

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
September 11, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Robert Slaby
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present,
Kulpmont Borough Council held the meeting for general purpose on
Tuesday, September 11, 2018

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

ABSENT: Michael Sinopoli and Robert Chesney

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

PRESENT: Police Chief Nathan Foust, Borough Supervisor Bruce Graff, Code Official Russ Moroz and Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk

OTHERS PRESENT: Joe Politza, Keith Tamborelli, Angelo Venna, Barry Fetterman, Diane Graff and Rose Bielskie.

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

No One Spoke

PRESIDENTS REPORT – (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz state he was at the World Trade Center two or three days after the attack. He stated one could not comprehend what you were looking at. He added there was tons and tons of that green bar computer paper everywhere, pulverized ash in the air, ashes covered all the tombstones at St. Paul’s Chapel; that is where George Washington went to church. He stated he walked over to Wall street which was just a block or two away and saw a lot of well-dressed men and women mulling around or siting on the curb adding all of them were crying.

Mr. Lutz stated this past weekend the Kulpmont 100 held a first responders parade as a tribute to all these brave souls with us and for all the brave souls that have moved on... and to their families.

Mr. Lutz stated Borough Council heartily thanks Mayor Bozza Kulpmont 100 President and the Kulpmont 100 Committee for all their good and hard work on this parade.

Mr. Lutz stated the street paving project was advertised and three bids were received. The first bid was from New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc. in the amount of \$83,864.30. The second bid received was from H & K Group out of Skippack PA in the amount of \$87,971.00.

Mr. Lutz asked if we could have a motion to accept the lowest bid contingent upon the Solicitors review.

MOTION- Mr. Slaby made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to accept the lowest bid from New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co., Inc. in the amount of \$83,864.30 upon the Solicitors review.

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

Mr. Lutz stated a motion is needed to approve a resolution to approve participation by telecommunications for Council meetings as outlined in the resolution.

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to adopt Resolution 739 to participate in council meetings by telecommunications as outlined in the resolution. He proceeded to read aloud the resolution.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Lutz stated as everyone is aware the BB&T bank in Kulpmont will be closing this branch in Kulpmont and we bank at this branch. Mr. Niglio will speak more on that.

Mr. Lutz stated we have a guest this evening that will now speak on a proposal for the Terry Miriello Field and asked Keith Tamborelli to come up to the microphone.

Mr. Tamborelli stated we received approximately 50 lights from the power plant in Selinsgrove and stated the IBEW agreed to provide trucks and personnel to install the lights. He stated arrangements have been made with PP&L to provide metal poles and Service Electric to provide and run all of the conduit.

Mr. Tamborelli stated it is basically a \$70,000 or \$80,000.00 project that we have had everything donated. Mr. Tamborelli stated his company has gone out and got the lighting and placed it in their warehouse and they will be able to re-light the park.

Mr. Tamborelli asked the council if they could put some money aside for some miscellaneous expenses. Mr. Tamborelli stated the end result is that we will light the football and baseball field basically for free. Mr. Tamborelli stated once council approves, he then could put a plan together that will define what it is. He stated Service

Electric was there today and located all of the existing conduit underground. Mr. Tamborelli stated none of the old conduit will be used or poles, all of the poles were tested by PP&L and they are all hollow and rotted and will not be used.

Mr. Slaby questioned if he has talked with any officers from the football baseball association and if he did if they are receptive. Mr. Tamborelli state he has talked with them and they are receptive. Mr. Tamborelli stated their target is to get this completed before daylight savings changes adding there are kids that this is their last year and they would love to play under the lights after dark.

Mr. Bielskie questioned if \$1,000.00 will be enough. Mr. Tamborelli stated he got a quote from the underground guys for \$8,000.00 and said they will do it for \$1,000.00. Mr. Tamborelli stated he is also trying to raise that money from someplace else. He stated he is working with the power plant, they had some weather proof panels and he is trying to see if he would be able to get them.

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie for Kulpmont Borough to approve \$1,000.00 for miscellaneous expenses for field lighting, contingent on a plan and authorization signed by 3 council members.

Mr. Lutz stated essentially what we are saying is we are authorizing \$1,000.00 but we need to get some of this stuff down on paper and a plan.

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

Mr. Lutz stated a brief financial review is that as of the first of January there was about \$295,000.00 and as of the end of August there was \$447,000 in the General Fund for an increase of about \$152,000.00.

Mr. Lutz stated we must keep in mind we get most of our money in the first six months and so the second six months those balances come down. Mr. Lutz stated we have receipts up to the end of August for \$616,000.00 and it is important to understand that \$32,000.00 of it was for excavation permits from UGI or Aqua.

Mr. Lutz stated the budget was \$622,000.00 and we only need \$38,000.00 to meet that. He added we have been able to collect more money and cut expenses. Mr. Lutz stated in August we got \$9,000.00 from the property owner of the mill.

Mr. Lutz stated disbursements were about \$466,000.00 and we needed to make some adjustments, the Wilson Building and the Bridge and some money we were holding in escrow and so all said and done we can probably end up getting in about \$640,000.00 or \$650,000.00 and we are going to spend about \$630,000.00 or \$640,000.00. Mr. Lutz stated by next month when we come to the meeting we will have already done some work

on it. Mr. Lutz stated a few of the councilman look at this stuff daily. Mr. Lutz stated at the end of the meeting there will be an executive session to discuss the Police Contract.

MAYORS REPORT- (Nicholas Bozza)

Mayor Bozza stated a request was received from the Knights of Columbus to close the 800 block of Fir Street between 8th and 9th Street on October 13th.

MOTION- A motion to grant the Knights of Columbus request for closure of the 800 block of Fir Street between 8th and 9th Street on October 13, 2018 was made by Mr. Slaby and seconded by Mr. Bielskie.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mayor Bozza stated he will be hosting a residential crime watch meeting at Holy Angels Activity Center at 7:00 p.m. on September 20th. He stated our officers will be there and he hopes for as many residents as possible. Mayor Bozza stated he has had many requests for this.

Mayor Bozza stated the Halloween parade will be held on October 25th in the Borough and stated Halloween Trick or Treat in the Borough will be held on Saturday October 27th with a rain date of October 31st.

Mayor Bozza stated concerning the Police Contract, we got it down to where the Police are happy, and Council is happy. Mayor Bozza stated with the direction of Councilman Slaby and Council. Mayor Bozza commended Council and stated he thinks it is great and looking at the police activity report these guys are doing a great job. Mayor Bozza stated they have a facebook page up and running and suggests the public to take a look at it.

Mr. Lutz stated this is a three-year contract and we will discuss more in executive session. Mr. Slaby stated he would like to comment on Chief Foust stating he is very professional and the Police officers as well came into this with the right attitude and were very receptive and without their cooperation this would have never happened and so he commended the Chief and the officers of the Kulpmont Police Department.

Mayor Bozza stated a late request was made by the Fire Department for street closure for the annual Fire Safety Day. Request to close 8th and Chestnut to Spruce and 7th 8th and 9th Street to Maple.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to grant the Fire Department their street closure request for annual Fire Safety Day.

VOICE VOTE- Unanimous

SECRETARY'S REPORT- (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk stated a motion is needed to approve the meeting minutes from the August 14, 2018 regular monthly meeting.

MOTION- Mr. Slaby made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to approve the August 14, 2018 regular monthly meeting minutes.

VOICE VOTE- Unanimous

Rhonda Wilk stated correspondence was received from Northumberland County concerning the ribbon cutting at the prison, copied to both Council and Mayor.

Correspondence was received from BB&T concerning the closure of the Kulpmont Branch which was copied to both Mayor and Council.

A letter was received from G.M. Crawford concerning the water main replacement project, copied to both Council and Mayor.

The final correspondence was received from the Housing Authority of Northumberland County concerning the Blight Code enforcement forum that will be held on September 20th, copied to both Mayor and Council.

TREASURERS REPORT – (Paul A. Niglio)

Mr. Niglio stated a correction was made on the financial statement on the liability side for the September bills, the correction was made and did not change the General Fund net worth or anything like that.

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

MOTION– Mr. Malakoski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Slaby to approve the financial report and pay the bills.

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

Mr. Niglio stated he met with BB&T bank this past week and the program advisor reached out to him concerning the cost on the five accounts with BB&T.

Mr. Niglio stated when they had started their bank last year they signed us up for some stuff that we really didn't need and stated that actually our costs were like \$3,300.00 for those five accounts and now they are going to be like \$580.00, so it is a savings of about \$2,700.00. Mr. Niglio stated they did a review and we were not using everything and so

we were paying for some things that we really did not need. There were some online features we didn't need, and Rhonda was not using so they took that off, which was a really good initiative on their side.

Mr. Niglio stated when they were notified of the closing he and the Mayor both expressed to the bank that they should consider leaving an ATM here in the Borough for the residents and stated he did bring that up again in this meeting.

Mr. Niglio stated they also had contact with Deb Yeager on the mural of the Scott Colliery and stated they are going to deliver it to us and will become the property of the residents.

Mayor Bozza stated we wanted to make sure that mural stays in Kulpmont and so a letter was drafted up requesting the mural be donated to the Borough or the Kulpmont 100. Mayor Bozza stated if the mural was donated to the Kulpmont 100 it would have been turned over to the Borough. He added they just wanted to make sure it stayed here. Mr. Niglio stated BB&T will have professionals remove the mural and deliver it to the Borough.

Mr. Lutz stated the savings of \$2,700.00 over a 10-year period of time equates to over \$25,000.00 and stated his thoughts are how can we get back some of that money.

Mr. Niglio stated on the police pension plan, earlier in the year he had approval to move forward with the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board. Mr. Niglio stated one of the requirements was that he had to have 75% of the plan participants approval before we move forward and stated he received that and so the next step now is to submit the information to the Pennsylvania Retirement Board requesting a study and a proposal.

SOLICITORS REPORT- (Edward Greco)

The Solicitor stated it has been a busy month reviewing various letters and articles and other than that no official report.

POLICE CHIEFS REPORT – (Nathan Foust)

Report attachment #2

Chief Foust stated since the hiring of the three new officer's arrests are up and citations as well. He added he has made a request for the purchase of a new taser. Chief Foust thanked the officers for their work and cooperation adding things are going well.

Mr. Lutz commented the Police force is very enthusiastic and joked the pavement is being repaired by the post office and Officer Mazzeo tried to have his vehicle towed away.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT – (Raymond Siko)

Report attachment #3

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – (Kevin O' Hearn)

No Report

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT– (Tri County COG)

No Report

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT – (Russ Moroz)

Report attachment #4

Russ Moroz stated the pavement on Chestnut Street that has been a problem for years is finally getting repaired. Russ Moroz stated there are properties on Scott Street that have been purchased by an individual are being cleaned up. Russ Moroz stated a lot of the garbage is out of there and they are talking about wrecking the buildings, that is how bad they are and have been like that for years. Russ Moroz reminded residents to stay away and out of the Mill, it is a very dangerous area.

Russ Moroz stated there have been 15 abandoned vehicles that are now gone. There were two or three taken off of the street, the rest were from private properties and were there for years.

Aqua has a start date of September 17th for their project on Scott Street and state UGI has done site preparation for the gas line and so it looks like that is defiantly going to happen, lines are marked on the street. Russ Moroz commented that things are rolling along.

Mr. Lutz stated there are some folks that are cited as much as we want, and nothing is going to happen and so we have the police looking to cite them as a public nuisance charges against these folks and that is serious business. Mr. Lutz stated we don't want to do that, we want people to be responsible but enough is enough.

Mayor Bozza questioned on when the Mill work begins if they will secure the area. Russ Moroz stated they will secure the area and also have a 24-hour guard. Mr. Lutz stated one of the things they will do is offer the security to our police officers first, there will be a meeting before that begins.

Mr. Bielskie stated he talked with Representative Masser concerning the possibility of when someone purchases these junk properties to put a bond up on it. Mayor Bozza questioned what that would mean. Mr. Bielskie stated he suggested a \$10,000.00 bond be placed on these purchases of junk properties for two years so that if nothing is done to repair these properties and they are left go, the money would be there to tear them down.

He stated Representative Masser said he will discuss it and see if he could get something going on that.

Mr. Slaby stated as the neighbors do down the road, attend the tax sale and then put them on notice as the tax sale is going on that they have 30 days from the date the city is notified that the property is transferred to your name to start making improvements, if not they may start fining you on the 31st day. Mr. Slaby stated under correspondence from the Northumberland County Housing Authority then questioned if someone will be assigned to attend this. Mr. Lutz replied we will send Mr. Moroz.

Mr. Slaby questioned about the possibility of asking that the chain link fence be put up now around the mill and not to wait because of how dangerous the building is and wanting everyone to stay out of there. Mr. Lutz replied we will contact them. Mr. Slaby stated he had an engineer tell him down in Shamokin if something would happen a Federal Judge would not look to kindly on you and so if they can put it up now, they should put it up.

SERVICE AND FACILITIES – (Robert Fanella)

Mr. Fanella commended Bruce Graff on the job he and his men are doing around town with all they do.

Mr. Fanella stated food surplus will be held on September 20, 2018 at the Borough Garage from 8 a.m. until 12 noon.

MOTION - Mr. Malakoski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielski to purchase 6 plow edges and 6 plow shoes for the plows spending up to \$1,400.00.

Mr. Slaby questioned the treasurer if this money would come out of liquid fuels. Mr. Niglioi replied that is correct.

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

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to purchase pet waste bags at a cost of \$80.00 for the Veteran Memorial Park.

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

Mr. Fanella announced that the Aqua project should start around September 17th.

MOTION – Mr. Fanella made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Slaby to approve the date for the circus next year as June 5, 2019.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Fanella stated the engineer should have his work and the survey done this week.

MOTION- Mr. Slaby made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to place an advertisement bid contingent upon and when specifications are received from the Engineer, Livic Civil Engineering for the project affecting a residence property.

Mr. Lutz stated we think Livic Engineering is going to give us the specifications and all that and then we want to put something in the paper and hopefully when we come to the next meeting we can go ahead and open bids. Mr. Fanella stated that the Engineer will be submitting right to Barry from Penn DOT to make the process move along faster. Mr. Slaby questioned if the Solicitor will be able to review. Mr. Lutz replied yes. Mr. Fanella stated on that same project our engineers put down if certain stuff is done by us and Barry from PennDOT we will save \$1,750.00 of the engineer's price.

Mr. Fanella stated our pipe on 6th and Fir Street is beginning to dip very much, and he suggest that we get a plate or rent one to cover half the lane and then start the process for next spring if we make it through the winter without it going through. Mr. Lutz questioned if he knows what that costs. Mr. Fanella stated we could put the plate in and when Blue Ridge is paving we could ramp it on each side, so it does not move. Mr. Lutz questioned if we need to rent the plate. Mr. Fanella replied he does not know. Mr. Lutz stated we will come back to that.

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

FINANCE/PURCHASING– (Robert Slaby)

Mr. Slaby stated there is a request by the Police Department to purchase a taser gun for the cost of \$1463.00. Mr. Slaby questioned the Chief if this is a replacement or if they have one already in the police department. Chief Foust replied this is in addition to the one they have adding the one they have is an older model. Council questioned if training was needed for the officers on the taser. Chief Foust stated training will be required for Officer Toter.

MOTION- Mr. Slaby made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielski to approve the purchase of a taser for the Police Department at a cost of \$1463.00

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

MOTION- Mr. Slaby made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to purchase Drug testing kits for the Police Department as per Chief Foust.

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

CODE HEALTH AND SAFETY (Stephen Bielskie)

No Report

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE - (George Malakoski)

No Report

GRANTS/RECREATION - (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz stated Northumberland County Conservation will be coming up to the Veteran Memorial Field to plant trees on Thursday October 18th, they bring students up and this is very educational.

PERSONNEL- (Michael Sinopoli)

No Report

FIRE/EMA/POLICE COMMITTEE – (Chesney, Sinopoli and Fanella)

No Report

Mr. Lutz stated the Mill project is going to cost two million dollars and the Borough will not need to pay a penny and afterwards they will go inside and see what they could do. They will probably start sometime in October. Mr. Lutz stated without the efforts of Councilman Chesney and Russ Moroz this would not be happening.

Mr. Fanella stated he has one more thing to discuss concerning recycling. Mr. Fanella stated he got a call from Mike at the Coal Township recycle center, when he came up he looked in the dumpster and saw cardboard in the dumpster we have labeled mixed paper. Because he saw cardboard in there he threatened to take out the containers Coal Township has here for cardboard and newspaper if we don't remove that container from DMS. Mayor Bozza questioned if we have other options here. Mr. Fanella stated he is going to call and we are going to talk to them. Residents are happy to have a container to place magazines and shredding's and mixed paper, which they don't take. Mr. Fanella

stated he is strong arming us if we don't take that away they will not take any of our recyclables. Bruce stated we take our plastics there.

Mr. Lutz stated we will go down and have a chat with them.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

No one spoke

Mr. Lutz stated Council will now meet in executive session at 7:48 p.m.

Solicitor Greco stated Council met in executive session for approximately 10 minutes to discuss contractual matters.

MOTION- Mr. Bielski made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Slaby to approve the Kulpmont Borough Police Contract September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2021 contingent upon the Solicitors review.

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

OLD BUSINESS –

None

NEW BUSINESS-

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

**Rhonda Wilk
Borough Secretary**

Date of Approval _____