

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
MEETING FOR GENERAL PURPOSE
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Bruno R. Varano
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present,
Kulpmont Borough Council held the meeting for general purpose
On Tuesday October 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Clarence H. Deitrick and Nicholas P. Goretski, III.

APPOINTED POSITIONS: Treasurer Paul A. Niglio, Jr.

PRESENT: Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk.

OTHERS PRESENT: Keith Tamborelli, Rich Mychak, Barry Fetterman, Joe Politza, Bob Fanella, Bernadette Fanella, Stephanie Niglio, Jeff Gilotti, Albert Rosetta, Erik Santor, Jim Karnes, Jeffrey Seijuit, Joe Meyer, Marshall Mirarchi, III., Kevin O’Hearn, Devin O’ Hearn, Francis O’Hearn, David Benick, Joshua M. Searfoss, Raymond Siko, Dawson Temple and Robert Nolan.

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

Mr. Varano states that if any citizens would like to speak up on anything that is on the agenda you may speak now and asks that if it has anything to do with old business, fire department status to please wait until we get all other council business out of the way.

No one spoke.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Bruno R. Varano)

Mr. Varano stated that a letter of resignation was received from Mr. Clarence Deitrick dated October 11, 2016 and stated that he overlooked it at the last meeting. Mr. Varano read the letter which read; Due to personal reasons, I will be resigning from Council on October 31, 2016, Sincerely Clarence Deitrick.

Mr. Varano questions council on if they would like to act on this.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Burns to accept the resignation of Mr. Deitrick.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Varano announced that we will be accepting letters of interest to fill the vacant position next week on November 1st adding that the regular monthly meeting will be moved up a week from November 8th, Election Day.

Mr. Varano stated that anyone interested may put in their letter of intent or a resume is fine also, all that is needed is a letter of intent.

SECRETARY REPORT (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk stated that approval is needed on the meeting minutes from the October 11, 2016 meeting.

Mr. Varano stated that everyone received a copy of the meeting minutes and stated that he will entertain a motion to enter them into the register.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Burns to approve the meeting minutes from October 11, 2016.

Mr. Lutz stated that he needs a little direction and asks if it is now the appropriate time to ask any questions about the minutes or are we just saying this is what was said at the meeting. Mr. Varano replied that is basically what you are saying, this is what was said. Mr. Lutz replied okay, I get you.

Mr. Varano asked if anyone has any other questions. Nobody spoke and a voice vote was taken.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

SENIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Clarence H. Deitrick)

Mr. Varano stated that in Mr. Deitrick's absence he will take care of his report. Mr. Varano states that there are two Sewer Municipal Authority re-appointments, one being his position and the other being the Mayors. He added that it is a formality to ask council to be re-appointed stating that he did put a letter of intent in adding that it is really not needed unless someone does not want the re-appointment.

Mr. Varano states that he would appreciate to be re-appointed and questioned Mayor Novakoski on his wishes. Mayor Novakoski stated that he would like to be re-appointed to the Sewer Authority Board as well.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to re-appoint both Mr. Varano and Mr. Novakoski to serve another term on the Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Municipal Authority.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Mr. Motyka stated that we currently pay a monthly fee for carpet mat service at approximately \$200.00 each month. Mr. Motyka stated that a quote was received for \$991.27 with shipping to purchase our own mats.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lutz to purchase mats for the new building at a cost of \$991.27 including shipping.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Motyka stated that a quote of \$620.00 plus shipping was also received for lockers for the police department that could be used to lock up personal belongings of the police officers and secure items.

MOTION – Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lutz to purchase the lockers for \$620.00 plus shipping for the police department.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Motyka states that a quote was received for metal cabinets, three for the Senior Action Center to use for storage in the new building and one for the borough to use for supplies at a cost of \$896.94.

MOTION – Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lutz to purchase four metal storage cabinets at a cost of \$896.94.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Mr. Motyka stated that we received a price of \$5323.00 to purchase furniture, chairs, file cabinets, desks and tables to outfit our new office.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mark Burns to purchase office furniture from Wendell's Furniture at a cost of \$5323.00.

Mr. Lutz questioned what will happen with the furniture that is now in the building. Mr. Motyka replied that Rhonda suggested to him that we ask the office supply company if they would be interested in purchasing the furniture we have now in the building.

Mr. Motyka asked Rhonda if she checked on that. Rhonda Wilk replied that she did not adding that she was waiting to hear back if that is something that council wants to look into it and will call them tomorrow.

Mr. Lutz questioned if some used L shape desk were not available. Rhonda Wilk replied that they only had one and the price quoted on the new desk's were very good prices and very close to the price quoted on the one used desk that they had. Rhonda Wilk stated that they only had one used at the time and that was it.

Mr. Lutz questioned if in buying this equipment will we replace what we have are we buying more or what will we have. Rhonda Wilk replied that we will have the same amount three desks for the administrative office, one desk for the Mayors office, a desk for the Police Department and a two person workstation for the Police Department also interrogation table and processing desk.

Mr. Lutz questioned council on what we are going to do with Mr. Goretski's furniture, remember we had a meeting and he said all of the furniture in the Mayors office Mr. Varano replied it is actually the furniture in his office. Mr. Lutz questioned on if he said it was his personal stuff. Mr. Varano replied the desk is and stated that he does not know about the other stuff.

Mr. Lutz commented that he is just wondering and he does not want him to get mad if we throw it out. Mr. Varano stated that he left it here when he was president for a while adding that he will take it.

ROLL CALL VOTE – DEITRICK (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Motyka replied that we got four quotes for computers and stated that he would like to table this until the next meeting because he would like Rhonda to put that into a spread sheet so we can see prices next to the item because it is hard to understand. Mr. Niglio added that we have to go through the details and see who is offering what and compare. Mr. Varano replied that it is kind of hard to try and compare apples to apples. Mr. Niglio stated that will give us a week to look over if we have any questions, we need to know what kind of processors are in there and some information tells us that and some does not. Mr. Varano stated that we will have the committee consider that also to help Rhonda out.

Mr. Motyka stated that another thing we must think about is to move the sound system down to the new building. Mr. Varano stated yes the sound system and speakers. Mr. Motyka questioned if we need prices to install that and asks that we solicit some price

quotes to do that. Mr. Varano agreed and stated that he does think we may have a quote from Mr. Tamborelli and asked Mr. Tamborelli if he provided a quote. Mr. Tamborelli stated that just like the computer, there are a lot of missing pieces to it and stated that he offered the council a time and materials adding that there are many unknowns to it and stated that it is very difficult to give a number adding that he has not been in the building.

Mr. Varano stated that basically what is going on is that we will probably be using the senior citizens tables and chairs unless we want to buy our own and put them there permanent and have them work around them and added that he figured that is up to council to decide what they want to do.

Mr. Motyka stated that it was originally discussed to use portable tables with a skirt to dress them up and stated that we could play it by ear and see how it goes. Mr. Varano suggested using theirs the first meeting and see how it goes adding that he does not feel there is any room for the pews down there. Mr. Varano stated that there are chairs down there we can use. Mr. Motyka stated that there is seating and we could buy storage rollers to move them around.

Mr. Lutz questioned if we have a notion on when the building is going to be ready that we can get in it. Mr. Motyka stated that he had hoped that Russ Moroz was here this evening because he was not able to attend the last meeting. Mr. Varano stated that there is a meeting scheduled on Monday and so then we will have a better idea on when we will be moving in then adding that they are just about done inside and questioned what the story is on the outside.

Mr. Niglio replied the concrete is in, not all of it but.... Mr. Lutz questioned if we got the waiver on the parking. Mr. Varano stated that Steve said we were going to adding that we didn't hear anything from L & I.

Rhonda Wilk stated that the last three pages on the agendas contain the application for payment from the contractor Shannon A. Smith Inc. Mr. Lutz questioned if this is a progress payment or a payment in full. Rhonda Wilk stated that on the second page is the list of work that was done. Mr. Lutz asked for a second to look it over adding that he is trying to determine if this is it or if this is a progress payment. Mr. Motyka discussed and it was determined to be a progress payment.

MOTION-A motion was made by Mr. Motyka and seconded by Mr. Malakoski to pay contractor and approve for signatures, Shannon A. Smith Inc. \$22,183.20.

ROLL CALL VOTE – DEITRICK (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mayor Novakoski reminded all that the parade will be held on Thursday. The News Item reporter questioned if it the parade will still be held or if there is a chance to cancel if it should rain. Mr. Niglio stated that the Lions Club has never had a rain date adding that if

they do not have it Thursday its over and added that he is on the committee and they are playing the odds, the problem is that they have the MCA high school band and they can't get them for Saturday and you cannot have a parade without a band.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Joe Meyer 810 Spruce Street stated that sometimes these meetings were fighting and arguing and he just wanted to thank Mr. Motyka on the good press that we got about the recent grant and the kids from Our Lady of Lourdes High School and the Mount Carmel Area with the giving a little education with the help and support of some local groups to make Kulpmont look nice and added that he thought he did a great job and just wanted to thank Mr. Motyka. Mr. Varano and Mr. Lutz were vocal in agreeing that Mr. Motyka did a great job with the project. Mr. Varano added that it was nice to get some good press in this town.

David Benick of Poplar Street stated that he would like to thank the people involved that helped him with his problem adding that it has not been fully resolved but it is minimized. He stated that there are still dogs there and some odors there but that they did take the electric cord pinched in the front door that he was afraid was going to catch the house on fire and stated that he appreciates the help on all of that.

David Benick stated that the only thing he would like to say today is that concerning when the street cleaner comes down the street, some people get tickets and some don't. He added that it has been like that for three years adding that he has video cameras in his house and can call it up for three years. David Benick stated that people are complaining why they get tickets while certain people do not and stated that he does not know if it is favoritism or relation or what it is but if they are not getting a ticket then nobody should get a ticket. David Benick stated that he was laid off for several months and has seen it going on himself.

Mr. Varano asks the Mayor to take care of that.

Mr. Varano stated that the fire Chief's were not here last meeting and are probably not aware of anything that was brought up and stated that he will read it off the minutes, it reads as follows:

Mr. Varano stated that he has a status report on the one main important item right now which is the old East End truck room and stated that it is now a borough garage due to the imminent sale of the Wilson Complex.

Mr. Varano stated that we will need to house our borough plow trucks, backhoe, skidsteer, roller etc... thus are rendering the old truck room the primary housing unit for such. Mr. Varano stated that therefore truck 221, 222 and 223 will have to be housed elsewhere.

Mr. Varano added that since the fire department rejected the borough's suggestion plan to put an additional 30' x 50' building onto the West End complex at a cost to the taxpayers, a one time grant \$25,000.00 for an approximately \$50,000.00 building the borough has no other option and the ball is now in the fire departments court to find a workable solution to this problem both physically and financially. Mr. Varano stated that this building would be the fire department property.

Mr. Varano stated that the first plan from the fire department is no longer feasible, of widening the dock door at the Eight Street garage.

Mr. Varano stated in reply to the president of the West End, to his letter and offer, Mr. Varano continued to say that council's offer was to pay for half of an addition to facilitate a consolidation of fire companies to one location which was \$25,000.00 at the West End complex. He added that the borough will not construct a consolidated fire station on the West End property, the fire department will if they wish to and the borough will assist in any way that they reasonably can if requested to.

Mr. Lutz questioned the first paragraph and read the paragraph;

Mr. Varano stated that he has a status report on the one main important item right now which is the old East End truck room and stated that it is now a borough garage due to the imminent sale of the Wilson Complex.

Mr. Lutz asked Mr. Varano if he could elaborate on that. Mr. Varano replied that he (Mr. Lutz) brought it up, you said let's put this property up for sale.

Mr. Lutz replied that he does not know of a motion that they went forward on. Mr. Varano stated that he is going to step down from the chair and will make that motion to sell this property and put it out for bid.

MOTION- Mr. Varano made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Burns to sell the Wilson Building.

Mr. Lutz questioned what would be the steps and if we would have to advertise to sell the property and accept bids and all that and questions what the time frame on all that is.

The Solicitor Mr. Cole replied that as soon as the advertisement is composed it will be sent to The News Item and they will run it they are pretty prompt, a couple of days its in and then we will have to set a date to open the bids and council will review them and decide whether they will accept any of the bids and of course as in all of our bids the council will be able to reject any and all bids if they should so desire, if there are no acceptable bids then it would go no farther, at that point if there are then we would if there is a majority to accept a responsible bidder we move forward.

Mr. Lutz questioned that when he uses language responsible bidder, so can we then put stipulations in the bid process that says that the building has to be maintained or

whatever. The Solicitor replied yes, whatever specs that the council and the Mayor wish to insert there could be inserted and there is many different types of things that could be put in there, for example the board may want to put in language to the effect that a certain percentage will have to be paid with each bid, etc.... etc... etc..., so yes there could be stipulations.

Mr. Lutz questioned if we could put a stipulation in the advertisement that you have to post bond so that the building is maintained to code. Mr. Lutz stated that somebody did suggest that the last thing we want to do is sell the building and it goes to hell and its better then if we just knock it down. Mr. Varano stated that he made that statement. Mr. Lutz replied that Mr. Niglio did as well and stated that they both are right.

Mr. Lutz stated that if we could get a responsible buyer for the building and make sure that we have legal stipulations in there and they would have to post a bond and if they do not do what they need to do then the hell with them we go against the insurance company and the bond. Mr. Varano states that he was in contact with Mr. Christiano from the Housing Authority and Geisinger may be interested in the future but as of right now they did not get back to him so he had said that the best thing for you to do is to put it up for sale. Mr. Lutz stated that without letting out any contacts, it is not going to happen.

Mr. Lutz stated that it would take Geisinger five years to decide what they want to do, but they are not even on the table. Mr. Varano stated that their loan is not up until the end of next year and then that will free up a lot of money. Mr. Lutz asked who. Mr. Varano replied the Geisinger adding that they had a ten-year loan and next year that will be paid off at the end of next year.

Mr. Lutz stated that they could write a check today to buy all of Kulpmont. Mr. Varano agreed but stated that they are wrapped up into this loan and they would like to spend more money, but it is going to be on that property probably. Mr. Lutz stated that the deal of it is if we go ahead and advertise it with the necessary stipulations they may say “we need to do something.” Mr. Varano replied absolutely and then we have the right to reject all bids. Mr. Lutz stated that then we do not have to spend a whole bunch of money knocking down the building and then what will happen is that the 3 mills, we probably could get by with 2 mills. Mr. Varano replied that he agrees.

Mr. Lutz stated that you would send a notice and the biggest one in the area is Mericle, you would give them notice of it and stated that they are one of the largest commercial, so you just give them notice of it and that will do it.

ROLL CALL VOTE – DEITRICK (absent), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), BURNS (yes), GORETSKI (absent)
5 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Lutz questioned the Solicitor if he will then draft up the advertisement and then it will be brought to council and we would then say okay.

The Solicitor William C. Cole stated that he can draft that up and get that to the board and have everybody see if anybody wants any additions or deletions and once everybody is satisfied with that we can have it advertised. Mr. Varano questioned if he would have that for next Tuesday or if that would be pushing it. Mr. Cole replied that we will try. Mr. Varano stated that whenever you get it done we will then have a meeting for General purposes to take a look at it.

Mr. Lutz questioned on page two of the minutes about where he said a one time grant of \$25,000.00... He stated that he was not aware of any motion that was just a discussion kind of deal. Mr. Varano replied yes. Mr. Lutz said okay, because you would have to make a motion.

Mr. Lutz stated that it was like that Motion you made on the steel building that was tabled. Mr. Varano stated that was not a motion, it was a proposal. Mr. Lutz stated that in the minutes it states that it was tabled and questioned if then that would have to go forward because it is \$19,200.00 that is the bid limit, correct? Mr. Varano replied no, and questioned Mr. Cole if it was \$22,500.00. Mr. Lutz stated \$19,200.00.

Mr. Lutz questioned in the next paragraph of the minutes, why is the widening of the door no longer feasible. Mr. Lutz stated that he does not even think there was a full discussion and questions if the quotes from Mr. Giorgini and asks if his quote was discussed. Mr. Varano replied no and stated that this is going to be a borough garage and is no longer going to be a truck room. Mr. Lutz stated that the deal with it is that it was not discussed at all. Mr. Varano replied no, we need to make all of those motions today.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion to spend \$8300.00 to accept Mr. Giorgini's proposal to widen the door in the truck room.

Mr. Varano asks if we have a second on that motion. No one spoke; motion dies for lack of a second.

Mr. Lutz stated that in the next paragraph there was an offer to pay for half of the addition. Mr. Varano stated that these are all offers only for a discussion. Mr. Lutz stated a discussion, no motion. Mr. Varano replied that is correct, these are all offers.

Mr. Lutz stated that his point of it is that he wanted to make sure; if anything is concrete then motions need to be brought up. Mr. Lutz stated that it was interesting because he contacted the PSAB and was told that usually the Mayor gives a status report and not the president and questioned Mr. Varano on if he were aware of that.

Mr. Varano replied no. Mr. Lutz stated that he was just wondering. Mr. Varano replied that as one of his duties he could give a status report any time that he wants adding that so could the Mayor.

Mr. Varano stated that somebody is going to have to make a motion to vacate that building upon sale or upon the move and added that if nobody wants to make it he will step down and he will make it.

MOTION- Mr. Varano made the motion to vacate the fire station when the Wilson Complex is sold.

Mr. Varano asked if we have a second on that motion. No one spoke and so the motion dies for lack of a second.

Mr. Lutz questioned if he could explain that a little bit more, make a motion to vacate the fire station upon the sale of the Wilson building. Mr. Varano stated that it is now considered a borough garage and questioned if we need a motion to make it a borough garage adding that he does not think we need a motion to make it a borough garage being that we own the property. Mr. Cole commented that the borough definitely owns the borough property there is no question about that. Mr. Varano stated that is why your motion was kind of a mute point because we are not going to put any money in there to house the fire trucks when they are not going to be housed there, the borough vehicles will be housed there.

Mr. Lutz stated that his point is that he thinks that the fire equipment should be housed there because for \$8,300.00 it will be all squared away. Mr. Varano asked how he figures that it is squared away and how they are going to fit all the fire equipment in there. Mr. Lutz replied that the sweeper is taken care of for six months and then in the advertisement to sell the Wilson building we can make a deal where the vehicles that are in there could stay for a certain period of time and then given that if we spend \$8,300.00 and we move the fire equipment as the fire department wants then we are good.

Mr. Lutz stated that the police cars can be parked out like they were for the last 50 years. He added that we do not need to spend a quarter of a million dollars on a fire station, simple as that. Mr. Varano questioned where he gets a quarter of a million dollars and stated that he just gave him prices on an addition and stated that he is trying to tell him that you can fit all of the fire equipment in a 2500 square foot building and added that we are offering to help build a building and you will have 3500 square feet and asks where you have more square foot to house this equipment.

Mr. Lutz replied that in his example 3500 is more than 2500 sq. ft., but what you are suggesting and what the fire company needs is a building built out, you have got to build it out. Mr. Lutz stated that you are suggesting or proposing to build a shell and he stated that you must build it out. Mr. Lutz stated that when he goes to the fire station at the East End he stated that he is always amazed at all of the piping and all of the place for equipment and what not. Mr. Lutz stated that besides that you are looking to spend the Borough making a grant of \$25,000.00 and they will make a grant of \$25,000.00.

Mr. Lutz stated that the last time that Mr. Goretski was at a meeting it came up that the equipment is 13 years old and it is suppose to only be 10 years old. Mr. Lutz stated that

he has a deal here where it shows to buy new turn out equipment and it is close to \$9,000.00 per outfit and if you buy 30 of them that is \$270,000.00. Mr. Lutz stated that the guys have \$100,000.00.

Mr. Varano replied that they have \$150,000.00 and we just gave them \$12,000.00 that is \$162,000.00. Mr. Lutz said \$166,000.00. Mr. Varano replied that is a lot different than \$100,000.00.

Mr. Lutz responded by saying that \$166,000.00, they need operating money in the case that hoses break and things of that nature happen and then the turn out equipment is so old thatMr. Varano asked why then are they not buying some, they have \$150,000.00 in the bank and asked why they are not replacing this stuff and stated that is probably why they keep getting turned down for their grants. Mr. Lutz replied that is speculation and stated that is all it is, speculation. Mr. Lutz stated that accordingly if they had to buy 30 new turn out gear that is about 270K, which if you say okay we have to have some money in the case that hoses break and what not, they don't even have half the money. Mr. Lutz stated and then we need radios and all these other things.

Mr. Varano replied that radios will not cost them anything according to the newspaper, we are getting \$67,000.00 worth of radios and they had made a statement of \$75,000.00 so you are only off \$8,000.00.

Mr. Lutz stated that when it all comes in and made the comment that he thinks it is wise not to count your chickens, whatever that is..... And continued to say that in any event we have serious turn out gear problems and there is no money from the fire department guys for a new building and the \$50,000.00 will not build it out. Mr. Varano disagreed and stated that it will and stated here it is the proposal. Mr. Lutz replied that he knows.

Mr. Varano stated that the building is a steel building that is all that is, it's a garage. Mr. Lutz replied that he knows, but when he goes up to the East End, where is all of the piping, where is all of the stuff for the equipment. Mr. Varano questioned what piping he is talking about. Mr. Lutz replied some of the plumbing and all. Mr. Lutz stated that the deal with it is that again he will go back to it, what they are going to do about turn out equipment, we are worried about parking some fire equipment when the fact of the matter is that the equipment the volunteer fire companies have to use is old and probably inadequate.

Mr. Varano responded by saying that they should then buy new stuff. Jeffrey Gilotti directed a question to Mr. Varano asking him when he became an expert. Mr. Varano asked him if he is the expert. Jeffrey Gilotti replied that he knows a little bit more than he knows. Fire Chief Kevin O'Hearn interjected and stated that yes as the fire chiefs; yes they are the expert, "Pal."

Mr. Varano replied that he was a safety director for 30 years down at Sealed Air and stated not to tell him about safety. Mr. Lutz stated that he just does not see where the funds are at. Mr. Varano asked what they are going to do, just keep buying equipment

and not have anywhere to store it. Mr. Lutz replied that he wants the fire station to stay there. Mr. Varano asked Mr. Lutz if what he wants is to right in the middle of the whole borough complex you want the fire station to stay there instead of moving them down to the only fire station that we actually have. Mr. Lutz replied that the borough complex is an old banquet hall. Mr. Varano replied that the building is three years old and questions on how he can call it old.

Mr. Lutz stated that we just put \$300,000.00 into an old building and because of the USDA and a couple knuckle heads that signed some papers, that has yet to be determined if it is legal or not, the borough found themselves in possession of the fire station.

Mr. Lutz directed the statement to the Borough Solicitor stating that very soon Mr. Cole that is going to come to you, when all the firefighters voted against it, they had a meeting and three people go ahead and signed the documents against the wishes of the firefighters. Mr. Lutz stated that the USDA is complicit in the safety of Kulpmont; you mess with the volunteer Kulpmont Company.... Mr. Varano interjected and stated that we are not messing with the safety.... Mr. Lutz replied yes you are, yes you are, and you are messing with the safety of the Kulpmont citizens. Mr. Varano asked that by putting an addition onto the West End Fire Company is messing with the safety. Mr. Varano asked Mr. Lutz to tell him the difference of what it is costing the taxpayers between \$25,000.00 and \$9,000.00. Mr. Varano stated it is \$16,000.00, correct..... Mr. Lutz replied it is not enough and stated that he does not buy into his premise and stated that his premise is wrong. Mr. Varano handed the proposal to

Mr. Lutz and said here is the proposal. Mr. Lutz said he could go and get anything off of the internet. Mr. Varano asked then why he did not do it, you were in charge of it and you did not do it. Mr. Lutz replied that he did do it \$8,300.00. Mr. Varano stated that was for this building and that is no longer being considered. Mr. Lutz asked why someone would spend \$25,000.00 or \$50,000.00, or \$100,000.00 when they could spend \$8,300.00. Mr. Varano stated that they should be fundraising and going for grants.

Mr. Lutz questioned if \$8,300.00 is less than \$25,000.00. Mr. Varano replied yes. Mr. Lutz stated well then, there you go they could stay in there. Mr. Varano replied no they cannot, it is no longer a fire station it is a borough garage. Mr. Lutz stated that \$8,300.00 is less.

Mr. Varano questioned Chief Kevin O'Hearn about the \$15,000.00 grants that they applied for from the fire commissioner. Chief O'Hearn replied turn out gear. Mr. Varano questioned if it was \$15,000.00 for both fire companies and asked if the grants were put in for both fire companies. Chief O'Hearn replied that since you're the safety expert then you should know that first priority is individual life and that starts with the firefighters themselves.

Chief O'Hearn asks if he does not have the turnout gear, what good is a place to house it. Mr. Varano asked what good is turnout gear is if there is no place to house it. Mr. Lutz

commented that we have a place to house it. Mr. Varano made the statement to Mr. Mirarchi in the audience for him not to start and to control himself.

Chief O'Hearn stated that he just wants to make it clear for the press that the Kulpmont Borough will evict the East End Fire Company at this meeting, that is what you are saying the Kulpmont Fire Company #1 will be evicted by the Kulpmont Borough and jeopardize the citizens of Kulpmont.

Mr. Varano replied that they are not jeopardizing anybody and stated that they have time to put an addition on. Chief O'Hearn replied that there is nowhere to house the fire truck if you evict this station as it stands now. Mr. Varano replied that you will not be evicted tomorrow or next week, but by next spring you better have a place to put this thing or you will be out in the street.

Mayor Novakoski stated that they could be decertified. Mr. Lutz questioned what was that, the Mayor is going to decertify the fire company. Mr. Lutz commented to go ahead. Mayor Novakoski stated that it has been done before. Chief O'Hearn stated that this is not worth it and commented that you spend \$300,000.00 for a police department and borough workers to have their own building and you are going to kick volunteers out.

Mr. Varano questioned what he means by we are going to kick out volunteers and added we are not kicking you out; we are telling you to find a building and stated that you have six months to find a building. Chief O'Hearn stated that then they are evicted. Mr. Varano replied that he can call it what he likes and stated that it is not an eviction.

Chief O'Hearn made the statement to Mr. Varano to see if he can do the simple math, and continued to say that what the county is giving them does not cover what they need to function and so we are short. Mr. Varano questioned him how much he is short. Chief O'Hearn replied about \$2,000.00.

Mr. Varano replied that is a big difference from what you said before. Chief O'Hearn replied that well, everything that is said in the paper is true. Mr. Varano stated that every time we deal with you people the prices go up, up and up. Chief O'Hearn replied back to Mr. Varano that he never listens to the prices. Mr. Varano disagreed and replied that he does not realize what he says.

Chief O'Hearn stated \$270,000.00 for turn out gear adding that they need new air packs within five years and that is another \$200,000.00. Mr. Varano replied well good luck. Chief O'Hearn replied exactly. Mr. Varano then asked why then nobody is out there raising any funds. A person in the audience asked why he doesn't. Mr. Varano replied that he donated his salary. Jeff Gilotti shouted out that is the first time in twenty years that you gave us a dime.

Chief Kevin O'Hearn stated that in the last two weeks this Kulpmont Fire Department has put in about 40 hours on calls, two o'clock in the morning and 4 o'clock in the morning Mr. Varano questioned what other fire companies do. Chief O'Hearn

replied the same thing, but they are not getting evicted out of a building and stated that they do not have all this time to raise money. Mr. Varano stated that they raise money also and added that Walt is saying that you need to finish the inside, you do not need to finish the inside all you need is the shell with insulation, the cement pad, with drainage and heat and electricity and you have a place to store your trucks and your gear. Mr. Varano stated that if you guys would have been at the last meeting, and don't tell me you were at a fire because you weren't.

Chief O'Hearn replied that no, he has a life and stated that emergencies do not happen around his schedule and stated that Mr. Varano is not the most important person. Mr. Varano replied to Chief O'Hearn that he is not the only person with a life. Mr. Varano stated that was the regular meeting. Chief O'Hearn replied to Mr. Varano to do what he wants, he will do it anyway, but when his house burns down, you better hope that Atlas gets here.

Mr. Motyka stated that it is kind of stupid for us to tell you what kind of building you want and stated that he did make a motion to pay them the \$8,000.00 stipend and the state Fire Commission has a low interest grant and you could build whatever you want, problem solved. Chief O'Hearn replied problem solved for you and asked how they pay the utilities. Mr. Varano replied then do not build a bigger building. Jeffrey Gilotti stated that this fire department does not have the money to go get a loan to build a building. Chief O'Hearn stated that they do not have enough volunteers sometime to make calls and now you are going to ask them to raise \$250,000.00.

Mr. Varano stated he is not telling them to borrow \$250,000.00 and that he is telling them to use \$25,000.00 out of their department funds, which they can do and then we will match that amount and then you will have a building. Jeffrey Gilotti replied that you will have a shed. Mr. Varano asked what he means by the statement they will have a shed, you won't have a shed. Chief O'Hearn stated that in 1991 it cost almost \$100,000.00 to build the building they are in now, \$100,000.00.

Mr. Varano said here is the quote, here is the price. Jeffrey Gilotti made the statement to Mr. Varano that he could throw his figures away. Mr. Jeffrey Gilotti stated that Mr. Motyka had bids from start to finish and has figures to build a fire company 75' x 75', and this is a 30' x 50'. Jeffrey Gilotti replied "and that is what is needed, 75' x 75'. Mr. Varano replied that is not what is needed and replied that he told him in his own words 35 square feet. Jeffrey Gilotti asked Mr. Varano to not put words in his mouth. Mr. Varano replied that he told him and in his own words 35 square feet and stated that he will find it in the damn minutes.

Keith Tamborelli stated that none of this is accomplishing anything and stated that he keep his mouth shut, but had his hand up. Mr. Tamborelli stated that none of this argument is accomplishing anything and stated that you talk about a building a simple building. He stated that there is a reason that it was built where it is today, there is a reason. Mr. Tamborelli stated that forget about the social hall and everything else, that fire house where the trucks are, there is a reason that it was put there.

Mr. Varano interjected and said that it was originally across the street whether he knows it or not. Mr. Tamborelli replied that in any case there was a reason that it was at that end of the town. Mr. Tamborelli stated that he lives at that end of town and you are talking about taking all of that fire apparatus clear to the other end of town and stated that he is not against consolidating. He stated that in the middle of winter, talking about evicting fire trucks and asks what he is going to do with that equipment when it is much easier to take the \$25,000.00 that you are willing to give them and put a pole barn up on property that you own in this town, even if you put it on the back of the Ramp Field where you have all of those sheds and garages.

Mr. Tamborelli continued to say that you could have a 75' x 75' and have it built probably in 3 weeks and put the equipment in there with simple heat and the fire trucks will still stay where the fire trucks belong, in the middle of town with heated garages and everybody is happy. Mr. Varano interjected and said we had to scrap that project.... We had to scrap that project... (*The audience began to clap*) Mr. Tamborelli stated that he is not looking for claps. Mr. Varano replied that yes he is and stated that he is done. Mr. Tamborelli replied that he is not finished and we are still in the public section of speaking. Mr. Varano replied that he has to recognize him and added that he did not come to the microphone and that he needed to be recognized.

Mr. Lutz questioned the Solicitor William C. Cole that to evict the fire company out of the fire station what the procedure is. Mr. Cole replied that with any action that council takes; regardless of what it is there always needs to be the majority rule, it's a democratic legislative body and so to take certain actions, whatever those actions may be the board must agree or agree to the point where there is a majority type vote.

Mr. Lutz commented that so, some sort of legal action so that Mr. Varano can be calm, some sort of legal action. Mr. Cole replied whatever type of orders if you want to call them that or whatever council decides, is whatever of the will of the council will control what happens and that is always done by a vote.

Mr. Lutz stated then so what will happen say will be, we want you out of there and we want you out of there by the 1st of April, 2017. Mr. Lutz questioned if they say no then what happens. Mr. Varano commented "good motion." Mr. Cole replied that before any of that would happen; we would need a majority vote for the council to decide on any issue what is going to be done.

Mr. Lutz questioned say they are not doing anything, then another motion would have to come and his notion is that then will get into some legal thing. Mr. Cole replied more than likely yes. Mr. Lutz stated that then it will give the other people more time to respond. Mr. Lutz questioned how long it takes to put an eviction in effect. Mr. Cole replied that if we were talking about a standard eviction case which this is not, usually it would be 90 to 100 days. Mr. Lutz stated that this is much more complicated.

Mr. Varano questioned if anyone has anything else. Nobody spoke.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

RHONDA WILK
BOROUGH SECRETARY

DATE OF APPROVAL

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