

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Robert Chesney
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present,
Kulpmont Borough Council held the meeting for general purpose on
Wednesday November 8, 2023

Roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Mayor Slaby, Stephen Bielskie, Robert Chesney, Joseph Dowkus, Robert Fanella and Marlin Hodge, Stephen Motyka and Mr. Novakoski.

ABSENT: None

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Solicitor Edward Greco, Treasurer Paul Niglio, Borough Supervisor Ed Begis, Code Official Heather Owens, Police Chief Stephen Mazzeo and Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk

OTHER PRESENT: Edwin Howerter, Joe Politza, Jack Maciejewski, Catherine Maciejewski, Bridget Smink, Barbara Smink, Sandra Tosca and Dan McGraw.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON ANYTHING THAT IS ON THE AGENDA:
None

PRESIDENTS REPORT – (Stephen Bielskie)

No Report

MAYORS REPORT- (Robert M. Slaby)

No Report

SECRETARY'S REPORT- (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk stated a motion is needed to approve the meeting minutes from October 11, 2023, meeting minutes.

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Novakoski to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2023, meeting.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Rhonda Wilk stated correspondence was received from Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Municipality advising of Mr. Novakoski's term on the board expiring on December 31, 2023, and was copied to Mayor/Council.

A letter of interest to fill the vacancy on the Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Municipal Authority Board and be re-appointed upon the expiration of his term on December 31, 2023, was received from Mr. Bernard P. Novakoski.

A letter was received from the Department of Economic Development and Planning concerning boundary-related topics and was copied to Mayor, Council and Borough Solicitor.

Correspondence was received by email from Mr. Gregory Dibble from PennDOT notifying council he is the contact person to gather the Boroughs input on PennDOT proposed project within the Borough. He is looking for information of the Borough's awareness of any drainage issues within the project limits such as ditches, inlets, curbing, cross/parallel pipe, bridge, etc.... Does the borough have any request that could possibly improve the proposed project within the project limits with vegetation concerns, sight distance, roadway concerns, resident concerns that were brought to the borough's attention, guiderail, milling material and local roadway plans that could affect the project or vice versa, etc..... Copied, Mayor/Council

A letter was received from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation regarding the S.R. 61 and SR 2026 resurfacing project summarizing a telephone conversation held on 11/1/2023 between Transportation Specialist Jonathan Ranck and Councilman Motyka, copied to Mayor/Council

A letter was received from Northumberland County Department of Economic Development and Planning concerning follow up inspection associated with 10 Kulp Lane and was copied to Mayor/Council

Mr. Fanella stated he would like to comment on behalf of the sewer authority and stated they are looking into getting a price quote for an exterminator for help with the rat problem and baiting in town. He stated he will let the council know how that goes after their meeting. Mr. Fanella reminded residents all the baiting is not going to help with garbage out on the streets.

TREASURERS REPORT (Paul Niglio)

Mr. Niglio stated approval is needed for the financial information and bills to be paid, adding previous bills and regular bills received through the end of the month to avoid any charges or late fees. Mr. Niglio stated the meeting is early this month and many bills have not been received yet.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Dowkus to approve paying the bills and any regular bills received through the end of month.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio stated a 2024 tentative budget was prepared and distributed to members of council for review. Mr. Niglio stated he made a lot of adjustments that have not been made is the last two years because of covid, police, people quitting and new hires and so this looks to be like our budget going forward. Mr. Niglio stated some revenues may be adjustments will be made before the next meeting when we pass the final budget in December.

Mr. Niglio stated at this point in time, the general fund receipts have \$846,675.00 and expenditures of the same, the highway fund has \$206,500.00 with expenditures of the same, the Police Pension Fund has \$392,000.00 with expenditures of \$23,500.00, leaving fund equity of \$368,500.00. Mr. Niglio stated the police fund fluctuates because three hundred plus dollars is invested in the market.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to approve the tentative budget for 2024.

Mr. Chesney asked Mr. Niglio if that cant be amended. Mr. Niglio replied saying, “No, it will be.” Mr. Niglio stated the final budget will be passed in December and then reorganization will be in January and so the budget could be changed up until March. Mr. Chesney then replied stating he remembers that. Mr. Niglio replied, “You did it already.”

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

SOLICITORS REPORT (Edward Greco)

Solicitor Greco stated on the results of the informal complaint on PPL, we filed a formal complaint with the PUC on what PPL was charging us and stated he just received a letter dated November 3rd, which they are indicating it is a commercial account and at the informal complaint level the PUC has limited jurisdiction over regulatory authority, aside providing you with clarification on the company’s position there is little more they could do.

Solicitor Greco continued to read the response reading you may pursue this matter further by filing a formal complaint and stating a formal complaint process involves a legal proceeding before the PUC, similar to a trial. Mr. Motyka stated we have put a lot of time and effort into this and stated he is surprised they said they could not do anything; it

is not a residential account. Mr. Motyka stated he thinks we should keep pursuing this adding we have actually seen our bills go up since switching to LED. Solicitor Greco stated he thinks what is needed is a motion by council authorizing so it is a matter of record.

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and Mr. Fanella seconded the motion to authorize to continue the path and make a formal complaint with the PUC.

Mr. Chesney questioned Solicitor Greco asking in his best assumption, everything that we had done in that informal complaint seemed to be logical and correct and asked what the major stumbling block in us losing if we pursue this. Solicitor Greco stated there are no guarantees in any litigation. Solicitor Greco stated he thinks we laid out our numbers clearly, and it kind of defies logic why we did not save any money. Solicitor Greco said that is what we are really trying to find out, a better explanation as to why the Borough has not seen a reduction in our bills given the path that we previously took. Solicitor Greco stated there are no guarantees.

Mr. Chesney questioned if there are nothing of major consequences that we have added to our electrical usage that could justify even though we should have a savings, for the expenses could go up. Mr. Motyka stated when we switched in 2016 the woman that helped him through it said the western pa utilities are given the money back to the borough and stated PPL has not given back to the borough and stated she said eventually there will be a lawsuit against PP& L for not doing what the western pa utilities have done and stated he thinks it is in our favor.

Solicitor Greco stated he thinks Mr. Chesney was asking if we increased our power consumption. Mr. Niglio then said we are not buying our power from PP&L. Mr. Motyka replied saying it does not matter; he has a bill from 2014 and from 2023 bill and stated you could see plain as day that we used so much more electricity, our kilowatt hour is less now, and we are still paying more than in 2014. Mr. Niglio then said don't forget the new council changed a lot of your lights. Mr. Motyka stated that is all noted.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

POLICE CHIEFS REPORT – (Stephen Mazzeo, Officer in Charge)

Police report is attached. Chief Mazzeo stated the new officer we brought on board is giving us about 12 hours per week and briefly explained his report.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT – (Kevin O'Hearn)

Fire Chief Report attached. Rhonda Wilk read aloud the comments on the fire chief's report as follows,

The Fire Department appointed a committee to develop a draft ordinance to be submitted to the borough. Fire Prevention activities were conducted at Roosevelt Courts including an in-depth fire drill with a meeting with residents. Fire Prevention materials were distributed to Roosevelt Courts and Timberwood. We are still awaiting a decision on a federal grant that the department applied for with 3 other fire companies to replace our SCBA. The 25 SCBA that we currently have are at the end of recommended life and will need to be taken out of service and replaced at a cost of around \$300,000.00.

Mr. Dowkus stated he would like to thank the fire company for reaching out to Timberwood and Rosevelt Court Community and having a fire drill. He thanked them for taking the time to do that.

Mr. Dowkus stated he has all of the information and everything they have been working on for over four years, the ordinance they are trying to put together. He stated he will bundle it all up together and hand that over to whoever will be working forward with the fire company on this ordinance.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – (Kevin O’ Hearn)

No Report

BUILDING INSPECTOR’S REPORT– (Tri County COG)

No Report

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICER’S REPORT – (Heather Owens)

Report Attached

SERVICE AND FACILITIES – (Robert Fanella)

Mr. Fanella stated the food surplus distribution will be held on Thursday November 16th 8 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Borough Garage and reminded all to bring a box or bags.

Mr. Fanella stated the dump truck is at Bradco and approval is needed for the quote of \$14,912.06 to equip the truck and to be paid from the Highway Fund.

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to approve the quote from Bradco and spend up to \$15,000.00 to have the truck equipped finishing that project.

Mr. Niglio stated this money would come out of the highway fund.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated he would like the council to think about and provide input on the Angel decorations displayed on Chestnut Street. He stated they are in bad condition and questioned ideas on them being displayed and asked for input from the council.

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Novakoski to include the administrative office, code office and part time street department personnel to follow wage increases as in the union contract.

Mayor Slaby questioned the department the motion is to cover. Mr. Fanella replied saying Rhonda, Heather, and the part time street department personnel.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated he would like to address the curbside recycling and reminded residents and businesses it is **curbside** and stated there have been some issues with the items not being placed easily accessible for the workers to collect and asked that they be placed properly for pick up, especially the businesses placing glass out for collection.

Mr. Fanella stated on November 20th the deer will be in the pen at the town park and thanked the Sportsman's Club for this event.

Mr. Fanella stated this year's plans are a little different for the taking down of the hometown hero banners and the installation of the Christmas decorations. He stated the plan is to post no parking signs on Chestnut Street on November 15th from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. Mr. Fanella stated once you see the decorations have been installed residents are welcome to park along Chestnut Street as they are done.

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to post no parking signs on Chestnut Street with no parking November 15th from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m.

VOICE VOTE – Unanimous

Mr. Fanella stated the backhoe will need a battery and stated they are working on getting prices.

Mr. Dowkus questioned how the surplus program is going and the attendance. Mr. Begis replied stating the volume has increased, roughly 100, and stated every time there is an influx of new people and the program is widely used.

Mr. Fanella stated he would just like to let everyone know there are a lot of improvements and repairs being made at the garage and that is why you are seeing most of the equipment outside right now, to be inside right now would just be in the way.

FINANCE AND PURCHASING – (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka stated he would like to request an executive session for contractual reasons.

CODE HEALTH AND SAFETY- (Stephen Bielskie)

Mr. Bielskie stated the gas station at the end of town is complete and stated it is open. Mr. Bielskie stated he wishes something would happen with the mill. Mayor Slaby questioned the Solicitor on what he would suggest we do to get their attention. Solicitor Greco stated he knows we have done work there cutting grass.

Mr. Motyka stated he talked with them a month ago and they said they were meeting with their contractor the next day and stated he has a dozen emails out to them and said he only gets one call occasionally but stated he is still in their ear chirping. Solicitor Greco stated if they have violations, we need to pursue the violations.

Mayor Slaby commented that it is starting to look like a war zone and stated something needs to be done. Edwin Howerter stated he just wants to let the council know there are people getting in there, they can climb right in and stated he has told them about it for a couple of months now.

Chief Mazzeo stated he has contacted them multiple times and talked to the troopers and stated he is not prosecuting anything until they give us something in writing. He stated they were very clear they will not prosecute. Mr. Bielskie stated if we have enough citations against them, he thinks a public nuisance is ok. Chief Mazzeo stated he is talking about windows, they have been prosecution for over a year now for trespassing, criminal mischief, burglaries and stated there are criteria that could be acquired, we could do that.

Mr. Bielskie stated he has met with them five or six times and stated his recommendation is they want the borough to help them, why don't they have some prints to show what you are talking about doing. Mayor Slaby stated it was a real eyesore.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE - (Joseph Dowkus)

Mr. Dowkus stated Sidewalk Ordinance 2023-06 has been advertised.

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Novakoski to adopt the 2023-06 sidewalk ordinance.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

The Service Electric Contract 2023-07 has been advertised, with the solicitors reviewing and stated that is going back to November of last year. He stated they came out and there was some removal, of lines and fixing all the eyesores in our sightlines and the potential safety issues of kids swinging from them.

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion to adopt the Service Electric Franchise Ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Motyka.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Solicitor Greco stated Mr. Motyka questioned about the fees. Mr. Dowkus started in November of last year when our contract was up for negotiation. Solicitor Greco stated they are saying we should have got it at the beginning of this year. Paul Niglio replied saying that is correct.

Mr. Dowkus stated that he has all the correspondence back and forth between Mr. Motyka, himself and Solicitor Greco with the committees and stated he will pass that all forward before the end of the year.

Mr. Dowkus questioned the status of Kulp Lane. Solicitor Greco stated we are going to need survey work and stated he spoke with Mr. Brinkash and he sent the deeds and the maps that he had and he is going to give him a proposal and stated that should be available by next month.

RECREATION/GRANTS COMMITTEE – (Robert Chesney)

Mr. Chesney stated he can't get into detail because of litigation, but it pertains to the grant on the abandoned buildings and the blighted buildings. He stated some of the properties they have identified are going to judicial sales and some of the taxes have been paid and the owners have said they are going to try to fix some of those eyesores. Mr. Chesney stated the Spruce Street properties, the owners have come together, and they will be taken care of. Mr. Chesney continued to briefly explain and describe the situation with the properties previously identified.

Mr. Motyka stated a gentleman is putting a grant together for SHARE, asking for \$60,000.00 for the lot on Chestnut Street to make it a park on Chestnut Street.

Mr. Motyka stated he bought the lot with the intent from day one to donate it back to the borough for a park, this is our opportunity and so we need the MOU so if we do get the grant, he will donate the land back. Solicitor Greco stated he reviewed the MOU and stated it is in order.

Mr. Motyka stated a (MOU) Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough of Kulpmont, Northumberland County Pennsylvania and himself for the Local Share Account Grant through the Commonwealth Financing Authority will need to be adopted.

Mr. Motyka stated there is an application fee of \$100.00 required for the SHARE grant, we will need to pay the fee to submit the grant.

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Novakoski to adopt the MOU for the Property on Chestnut Street and approve payment of the \$100.00 SHARE grant application fee.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Motyka stated a resolution to request a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant not to exceed \$50,000.00 is required to be adopted, Resolution #770.

Be it RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the Borough of Kulpmont, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania hereby request a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant of an amount not to exceed \$50,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for the site improvements to a vacant lot in the Borough. Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that the Applicant does hereby designate Stephen Bielskie, Council President and Joseph Dowkus, Vice President as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the Borough of Kulpmont and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant. I, Rhonda Wilk, duly qualified Secretary of Kulpmont Borough, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by a majority vote of the Borough Council of Kulpmont Borough at a regular meeting held November 8, 2023, and said Resolution has been recorded in the Minutes of the Borough of Kulpmont and remains in effect as of this date. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I affix my hand and attach the seal of the Borough of Kulpmont,
this 8th day of November 2023.

Borough of Kulpmont
Northumberland County

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Novakoski to adopt Resolution 770 requesting a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant of an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for the site improvements to a vacant lot in the Borough.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Motyka stated we received a \$548,000.00 grant from Growing Greener to do some storm water work including some stream restoration at the park. He stated we should get that contract back any day now and stated we are hoping to bid through the winter. Mr. Motyka stated Clauser Environmental will be doing the professional services and we need to approve the Clauser Environmental contract.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Dowkus to move forward with Clauser to manage the Growing Greener Grant and accept the contract agreement.

ROLL CALL VOTE- NOVAKOSKI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), FANELLA, (yes), CHESNEY (abstain), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), HODGE (yes)
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS - 1 ABSTAIN

Mr. Motyka stated we had four DEP officials here for a tour on Tuesday at the Ramp Field and stated they said it was inspirational and stated they would try to steer more penalty money toward the borough and then commented saying hard work may pay off in the future.

Mr. Motyka stated our FEMA grant went in, the letter of intent and we should have the next step in a day or two on how to move forward with that. Mr. Motyka said that is \$150,000.00 we are requesting for more storm water work. Mr. Motyka stated he is working with Mr. Chesney on the police grant.

Mr. Dowkus stated we never heard anything back from Mt. Carmel Township about how we were going to move forward with the regionalization; they just kind of stifled us and have not returned a text message or email and said there is a good amount of money out there just sitting in limbo.

PERSONNEL- (Joseph J. Dowkus, III)

No Report

FIRE/EMA/POLICE COMMITTEE – (Bernard P. Novakoski)

No Report

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Jack Maciejewski of 547 Chestnut Street stated he is speaking on 549 Chestnut Street, there is garbage in the entryway and stated their rain pipe is knocked off and the water is coming over to theirs. Mr. Maciejewski said he had to have his entire rain pipe replaced and does not want to go through this again and stated he is on a fixed income. Mr. Bielskie stated he cited her three times for thirty days each time, he stated he had 10 more days, and the ninety days are up.

Mr. Maciejewski asked what he can do about the garbage in the entryway in the meantime. Heather Owens stated her can is lidded when it is not overflowing, she does not leave it on the street she pulls it back off the street she pulls it back out of the site of view which is what the ordinance says, and she is handicap so.... Mr. Maciejewski stated the guy living there tried to pull it out and knocked the drainpipes off both sides. Mr. Motyka asked if we could pass an ordinance or upgrade our ordinance so that we could

not pick garbage up in front of properties in town. Mr. Motyka stated there are about a half dozen houses that cannot access the backyard.

Mr. Motyka stated no hauler should be picking up trash on our main street or any major street in our borough. Mr. Motyka questioned if there is anything to upgrade our ordinance that you could only pick up in the alleys in our borough. Solicitor Greco stated he does not think there is and stated another issue that comes to mind is that some of these trucks are huge and to force them down the alley, he stated he understands what he is saying but you don't want to make more problems.

Mr. Novakoski stated another issue is they need a place to put the can. Solicitor Greco stated he does not think it is a bad idea, he just thinks we need to look at the big picture. Mr. Motyka stated two days a week out of seven days is a bit of an eyesore, it should be in the alley and stated he would like our council to work on that. Solicitor Greco asked Mr. Dowkus if he could look at the ordinance.

Sandra Tosca stated she knew several months ago power was disconnected from a property that was condemned. She continued to say there are individuals coming and going continuously from that property and stated she does not feel safe when she is with her parents caring for them at night. Sandra Tosca described a situation that happened Friday night stating she went over to take care of her parents and a pickup truck was coming and going all day long, several gentlemen getting in and out going into the house, they came back at 9:30 carrying a case of beer and they looked already intoxicated. She said she had to call her husband to come and sit in the alley in the car to watch her get into their other car.

Sandra Tosca said she can't even park at the property they own two places away because she does not feel safe walking down the alley at night. Sandra Tosca stated there is still garbage piled there. Mr. Bielskie stated he tried to squeeze them as much as he could and even had the power turned off, but they are still running in and out of there. Mayor Slaby stated he couldn't get him to answer the door and stated he had the Chief going.

Solicitor Greco stated we talked about getting an administrative search warrant. Mr. Dowkus stated we talked about that last month and asked how much of a paper trail do we need to protect our citizens. Mr. Bielskie stated now it is a fire hazard because of using candles and all in there. Mr. Dowkus stated we have an ordinance against using kerosene or propane heaters in their residence, because people were doing that or living in abandoned buildings with tar buckets with fires in them and stated it's a catastrophe. Sandra Tosca stated they are six feet apart from her parents' house and if there was a fire, she would not be able to get them out adding her dad could barely walk.

Mr. Bielskie asked Chief Mazzeo to see what he could do with it. Chief Mazzeo said the owner is incarcerated and the question is who is in charge of the building and stated he is not getting anywhere with that, he stated he is trying to find out who is responsible. Solicitor Grecco questioned Chief Mazzeo if it is possible to get an administrative warrant? Chief Mazzeo stated he has never done one and is not sure. Mr. Bielskie stated

we should put the Red X on and screw the door shut. Solicitor Greco suggested to Chief Mazzeo why don't we try to get an administrative warrant and see if the DA will follow us to get it issued and then go in there and see what is going on. Chief Mazzeo replied, "Okay." Mr. Chesney agreed and commented, "Absolutely, it has to be done."

A resident of 706 Pine Street questioned if she could put a yellow line in front of her carport, she stated when there are games sometime people park there and she cannot get out. Mr. Dowkus commented saying you cannot block a driveway. She said the people that bought Mr. Pancerella's house talked of interest in also having a line, so they are not parked in. Mr. Fanella stated there was an agreement made with the Legion for parking and stated we have the signs and so parking should not be an issue next year.

Mr. Niglio of 415 Spruce Street stated he is speaking as a private citizen and said a contractor dug up at fifth and Ash Street to put a connector in for a sewer and stated he did not fix the street that well and we require our utilities to post a bond and normally they are the ones that dig up our streets, and now we allowed a contractor to dig up the street and asked if he required to make the street back to the way it was, we have an ordinance to Penn DOT standards.

Mr. Bielskie responded and said you can't do it right away; you need to let it settle. Mr. Niglio stated we are going into the winter now and stated he uses that street all of the time and it is only going to get worse. Mr. Dowkus stated that is all outlined in the ordinance. He stated the excavation should have been inspected and stated we need a geek on the street to go down and inspect it to make sure its backfilled properly.

Mr. Dowkus stated everything we have done in the last four years is just going to go to shit because we don't have somebody inspecting and following up. Mr. Fanella replied saying on this one, he did observe the backfilling and it was done properly and stated he knows they need to wait before they put the blacktop in.

Catherine Maciejewski of 547 Chestnut Street stated if the house is condemned why they are still there. Mr. Bielskie stated if we had police force here at night, they could go and tell them to get out during the day you're allowed to be there to fix things up. She agreed and said yes during the day but at night she can see the lights on in the living room, she said I know we don't have police at night and questioned can't they alternate sometime, maybe at night so they could come and arrest them.

Mr. Bielskie stated he does not know when our other police officers are on duty. Chief Mazzeo stated it's hit or miss. Mr. Bielskie stated they will not answer the door either. Catherine Maciejewski stated just like the patio, she did not do one thing to it and stated the smell, and the odor is terrible. She stated the cats are not there, she is hiding them. Mr. Bielskie stated we will get it figured out some way through due process and make sure we don't make any mistakes. Mr. Motyka questioned how the SPCA raids the house and doesn't have all the cats. Heather Owens replied and stated the ASPCA were here from Philadelphia when they were there, they took 13 and there were thirty or more cats. They took the 13 they were not neglected and were all healthy. Heather Owens

stated they said when it comes time to completely get them out to call them and they will come back. She said when they first posted there was 18 and then one had 14 kittens and stated now, she was told all her female cats are pregnant.

Catherine Maciejewski stated the neighbor on the other side heard them arguing about the one man there stepping on a kitten and said they must have cats galore. She said they don't answer the door, but she is a good one to write notes and then said and her language.... talk about being a lady.

OLD BUSINESS-

None

NEW BUSINESS-

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Thanksgiving

Stephen Bielskie stated the council will now meet in executive session to discuss contractual matters.

Solicitor Greco stated the council met in executive session to discuss contractual matters for approximately 20 minutes.

ADJOURNMENT of the November 8, 2023, meeting

Rhonda Wilk
Borough Secretary

Approval date – December 13, 2023