still five grants available.

Mr. Varano states that it is a good grant, up to twenty thousand and adds that you cannot beat that.

TREASURERS REPORT (Paul A. Niglio, Jr.)

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

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

Mr. Lutz states that he has some questions and states that on the bill that Mr. Cole submitted there was a meeting with SEDA COG listed on the consolidation on the 23rd and questions if that is a secret or something.

Mr. Deitrick commented that he would not have written it in there if it was a secret.

Mr. Cole replied no, and asked what he was referring to.

Mr. Lutz replied that he was looking at the bills today and it read meeting with SEDA COG/executive committee regarding consolidation.

Mr. Cole replied that he was requested to attend the meeting and he attended the meeting.

Mr. Lutz questions if anyone can tell us what that meeting was about.

Mr. Varano replied yes, it was an executive committee meeting with SEDA COG on the consolidation of the Fire Department. Mr. Lutz also questioned the charge for a conference call on 1st regarding project.

Mr. Cole replied, that was the building project.

Mr. Lutz also questioned the bill for a conference call on the 14th for litigation and analysis and states that may be something you cannot discuss.

Mr. Cole replied that he thinks that will have to be discussed in executive session. Mr. Varano added absolutely.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOKSI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent), GORETSKI (absent)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio states that he just would like to report that the elected auditors have been in the last month and they will be finishing up by the end of the month and report with the state and the county and also that the auditor general's office was in today doing the volunteer fire relief fund.

Mr. Lutz questioned when we were holding the escrow money for the two homes that burnt down, from the insurance proceeds that amounted to around \$40,000.00 if at anytime during the period that we were holding that money if the cash balance dipped below that \$40,000.00.

Mr. Niglio replied no.

Mr. Lutz questioned when we got that money.

Mr. Niglio replied in November or December.

Mr. Lutz stated that the other thing is that in January there was a concern with the cash flow what not and asks if we have an accounts payable aging?

Mr. Niglio replied no.

Mr. Lutz questioned if we have an accounts receivable aging? Mr. Niglio replied no.

Mr. Lutz questioned if we have a cash projection? Mr. Niglio replied strictly cash, we have a budget.

Mr. Lutz asked Mr. Niglio how we are doing year-to-date.

Mr. Niglio replied that we do not get any funds until taxes come in until this month and states that normally in the condition that we were in this year he states that he would recommend that council would get a tax anticipation note, but we had one outstanding with the loan on the East End Building so we couldn't get two and that is why we were in a cash crunch and states that he does not like to be in a situation where we are not going to be able to pay our employees.

Mr. Deitrick added that part of that was that we were waiting on a reimbursement from the DEP grant which the money came and fifty seven thousand dollars went into our coffer so that solved most of our problems right there.

Mr. Lutz questioned that although we are on a cash basis he asks if we have a detailed listing of all obligations and states that what his concern is that in January you said we are kind of tight and states that he understands the whole deal with the fifty seven thousand and states that he gets all of that, but what his point is that do we have a listing, Shamokin has stacks of bills.

Mr. Niglio replied that they are running in a deficit, we don't run in a deficit.

Mr. Lutz replied that in January you said we are not paying anybody.

Mr. Niglio states that he knows and that is only because he will not get any money until March.

Mr. Lutz replied that he knows that and so he is saying should we get a listing together of what we got and what we don't.

Mr. Niglio replied that everybody is paid, all bills are paid and we have nothing outstanding, it's the end of the financial quarter.

Mr. Deitrick added that he thinks what Mr. Niglio is saying is don't spend any monies that we do not need to spend.

Mr. Deitrick added that we had the fifty seven thousand from DEP and at that time we were also waiting on the seventeen thousand dollar reimbursement for the bins that we got, so since then we got almost seventy five thousand.

Mr. Niglio states that we are fine now because now the tax revenues are coming in and our cash balance at the end of the year was a little higher than he anticipated.

Mr. Niglio added that he was just more cautious than anything and we are rolling along like we should be.

Mr. Lutz stated we are flush. Mr. Niglio agreed.

SOLICITORS REPORT (William C. Cole)

Mr. Cole states that he is requesting to meet with council in executive session at the end of the meeting.

POLICE REPORT (Chief Michael Pitcavage)

Police Report attachment #2. Mr. Lutz questioned Chief Pitcavage if he could tell him that in January and February was a total of 60 days and that is equates to 1440 hours and asks if he could tell him of the 1440 hours how many hours there was police coverage.

Chief Pitcavage replied that he cannot without the paperwork in front of him he cannot.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT (Kevin O'Hearn)

Report attachment #3

Mr. Varano states that Kevin O' Hearn is not here and states that approval is requested to send EE Engine 221 to go to KME for the annual inspection and maintenance that is due by the end of March.

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to send Engine 221 to KME for inspection and maintenance.

VOICE VOTE -

Unanimous

Mr. Varano questions what about the West End truck. Mr. Sinopoli replied it is not due until June.

Mr. Varano states that the fire chief's report states that the fire department and both fire companies have applied for approximately \$250,000.00 in state and federal grants to off set the cost of up-grading to new equipment.

The grants would be for new turnout gear, the on-going county radio project, new rescue tools so the department is capable of handling vehicle accidents involving newer

manufactured vehicles and new lighting for the apparatus to provide safer response and on-scene lighting.

Mr. Varano questions Mr. Ray Siko if that was for on top and to replace the current lights. Ray Siko states that it had rotary halogen lights on it and with the amount of lights that they had on it and don't quote him but for instance the draw was 26 amps, they went with an LED light which draws about 4 amps which will save on alternates and the engine and the second thing they did was upgraded their seam lighting to provide a better work area around the engine from halogen to LED's because as studies show that apparatus is still being hit and one reason is people are being accustomed to seeing red lighting, with red lights on the equipment they relate that to break lights so with having white seam lighting or amber it is throwing the red off and people are able to see them now and the work area is well lit.

Ray Siko stated that the East End Engine has been upgraded and he knows that Captain Siko has been in contact with Captain Snyder from the West End and states that they are planning on applying for a grant this year for next year to upgrade to seam lighting on the Sutphen.

Ray Siko states that they are afraid to put anything on the Hahn and adds it may not start.

Mr. Varano replied that we are dumping that one this year any way.

Ray Siko states that Barry Fetterman went above and beyond and worked on the Hahn and was able to correct the problems that they had that had the engine out of service and it is back in service now.

Ray Siko added that also with the turnout gear, it is only good for ten years and the turnout gear that the current protective gear they now wear is 13 years old.

It is approximately between \$6,400.00 and \$7,800.00 a set and that is not the Cadillac it's the Volkswagen but it will get us by and states that is one of the grants they applied for and this is the third year they have applied so fingers crossed that we will get that from the federal government.

Ray Siko states that in reference to the rescue tools they have served them greatly however with the new vehicles and manufacturers, the tools they have are incapable of cutting the stuff and are not rated for that and states that don't get him wrong they will try it but your chancing tool malfunction, breakdown and states that they feel to change with the times so they are equipped to handle it until they come out with a new metal then they will be back to square one.

Ray Siko states that they will be recycling some of the tools out and the price comparison of an old tool compared to a new one are about a \$1,500.00 difference from back in the day when we bought them.

Mr. Lutz stated that he met with the fire company folks last evening over at the East End and at that meeting they brought a whole bunch of financial information and states that it was really a stack and too much for him to go through in one night. He states that he saw checking accounts and records and states that he did not see any slush fund and added that he will look harder.

Mr. Lutz stated that there are different funds that they have but they are all out there clear, they require two signatures in everything they do and purchase orders and states that talking as a CPA he found them to be very very good as far as internal control was concerned and states that he only met with them last night and could not do an audit in an and hour and a half but he adds that he did not see any slush funds.

Mr. Lutz states they have funds and were quite open and transparent and states that he had asked them to invite him to a meeting and they will spend some more time and states that they will try to put a more formalized report together for the council and states that in his opinion as a citizen of the borough they do an excellent job and we should support them.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz states that he is making a motion that the borough gives the fire companies an additional \$3,750.00 to split between the East End and the West End.

Mr. Lutz added that we got it for solar power. Mr. Malakoski questioned what it would be for Mr. Varano interjected and states that we are not on a question, so you can't ask that question until someone seconds the motion.

Mr. Varano calls for a second and there was no response. Mr. Varano states that the motion dies for lack of a second.

Mr. Varano thanked Barry Fetterman and Ray.

Ray Siko states that he has one more thing he would like to update on the radio project and states that they were supposed to go live in July and start radio testing in March but apparently something happened and the project was pushed back again.

Ray Siko states that the county is giving them five pagers, one portable, one mobile and this equipment is at Keystone and they are giving them notifications to pick up the equipment and his concern is that nobody can answer right now at Keystone is that when he takes the equipment when does the warranty start, because if he takes the equipment and this does not start for a year and there is a year warranty it would be expired before use so until he gets an answer if the warranty does not start until installation then they will make a move, if that is the fact they will get the equipment and store it until installation.

Ray Siko added that their funds are locked because they still do not know what this will cost them and they have been researching different vendors and getting prices and they still do not know and that is why they are in limbo with this radio project.

Ray Siko also questioned about the meeting with SEDA COG in reference with consolidation and does not know if they can discuss it now or after the meeting and if you cannot discuss it now he understands.

Mr. Varano replied that it was an informational meeting with the executive committee and it was informational and after the next meeting with council will then be with the fire department.

Mr. Lutz directed a statement to Ray Siko that he could file a Right to Know request and all of that has to be opened up to you and stated that he will show him how to do that. Mr. Varano questioned on a committee meeting and added that he does not think so. Mr. Lutz asked Mr. Varano if that was no for the meeting with SEDA COG. Mr. Varano replied that it was a committee meeting. Mr. Niglio added there are no minutes. Mr. Varano states it was a committee meeting and just informational.

Jeff Gilotti added that his concern is that if it concerns the fire department there should be a representative of the fire department there.

Mr. Varano replied that they do not need to be there until they actually find out what is going on, then we will have a meeting with the fire department.

Mr. Varano states that there should have been a representative from council at the meeting with Rep. Barletta at that meeting.

Jeff Gilotti replied that Mr. Barletta said this has to do with the fire department and if you want to meet with council that will be on a separate occasion.

Mr. Varano states that council will meet with him.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Kevin O' Hearn)

Mr. Varano states that he did receive word from Kevin O'Hearn that he updated the emergency response manual. Rhonda Wilk states that he also informed the borough that he is still waiting to hear on the recent snow storm and if there will be any funds available. She added that he said that he will keep the borough informed.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT (TRI County COG)

No Report

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REPORT (Russ Moroz)

Report – Attachment #4

Mr. Motyka made the statement that he saw that a lot of the rental registrations did not come in until February on the report and questions if they were charged with the late fee. Mr. Moroz states that they were cited.

Mr. Motyka stated that we passed a contractor registration fee of \$100.00 for any contractor that wants to work in our town for the protection of the residents and protection of the contractors as well. Mr. Motyka states that will affect some big fuel oil providers they do a lot of work and say bath fitters, and asks if they have registered. Mr. Moroz states that they will they did not do a project this year yet.

Mr. Moroz replied that Bath-fitters didn't fall in to the registration because their permits were issued last year, but the work was done later, because everything was custom made and the work was not done until this year, where the permit was issued last year before the ordinance was passed.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Joseph A. Winhofer)

Mr. Deitrick states that it was agreed to hire a part-time office help and states that the borough received three applications and the committee recommends Mrs. Niglio to be hired for that position.

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Malakoski to hire Stephanie Niglio for the part-time office help.

Mr. Lutz states that he is not sure what the procedure is. Mr. Deitrick states that they went over the applications and then the committee made a recommendation.

Mr. Lutz questioned that there was no interview or background check. Mr. Dietrick replied that there was no interview or background check. Mr. Lutz stated that Mrs. Niglio did not submit an application. Mr. Deitrick replied that she did. Mr. Lutz replied that she submitted a letter and said he did not make the rules. Mr. Deitrick replied that semantics isn't it. Mr. Lutz replied it is not, not at all because the other two candidates went ahead and submitted an application.

Mr. Varano stated that the borough did not put anything in the paper stating that an application had to be submitted, anyone interested in a job would submit their name.

Mr. Lutz stated that they submitted an application and he feels that they followed proper procedure.

Mr. Varano replied that she submitted a resume. Mr. Lutz replied that she did not.

Mr. Deitrick replied that it is a letter and it amounts to a resume.

Mr. Varano states that he would call it a resume and added that he was a manager for 35 years. Mr. Lutz replied that he does not know where the hell he worked. Mr. Varano

replied that he worked a lot harder than he did. Mr. Lutz replied “really.” Mr. Varano responded by saying yes and called for a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (no), MALAKOKSI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent), GORETSKI (absent)
4 YEAS – 1 NAY

Mr. Varano calls for Service and Facilities and commented to Mr. Lutz, here is your committee now let’s hear you speak.

Mr. Lutz responded by saying he is a little tired.

SERVICE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz announced that the food distribution will be held on March 17th from 8:00 a.m. until noon.

He states that he has a bill from Ehrlich which he thinks is a re-occurring bill that comes every year and states that it’s this deal here that takes care of bugs and snakes and what not.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to pay \$786.00 to Ehrlich for the pest control.

Mr. Varano states that actually it is a contract and they do it every year.

Mr. Lutz states that with the mild winter the bugs are coming and from what he hears there are some snakes also.

Mr. Varano states that it is a good deal or they would not renew it every year. Mr. Deitrick adds that they do around the field and they do the bank where the kids play so that no snakes can encroach on their playing area because of high grass or weeds and added that we have had problems with snakes in the past.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOKSI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent), GORETSKI (absent)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Lutz states that the solar project was discussed and stated again that again he offered to work on it to see if it makes economic sense.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion to purchase brushes for the street sweeper from Bradco for \$228.00.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Lutz stated that the Street Sweeper was supposed to start on Good Friday but the guy's only work half of the day so, it's almost like not even take it out for a couple hours.

Mr. Lutz added that next week the guys are going to take it out and go down the middle of the street and kind of get motivated on it. Mr. Lutz states that unless council directs they are not going to take the street sweeper out for a couple of hours on Good Friday and are looking for a modification of the schedule.

Mr. Deitrick questions how long it takes to do the street.

Bruce Graff replied that you cannot get the streets done in two hours.

Council discussed Mr. Varano states that we always try to get the sweeping in for Easter. Mr. Lutz states that they are going to take it out this week.

Mr. Deitrick asks if it takes four hours. Mr. Graff states that it takes longer than that. Mr. Lutz states that we can go out for a couple of hours and see what we get done.

Mr. Deitrick states that he agrees with Bruno that he would like to get the town cleaned up for Easter, and if the guys are willing to stay and work, let's pay them for the whole day if it takes it. Council agrees that the street sweeper will run on Good Friday.

FINANCE/PURCHASING COMMITTEE (Stephen Motyka)

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Deitrick that when they have the contract in hand and the solicitor reviews it and we sign it for the LED street lights.

Mr. Deitrick questioned to cost and said he would like to revise the motion not to exceed the initial out of pocket cost and then a discussion took place.

Mr. Motyka states that the out of pocket cost should be \$172.00 but discusses that he would not want to throw this away for the cost of a couple dollars.

Mr. Niglio states that these are not PP&L numbers. Mr. Motyka replied that they are and that he went on the site and put in our last billing amount and last billing number and this is what they ran.

Mr. Deitrick states he feels that the motion should be not to exceed the cost of \$1,100.00, the cost of Coal Township's because anyway you look at it is a good deal and that should cover us. Mr. Motyka states that they have two and a half times the amount of our lights, so he agrees.

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lutz that when they have the contract in hand and the solicitor reviews it and we sign it for the LED street light conversion with the out not to exceed the cost of \$1,100.00.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Mr. Lutz stated that when you look at that schedule from Lenepe it is all different and states this one has this rate and these ones got that rate.

Mr. Lutz states that the way they do the utility deal, they will go ahead and they have this tariff, remember like the old trucking companies and they have all of these different rates like you have red hair you get this rate you have black hair you get that rate.

Mr. Lutz state that if we were to go ahead and say we want the same rate as the Kulpmont Municipal Authority we save \$33,000.00 per year.

Mr. Motyka added that is what he would say to bump that into one.

Mr. Lutz states that he had experience in these things and when you kind of talk to them a little bit and say hey we want this rate, this eight cents rate and directs the statement to Mr. Motyka that he would be happy to meet with him and sit with a PP&L person and see what the hell this is all about.

Mr. Motyka states that he works night shift all next week so if he wants to set something up during the day he would be available.

Mr. Lutz told Mr. Motyka that he would talk to him after the meeting that he cannot hear a word he is saying.

Mr. Deitrick states that we agreed to spend \$3,750.00 and that was on the original Lenepe project.

Mr. Motyka replied that is correct and Mr. Lutz did a lot of research since and so has he. Mr. Deitrick said that we are not going to spend \$3,750.00 on that original motion.

Mr. Motyka answered that what he would thinks would happen is that as SEDA COG recommended before, to put a request for a proposal out, a RFP like you would for an architect and then all of these companies from around the state will say we will analyze you and give you a design for \$47.00 and some like to say \$50,000.00 and then we can rate those RFP's and states that he thinks that is a better way to go at it.

Mr. Deitrick stated that the vote to spend the \$3750.00 was on the Lenepe initial proposal so that is sort of a mute point now anyway and asks if that is correct.

Mr. Motyka replied that he said at the second meeting at the sewer authority that we would not move until we got these numbers figured out.

Mr. Deitrick stated that we would have to re-vote again anyway because that was on the initial proposal. Mr. Lutz asked if any work was done and if we owe any money. Mr. Deitrick answered no.

Mr. Varano added that everything is on hold basically now until we get all of our figures. Mr. Lutz said that is what we need all of our data and once we have all of our data we are good.

Mr. Varano stated that is why it is not even on the agenda, because we are not doing anything with it until we get all of the information. Mr. Deitrick added that then it will have to be re-voted again for a different proposal. Mr. Lutz commented that he will give council all this analysis.

Mr. Motyka stated that he sent quotes for a retaining wall to fix what the East End building left for the neighbor. He states that right after the building was demolished the neighbor was getting water in and states that they went down to see the problem first hand. Mr. Motyka states that the quote for the material was \$2,874.00 for the retaining wall material and then a quote from Nolan's lumber was \$1,300.00 for a 4' fence because you are going to be up within a fall hazard on the high end.

Mr. Motyka states that he offered to help install and asks if they would like to pick a date and make a motion to remedy the parking lot that was left for the neighbor's burden down there.

Mr. Lutz questioned the amount of cost. Mr. Motyka stated that the cost was \$2,874.00 for material and that includes a pallet deposit and then the fence \$1,300.00 and then we will backfill with fines to bring it up to grade.

Mr. Deitrick states that we are looking for around \$5,000.00. Mr. Deitrick states that he thinks it is a good deal but feels that we should just table it for now until we get our interim financing and states that it is his suggestion so whatever the board decides, but he feels it should be tabled for now. Mr. Deitrick added that it needs to be done but we can wait a couple months.

Mr. Varano commented that there is no emergency with this right now, and asks Mr. Motyka if that is correct. Mr. Motyka states that they have been dealing with it for four years.

Mr. Motyka questioned Russ Moroz if he was able to drop any of the paperwork off for the people to show them what we have planned.

Mr. Lutz questioned if you do this do you have to then do the car route on the sidewalk by the building.

Mr. Motyka states that he thinks you could fit 10' wide parking spots so if you just put doubles down the center and you would pull out the back so you would have ten parking spots gained rather than the mess it is now.

Mr. Lutz asked if you have to do this stuff at the building.

Mr. Motyka states that he thinks for the ADA you would, but that is his thought. Mr. Motyka states that he asked the architect to put that parking in as an alternate and he did not so it was part of that contractor price.

Mayor Novakoski commented that he asked him a question two months ago and still has not got an answer. Mr. Lutz commented not to yell at him about that.

CODE/HEALTH/SAFETY (George Malakoski)

Mr. Malakoski stated that he received a request from Phil Scicchitano for two additional parking stalls at the pizza shop and gave all members a copy of the request.

Mr. Malakoski states that he has a copy of the ordinance and stated that he will give that to Bill Cole to have the ordinance amended if everyone agrees.

Mr. Deitrick questions what it would take to amend the ordinance and asks if a whole new ordinance would have to be written.

The solicitor William Cole states either way and added that we have to put in effective dates and either way it would have to be called for a vote to amend any ordinance and once it is advertised then the board could come back and vote on it at that time.

Mr. Lutz questioned when it is advertised if then the citizens have an opportunity to speak.

Mr. Cole replied sure, and the way the parameters are is that the add must go in a full seven days but it should not be more than sixty days so the board acts on it somewhere in the middle of that is the way it is written.

Mr. Cole states that would be the first step if there is going to be an amendment.

MOTION- Mr. Malakoski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick that we advertise to amend the patron parking ordinance from two parking spaces to four.

Mayor Novakoski questioned what happens when someone has two and cuts a neighbor out because he wants the third one and they are not there and do not use it.

Mr. Varano replied that if you grant it to one then you have to grant it to everyone.

Mr. Lutz questioned the Mayor's statement and stated that he does not understand what he is saying.

Mayor Novakoski explained that he will not mention and names but a few places in town where say a lady had one parking place and someone else came up and said they want two and then the neighbor has no parking now and squeezed the first guy out, they wanted one and cant have it so now if they come back and want three and they are only there two days out of the week and states that his phone will be ringing off the hook.

Mr. Varano states that this is Patron Parking. Mayor Novakoski states that he knows that. Mr. Varano stated that he thought that the Mayor was thinking it was handicap parking.

Mr. Varano suggested that possibly it should be incorporated that the Chief would go down and make sure that it is feasible. The Chief said to keep in mind that there is a fire hydrant down there.

Mr. Deitrick states that this would be in front of Tony's place and it would not be like they are taking anyone's spot in front of their houses, it will be behind the two that are there.

Mr. Motyka questions if the request can be granted before this is amended. Mr. Varano states that the ordinance has to be changed before the request can be granted.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (no), MALAKOKSI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent), GORETSKI (absent)
4 YEAS – 1 NAY

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE (Nicholas P. Goretski, III)

No Report

GRANTS AND RECREATION (Clarence H. Deitrick)

Mr. Deitrick states that last year we had an issue down on Sixth Street where a storm water pipe that deteriorated and the road started to go down and states that it was first thought that Penn Dot repair would it but in their bi-laws it states that any storm water that is in a municipality is now the responsibility of the towns.

Mr. Deitrick states that they worked with Senator Gordner and Representative Masser's office and believe that they came up with a solution and states that Mount Carmel Sewer Authority agreed to camera the line for us so we kind of know if it is 20' of pipe or 200' of pipe that will need to be replaced.

Mr. Deitrick directed Bruce Graff to contact them when the weather is nice to try to get them to do it this week or in the future to camera it.

Mr. Deitrick states that we did receive a \$5,000.00 and a \$10,000.00 grant from the Atlantic Pipeline which should be enough to do the engineering after we camera it.

Mr. Deitrick states that will cover the engineering but does not leave us with the money needed to do the project and that is where Senator Gordner and Rep. Masser come in, there is a Multimodal Grant that with their encouragement we should apply for this and hopefully we will get the money to do the project.

Mr. Deitrick states that we have a couple months until we get this in that is why we have to have to camera it and get the engineering done. Bruce Graff replied that they were supposed to do this last year. Mr. Deitrick states that he does not know what happened but states that he needs to contact him. Bruce Graff stated that he does not have the number and asked if Mr. Deitrick has the number. Mr. Deitrick directed him to just look up Mount Carmel Sewage Treatment Plant or our sewer authority may have it or Rhonda may have a number you can call.

Mr. Deitrick states that we have to do this in the spring because the grant closes and it should be done the sooner the better.

Mr. Motyka questioned if the engineer should be present for when they camera the pipe. Mr. Deitrick states that he does not know and asks if he thinks that they should. Mr. Motyka states that the engineer should know better what he is looking at.

Mr. Deitrick asks Mr. Motyka if he has an engineer in mind. Mr. Motyka states that we have a borough engineer KPI. Mr. Deitrick questioned if they would charge us just to look at the camera. Mr. Deitrick states that we can always ask and states that he will call and ask.

Mr. Varano states we could always ask Brinjac from the sewer authority. Mr. Deitrick states that is where we are at on that and that is all that he has.

BUILDING COMMITTEE (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka states that he did find out that council met on March 1st with BB&T and that the architect sent in all of his paperwork last week and the USDA informed him that nothing can start until the bank approves financing.

Mr. Varano verified with Rhonda Wilk that they are working on that and Rhonda Wilk replied that they are.

Mr. Lutz states that he is did not hear Mr. Motyka and asked that nothing can happen until when.

Mr. Motyka replied that the interim financing is approved and the architect sent in all of his paperwork last week.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (J. Winhofer, B. Varano and C. Deitrick)

Mr. Varano stated that he was here for the bid openings and since Mr. Winhofer is not here there were three bids were received on the Equipment from the East End and they were as follows:

Steve Garancheski \$250.00, Brady Fire Co. \$7500.00 and the Elysburg Fire Co. a bid of \$11,001.00

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lutz to sell the equipment to the Elysburg Fire Company for \$11,001.00

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOKSI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent), GORETSKI (absent)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Lutz states that he got this thing from the Mount Carmel Borough on the quality of life and asks if council ever looked into doing this.

Mr. Varano said yes two or three years ago. Mr. Varano states that we had our own form and we kind of had this ordinance in effect many, many years ago.

Mr. Lutz questioned Mr. Cole on how that works.

Mr. Cole states that he thinks that it has been a positive up there and states that the Chief is very active in it. Mr. Lutz states that this is like an addition to our stuff and that he is only trying to get some information.

Mr. Cole states that we would have to go through the exact same procedures as the last ordinance and if it was going to be proposed we would first need a motion to advertise or if the board was feeling that we are not at that stage we would just review drafts so that everyone is satisfied as to what is in there or not in there.

Mr. Lutz questioned Mr. Cole if he drafted this ordinance. Mr. Cole replied yes.

Mr. Lutz responded then by saying that he would not have to then make any big changes then. Mr. Cole replied that depending on when the board looks at it if they want the same.

Mr. Lutz questioned Mrs. Niglio whom was in the audience if she saw this in addition to what we have in the borough and questioned if she went with the Mount Carmel one or if she had another one.

Mrs. Niglio replied that she did one for the borough but it was never looked at.

Mr. Varano states that he seems to recall them accepting theirs after Mrs. Niglio had already put the proposal in here and states that he is not positive but he seems to recall that. Mr. Varano stated that right now it should be put into the ordinance committee's hands for them to review it.

Mr. Lutz replied that he does not know enough about it and he wants to study up on it and questioned Mr. Cole if Coal Township has it also. Mr. Cole replied that he thinks that they do.

Mr. Varano made the statement that it even escapes him why we kind of got away from that years ago, we had a problem with it but states that he does not recall what it was.

Mr. Deitrick states that it should be sent it to the ordinance committee for review. Mr. Varano suggests giving it to Rhonda Wilk to make a copy and give it to the committee. Russ Moroz states that he has copies of it and will pass them on.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Varano wished everyone a happy Saint Patrick's Day and a Happy Easter.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mike Sinopoli of Poplar Street states that two years ago it was brought up for the tower to be painted and estimates were put it and it never got done.

Mr. Varano replied that he does not know what the hold up was he recalls waiting on the second estimate. Mr. Sinopoli stated that you guys were supposed to get in touch with them to do it and you guys never did and states that he was told to get estimates and it never was done.

Mr. Varano said that he recalls it being brought up and then someone said do we really need these.

Mr. Lutz stated that is right Mr. Winhofer said they all have radios why do we need this.

Mike Sinopoli said that he was told to get the estimates in and it was never done.

Mr. Varano questioned Rhonda Wilk if we have estimates.

Rhonda Wilk states that they are in the office on file.

Mr. Deitrick states that we should ask the Fire Chief.

Mr. Varano states that he is not hear and asks the Jeff Gilotti and Ray Siko what they have to say.

Jeff Gilotti said that he mentioned that before that part of the telephone changeover at some point there may be a fee but if one person comes out of their house and realizes that their neighbor's house is on fire it's a life saving tool in the operation.

Ray Siko states that he believes that you have to have a public alert/address system within the community in the case of hurricane, tornadoes, flood or whatever but when they built the white elephant they never re-connected the siren and states that the West Ends siren cannot be heard at the East End station so you cannot hear it at this end of town.

Ray Siko states that one of the things they were trying to get funding to reactivate their siren after the building and it is the same way with the caution lights along the highway they are still not connected.

Ray Siko said personally as a fire official he supports the fact that it is needed 100% and states that back in the day when the whistle blows everyone came out to see where the fire was at and it was the only reason people knew the neighbor's house was on fire.

Mr. Varano replied that he just got done saying that it can't be heard up there so wouldn't it make more sense to get this one working up here. Ray Siko states that is correct. Mr. Varano states it would make more sense to get this one working. Ray Siko said that the second one all it is going to be is activated through a paging system. Jeff Gilotti suggests if you would like to add the one from the East End back in to wait until we go to high band. Mr. Varano states that he is just saying possibly that was one of the things that caused this project to get backed up.

Mike Sinopoli replied that has nothing to do with painting the tower.

Mr. Lutz questioned Mr. Sinopoli if he remembers what the bids were.

Mr. Sinopoli replied that it was discussed that it was around \$1900.00, and states that was three years ago.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to paint the siren tower at the West End for not more then \$2200.00

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOKSI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (absent), GORETSKI (absent)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mike Sinopoli states that he needs some answers on last months meeting as to why the West End was drug into the newspaper about the allotment.

Mr. Varano questioned what it read.

Mike Sinopoli said that it read that the borough would not pay the allotment because the East Ends allotment would be spent at the West End.

Mr. Varano said that did not come from here it came from somewhere out there.

Mr. Deitrick commented that the East End got their allotment didn't they.

Mike Sinopoli said that it said it in the newspaper.

Mr. Varano asked if they believe everything you read in the newspaper.

Mr. Lutz added that we do not have an answer and states that he wishes we had the newspaper here, but there was no degrading of the West End. Mike Sinopoli asked where then did the comment come from.

Mr. Lutz replied that it is going to kill him but he will have to agree with Mr. Varano on this and states that just because it was in the paper and adds that he will have to read it again and will be sure to respond to him.

Mike Sinopoli asked what is going on with the allotment for this year.

Mr. Varano states that it will be distributed quarterly, like it used to be years ago and asks if they put their report in.

Mike Sinopoli replied that he did not and said he was supposed to bring it tonight but he is just coming home from work.

Mr. Varano replied that we are going back to the old ways where the allotment will be distributed quarterly and adds that they will be coming up on their second quarter and adds so; get that report in so we can release the funds.

Mike Sinopoli asks the question on the report if it has to be in for the funds to be released.

Mr. Varano replied that according to the borough code it does, until we can give anymore money, you have to give a report of the previous years and what the money was spent on.

Mike Sinopoli agreed to and stated that the West End the electric bill is separate and rumor has it not mentioning any names, but the people going around bars are saying that the borough is paying our bills now and it is ridiculous.

Mr. Varano replied that he does not know who that is but it is not him.

Mr. Lutz suggest that he bring the report in as Mr. Varano requested and states that he would again say that honestly nobody at the meeting was bad mouthing the West End.

The Borough Solicitor William C. Cole states that the board met in executive session for approximately 30 minutes for possible litigation.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

**RHONDA WILK
BOROUGH SECRETARY**

DATE OF APPROVAL