

KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2013

Opening Prayer by Councilwomen Niglio

The Pledge of Allegiance to Flag by the body present, Kulpmont Borough Council held its regular monthly meeting Tuesday November 12, 2013

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

APPOINTED POSITION: Borough Solicitor William C. Cole and Paul A. Niglio.

PRESENT: Code Official Russ Moroz, Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk and Corporal Michael Pitcavage.

OTHER PRESENT: Rodney Leighow, Joe Politza, Joe Pancerella and Bernard Novakoski.

ABSENT: Bruno R. Varano

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO SPEAK 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 directional parking is suspended on the streets running north and south only effective immediately.

Mayor Turlis states that he would like to remind residents that anytime there is a forecast for six inches or higher all vehicles are to be removed from Chestnut Street until the snow stops until the spring.

Mayor Turlis states that he has been getting some complaints in the last few weeks concerning some large commercial vehicles that are parked legally but are obstructing either the traffic flow because of the size and on Chestnut Street the problem is when vehicles are pulling out from a side street they are having a hard time seeing because of these commercial vehicles being parked on the corners.

Mr. Deitrick asks Mrs. Niglio if she and the ordinance committee can look into this.

Mayor Turlis states that there are some easy fixes and states that he feels they would need to discuss them.

Mrs. Niglio questions what the easy fixes are and states that we can talk about it and change the ordinance however she states that she feels we need to do something right away if these vehicles are parked there now.

Mayor Turlis states that we can extend the yellow line of Chestnut Street on the corner, he states that there is one street it is 13th and Chestnut.

Mayor Turlis states that a tractor trailer is parked there and it is not illegal but it parks on the first stall down from the corner and you cannot see when pulling out to go south, you have to get into traffic to actually see around that vehicle and it's a problem, so that is the easy fix on that one.

Mayor Turlis states that the other one is probably going to take an ordinance enactment because again it is parked legally but it is big and if something were to park across from it nothing would get through not an ambulance, a fire truck nothing.

Mr. Dietrick states we should extend the line right now before someone gets killed.

Mr. Deitrick states that if the Mayor and the police department are recommending this then it should be done and asks Mr. Bozza to take care of that.

Mayor Turlis states that he would like to congratulate the Knights of Columbus on another successful wine festival and states that every year it seems that it will just get bigger and bigger and there is nothing but compliments coming out of that festival.

Mayor Turlis states he would also just like to wish all a happy Thanksgiving.

SECRETARY REPORT (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda states that approval is needed on the meeting minutes from the October 8th regular monthly meeting.

MOTION- Mr. Bozza makes the motion and was seconded by Mr. Scicchitano to approve the meeting minutes from the October 8th regular monthly meeting.

VOICE VOTE

Unanimous

Rhonda states that under correspondence a letter was received from KMHJMA concerning Mr. Motyka's term with the Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Municipal Authority expiring December 31, 2013.

Correspondence was also received and copied to Council and Mayor from the Northumberland County Board of Assessment Revision and also from Meckley's.

Mr. Deitrick asks if council has any recommendation on filling the term for the Kulpmont Marion Heights joint municipal authority.

MOTION- Mr. Scicchitano made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bozza to re-appoint Mr. Motyka to the KMHJMA Sewer Board Authority.

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

TRESURERS REPORT (Paul A. Niglio)

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

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

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

Mr. Niglio states that within a week or two he will have a tentative budget for the December meeting and the final budget for the January meeting.

SOLICITORS REPORT (William C. Cole)

Mr. Cole states that he is requesting an executive session at the end of the meeting.

POLICE REPORT (Corporal Michael Pitcavage)

Police report attachment #2.

Mr. Deitrick asks if anyone has any questions.

Corporal Pitcavage states that he would like to mention that the uniforms for the police department have arrived and would again like to thank Borough Council.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT (Raymond Siko)

Fire Chief Report attachment #3

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Kevin O’Hearn)

No Report

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

No Report

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REPORT (Russ Moroz)

Code/Health report attachment #4

Mr. Moroz states that he attended the code class from the 15th – the 18th and states that the letter was sent out to the landlords concerning registering their rentals and states that he has began to receive registrations, last month we had five and this month we had three or four this month.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Philip Scicchitano)

Mr. Scicchitano states Russ will be scheduled to take the residential building inspection exam on December 6th.

MOTION- Mr. Scicchitano would like to make the motion and was seconded by to reimburse Mr. Moroz the \$160.00 for the cost of the residential building inspection examination.

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

SERVICE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE (Nicholas Bozza)

Mr. Bozza states that 2 cutting edges are needed for the 2011 Ford Truck at \$204.00 each and for the 1996 Ford Truck cutting edge , 8” at a cost of \$96.00 and 8 bolts for the cutting edges at \$1.50 each at a total cost of \$531.00.

MOTION- Mr. Bozza makes the motion and was seconded by Mr. Scicchitano to purchase the cutting edges for the 2011 Ford Truck and the 1996 Ford Truck and bolts at a cost of \$531.00.

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

Mr. Bozza states that he would like to announce that the Borough will be holding a food surplus distribution to be held November 21st 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon.

Mr. Bozza states that the Christmas lights will be installed on November 18th.

Mr. Bozza states that concerning the Handicap Signs that were approved to purchase at a cost not to exceed \$150.00, the quote is coming out to be \$248.50. Mrs. Niglio states that the size has been increased Penn Dot recommended going with 2 36”x36” signs with an additional sign underneath saying for the next 2,000 yards as opposed to a 30”x 30” signs.

Mr. Deitrick asks if they recommend that we have that additional one saying 2000 yards.

Mrs. Niglio states yes because it is encompassing four blocks each way and we could put two on each side of the 30” x 30”.

Mr. Bozza states that we are going to go with one going northbound on the 1200 block of Chestnut and one going southbound on the 800 block of Chestnut Street.

Mr. Bozza states that is two signs a 12’ sign from the curb up.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka makes the motion and is seconded by Mr. Bozza to purchase the handicap signs at a cost of \$248.50.

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

Mr. Bozza states that he needs an executive session for personnel reasons and asks Mr. Niglio to stick around.

FINANCE AND PURCHASING COMMITTEE (Stephen Motyka)

No Report

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

No Report

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE (Stephanie Niglio)

Mrs. Niglio states that she would like to just discuss the playground closure and asks if it can remain open through Thanksgiving.

Mr. Bozza states that is fine with him.

Mrs. Niglio states that she just thought with the holiday that people visiting with small children may be able to use the playground.

Mr. Deitrick asks Mr. Bozza how he feels about keeping the playground open.

Mr. Bozza states that we can plan to close it December 2nd if everyone is in agreement. Council agrees and the playground will be closed for the season on December 2nd.

GRANTS AND RECREATION (Clarence H. Deitrick)

Mr. Deitrick states that a motion is needed certifying to DCED that Mr. Varano in his capacity as Borough Council President is empowered to execute any and all HOME program processes and collateral documents related here in as part of the grant program.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka makes the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Niglio certifying to DCED that Mr. Varano in his capacity as Borough Council President is empowered to execute any and all HOME program processes and collateral documents related here in as part of the grant program.

Mr. Niglio asks if he is empowering an individual or the office.

Mr. Deitrick states that it is Mr. Varano in the capacity of Borough Council President.

Mr. Motyka asks if this is the weatherization grant that we got.

Mr. Deitrick states no it is the housing grant to do \$20,000.00 grants to do if there is any lead in the houses or to bring the houses up to code.

Mr. Motyka asks when we are taking applications.

Mr. Deitrick states that we are taking applications now and that we are still taking them. He states that it is going to be based on their need and any applications not approved in this round will be kept.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

BUILDING COMMITTEE (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka states that our architect submitted an initial design to the state architect through the Department of Agriculture, who we are getting out loan through.

Mr. Motyka states that state architect came back with a few recommendations. He said concerning the floor plan the one thing that was undesirable that the sight lines into the bathrooms when the doors are open and states that we can do some rework on that.

Mr. Motyka states that he also states that some of the spaces seem small such as the Code office the meeting room.

Mr. Winhofer states ask him if he's going to pay for it, if so we will make it three times as big.

Mr. Motyka states that he would like to make the community aware of this and states that this is an outside source coming to us saying it looks small and he also states it appears that there is no room for growth or expansion and states that he would just like to make the community aware that this is not going to be a Taj Mahal we are already being criticized by the states architect that we are not spending enough and states that we are not going to act on this.

Mr. Motyka states that what they do want is a letter from us as a Borough stating that we do not need this additional space.

Mr. Motyka states he thinks our initial design had five work stations in the administration area and we have one and a half secretaries.

Mr. Deitrick questions why they cannot just build what we ask.

Mr. Motyka states that this came from the state architect.

Mr. Deitrick questions Mr. Motyka if he thinks we need to send him a letter.

Mr. Motyka states that they are asking for one.

Mr. Motyka states that they are asking for one.

Mr. Winhofer states that he would put that in the letter if they are willing to pay for it we would be more than happy to put it in.

Mr. Scicchitano asks what department is requesting this.

Mr. Motyka states that this letter came from Ron Pencrest State Architect Rural Development US Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Niglio states it is just a general comment; you are not meeting the current standards in the industry for space.

Mr. Winhofer states that we cannot afford it.

Mr. Deitrick questions if we do not have to do this right now correct.

Mr. Motyka states this was the first initial review and if we get with the architect it may be just to change the doorways.

Mr. Deitrick suggests that Mr. Motyka meet with the building committee, review that and make a recommendation.

Mr. Motyka states he will make everyone aware.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Winhofer, Varano, and Dietrick)

No Report

Mr. Bozza states that he would like to let everyone know Meckley's is finished paving in town and they did a good job and will be getting paid.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Turlis would like to remind the residents on Chestnut Streets that with a snow a forecast of snowfall of 6" or greater all of the cars must be off that street and until the snow is done, not once it is plowed but until it is finished snowing.

Mr. Scicchitano asks if the forecast is with the National Weather and states they are all different.

Mayor Turlis states that he knows that they are all different and with any weather forecast channel 16 channel 22 whatever you listen to we have to try and do this because it is the only way this is going to work. The Mayor states that it has been working the last couple of years and states that we have a few that are not willing to cooperate but it is only a few.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Deitrick wishes all a Happy Thanksgiving

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Rodney Leihow from Ambient Energy and states that he lives in Numedia and that last month the Borough decided to stay with the company that the Borough had.

Mr. Leihow states that he does not know if anybody looked at the electric bill lately and asks if anyone looked at one lately and states that he has a copy of one and asks council

to pass it around. He states that he would like to just give some information so that the borough has a better idea on what to look for.

Mr. Leihow states that on the generation and transmitting the rate was 7.71 per kilowatt and states that they are charging sales tax and also gross receipt tax so what you do is add all of that together and divide that by the price and that is what you spend. He states that you are paying .09 per kilowatt not 7.71. He states that sales tax should be taken off and states that the guy should have taken that off and he states that gross receipt tax cannot be taken off because once you sign with a company they can charge you that and states that his company does not charge that.

Mr. Leihow said that on an average of nine of the bills for a month it was over \$60.00 a piece for the sales tax and the gross receipts tax that the Borough should be saving.

Mr. Leihow states that is \$1200.00 per year you should be saving. He states that when you do electric you have to ask questions because these are only two the sales tax and gross receipts tax they will charge you for if they can get away with it.

Mr. Leihow states that the next time you do it asks some questions because if you don't that is how much you are losing. He states that he only came here to try and save the borough money and states that he wanted to provide that information so the next time the borough looks to do it the borough has a little bit of a better idea what is going on.

The Borough Solicitor William C. Cole states that the board met in executive session for approximately one hour and thirty minutes to discuss possible litigation, contractual and personnel matters.

MOTION- Mr. Bozza makes the motion and is seconded by Mr. Motyka to pay long time employee George Malakoski for a total of 20 sick days upon his retirement from his full time position.

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

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

**RHONDA WILK
BOROUGH SECRETARY**

DATE OF APPROVAL

