

**KULPMONT BOROUGH  
MEETING FOR GENERAL PURPOSE  
AUGUST 23, 2016**

Opening Prayer by Council President 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 August 23, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Clarence H. Deitrick, Bruno R. Varano, Stephen Motyka, George Malakoski, Nicholas P. Goretski III and Mark Burns.

**ABSENT:** Walter Lutz

**APPOINTED POSITIONS:** Solicitor William C. Cole and Treasurer Paul A. Niglio

**PRESENT:** Code Officer Russ Moroz, Officer in Charge Patrick McAndrew and Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Stephanie Niglio, Joe Politza, Robert Michalkovich, James Karnes, Barry Fetterman, Douglas Katalinas, Rich Mychak, Joe Sheganoski, Jack Maciejewski, Jeffrey Gilotti, Brian J. Hollenbush, Zack Zvoncheck, Dawson Temple, Ray Siko, Joe Pancerella, Janine Beury, Mr. O’Hearn.

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

No one spoke

Mr. Varano stated that there will be another opportunity for citizens to speak at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Varano stated that we will go right to the Senior Executive Committee Report and will then return to the President’s Report.

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (Clarence H. Deitrick)

Mr. Deitrick stated that our Police Chief has taken a position with another department effective August 22, 2016 and proceeded to read the resignation letter received by Chief Pitcavage.

**MOTION-** Mr. Deitrick made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Goretski to accept the resignation of Chief Pitcavage.

Mr. Varano said it is with a heavy heart that we accept this resignation.

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

Mr. Goretski stated that he would like for a resolution to be presented to Chief Pitcavage for his service to the borough.

Mr. Varano stated that he agrees to present Chief Pitcavage with a resolution and added and that no motion is needed to prepare a resolution for Chief Pitcavage.

Mr. Deitrick stated that the Senior Executive Committee and the Mayor had met with our senior officer left on the force, Patrick McAndrew and that the committee and the Mayor at that time said to him that they would like to keep the force together and would like for him to be the officer in charge for now, which he agreed to.

**MOTION**- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Goretski to hire Patrick McAndrew as officer in charge full time at an hourly rate of \$16.00 per hour with medical benefits on a probationary period until January 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 at which time Council will decide or not to retain Patrick McAndrew full time.

Mr. Varano questioned the Treasurer on when Patrick McAndrew would go full time, when he would go into the pension. Treasurer Paul Niglio replied that he would go into the pension the first day.

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

Mr. Varano welcomed Officer Patrick McAndrew aboard. Officer McAndrew replied “thank you.”

Mr. Deitrick stated that we currently pay our part time officers \$13.00 per hour and \$15.00 per hour weekend differential. Mr. Deitrick stated that they had done a survey and every police force in the immediate area pays \$15.00 per hour for part time.

**MOTION**- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Goretski to pay the part time officers \$15.00 per hour straight across the board.

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

Mr. Deitrick questioned the Treasurer concerning Mr. Varano not wanting to accept his salary and rather have it put into a line item to be donated toward either a building or a fire truck and asked what needs to be done to do so. Mr. Niglio replied that starting with his September pay, the council president is declining to take his salary, so the money is

available in the General Fund and we can appropriate it to be used to either a building for the fire department or a fire truck. Mr. Varano questions why he cannot do it now; stating this month adding that he told Rhonda Wilk not to take his pay out. Mr. Niglio questioned Rhonda Wilk on if she had the payroll finished and processed. Rhonda Wilk replied that she has everything ready but was holding off until tomorrow morning to process it. Mr. Niglio replied that if August was not done yet then that would be fine and it can start now.

**MOTION**- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Goretski starting with Mr. Varano's August salary through the remainder of his term for the funds to remain in the general fund and to be used toward a building or fire truck for the fire department.

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

**MOTION**- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Goretski to place advertisement for part time police officers in the Sunbury paper, Pottsville Republican and the Press Enterprise.

Mayor Novakoski questioned about advertisement also on the borough website. Mr. Deitrick replied that it was also placed on the borough website.

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

**PRESIDENTS REPORT** (Bruno R. Varano)

Mr. Varano stated that we received a proposal for police protection from Mount Carmel Township.

Mr. Varano stated that this whole thing started back in January of this year when Mr. Bob Chesney stated Mount Carmel Township would use our personnel and they gave him some rough figures; Mr. Varano said that he does not know what he was doing negotiating.

Mr. Varano added that Mr. Chesney stated at a meeting that he is asking once again if someone could look into that because in over a three year period there was well over \$100,000.00 in savings just with expense.

Mr. Varano added well..... the figures that came in were, and by the way Walter, "Wally" also was spending all of this money over the last six months thinking we were getting a windfall of \$100,000.00 over three years. Mr. Varano said it is going to cost us a rough figure of \$55,000.00 over three years adding we are not saving \$100,000.00; we

are losing \$55,000.00 which would mean that we would have to raise taxes 5 mills. Mr. Varano commented, "Another one of Wally's follies." Mr. Varano directed a comment to the News Item reporter that they may want to put that in the paper also stating that he will give him a name for a change, to go along with his Mill Road Square project and his other follies.

Mr. Varano states that if someone on Council would like to make a motion to accept or reject this proposal adding that if not he will step down and make the motion himself.

**MOTION**- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Goretski to reject the Mount Carmel Township proposal for police protection.

Mayor Novakoski stated that also the borough would lose approximately \$20,000.00 annual additional in fines to them in that agreement, they would keep them all.

Mr. Varano added that in the proposal it also reads that this contract will only be enforced during Township Police scheduled working hours, noting that the Township Police department is currently a 24 hour service. Mr. Varano stated that means that if they go down to 20 hours service, that's.... Mayor Novakoski interjected and added that these are some of the details of why we are rejecting it.

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

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (Clarence H. Deitrick)

Mr. Motyka stated that he would like to share how the numbers came in concerning the work orders. Mr. Motyka stated that it was talked about switching the gas water heaters out to electric under sink water heaters adding that it would be an additional cost of \$15274.00. He added that his idea is to keep the water heaters as they are and just maintain the propane service.

Mr. Motyka stated that is to combine the plumbing totals along with the electrician's upgrades to provide new breakers. Mr. Goretski questions if the gas company is looking at running mains or it just a rumor. Mr. Varano replied that they were here years ago and promised that they were going to run some in Kulpmont and they didn't, adding that they had a chance to run some while Aqua was doing their project and they said no.

Mr. Motyka stated that it is now up to council if they want to agree to the \$15,000.00 to add new water heaters or not. Council was in agreement that they would not want to agree to that.

Mr. Varano questioned Russ Moroz if he had a recommendation on that. Russ Moroz stated that yesterday when the meeting was held it was decided that the easiest thing to do would be to go down to one heater stating that the one that is in the ceiling would either

need to be removed or capped because it is against code. He added that the only other one that would be is the one heater in the ceiling in the kitchen that would take care of everything. Mr. Motyka questioned if then they will come back with a new proposal which would be just for the piping. Russ Moroz replied that is correct. Russ Moroz stated that what would be involved with this is the proposal for just the piping, capping the other, and the thing that has to happen is these thermostatic mixers, they were never in or installed before and that is by code adding that the \$864.00 is going to remain on that bill.

Mr. Motyka stated let's then have them do a new change order and the new change order will describe exactly what is happening. Mr. Goretski questioned then with the capping, is that going to be removed out of there and questioned if there is a liability or anything like that with leaving it there. Russ Moroz replied that actually the one up in the ceiling we can leave and that there would not be a liability. Mr. Motyka replied that it is worth \$2,000.00. Russ Moroz commented that we can take it down, remove the two of them and sell them. Mr. Goretski commented that was what he was looking at, any sale opportunity now or at a later date. Russ Moroz stated that we need to remove them, finish the installation on the one, run the lines and that is all we need.

Mr. Motyka stated that we are going to wait on a new proposal on the plumbing heaters. Mr. Motyka stated that on the electric card strike, we wanted to add a reader to the back hallway and they gave us a deduct for their initial four door controller and upgraded to a 8 door controller which is only a \$400.00 difference, but if you add up all of the cost it is a \$4900.89 difference to add a 8 door controller and add all of the wiring for the 5<sup>th</sup> door.

Mr. Motyka stated that we mentioned at the last meeting that we just installed a new door which we do not have a price from eci Construction yet, but we need that door. Russ Moroz added that he just wanted to bring up about the electric card reader; all that does is opens the door and that is about \$60,000.00 just to get the other card reader to read who is using the card. Mr. Varano commented that it is a \$60,000.00 waste of money.

Mr. Motyka stated that just so every one knows, we currently have a camera system that we purchased when we purchased for the town park and the playground that we have that here in our inventory. He added that we can have cameras monitor our front door and evidence room, so that could take care of our security concern.

Mr. Motyka stated that we are waiting for a price from the General Contractor for the door frame and door.

Mr. Motyka stated that he had originally received a price for \$625.00 to add signage that reads Police over the Police door and Administrative over the Administrative door. Mr. Motyka stated that the Senior Action Center requires signage as a Senior Action Center and so one door will read Administrative and Senior Action Center and the other Police.

Mr. Motyka stated said that he counted letters and did an estimate and stated it will probably double in price to about a \$1,200.00 upgrade. Mr. Motyka stated that according to the contract we only had signage on the front of the building.

Russ Moroz said that he understands that the signage that is up now was supplied by the Senior Center and stated that they should actually supply it down on the other building. Mr. Varano replied that when he spoke with them today they did not say that.

Mr. Motyka stated that he thinks that the lease agreement was \$800.00 or \$850.00 per month. Mr. Varano replied that it is \$700.00. Mr. Motyka stated that we need it to happen and need it to move forward.

Mr. Motyka stated that they will be 6 or 8 inch letters to match the building and states that he told them he would like to see the placement on a diagram.

Mr. Motyka stated that we then can deny the plumbing and electrical change and then wait for prices on the two general contractors and the new plumbing. Mr. Motyka stated that just so everyone knows we said we would meet every two weeks for any change orders and if we need approval on any.

Russ Moroz added that the other thing brought up yesterday was that a hood for the range is needed. He added that we do not need an industrial one adding that is something that is going to have to get a price change. Mr. Motyka stated then we do not need anything integrated into the system. Russ Moroz replied that the only thing we need is a residential hood over the top of the range.

Russ Moroz stated that the other thing is the meeting room concerning the ceiling to be raised for the can lights stating that the beam is coming down lower and all of the duct work is going to underneath the beam and so you would either do away with it completely and just put a flat ceiling all of the way across or half of a room.

Mr. Motyka stated that is an architect's decision. Mr. Goretski stated that it may look funny but that it is cost effective. Russ Moroz stated that it is going to save a lot, with heat and everything all the way around.

Mr. Deitrick questioned what it would lower it to height wise. Russ Moroz replied that it would lower it to 8' 4" stating that you can't get to 10' because of the beam there. Russ Moroz stated that it will be a lot better, more uniform and cleaner looking and a savings all around.

Mr. Motyka stated that knowing that we would be getting a refund we could act on that now and stay with a standard ceiling height.

**MOTION**- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to go with a standard ceiling height in the new building.

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

Mr. Varano stated that concerning the potential steel building he called around stating that he got sick of waiting for prices from Mr. Lutz.

Mr. Varano stated that he went on line and proceeded to get prices and the best one being a 30' x 50' x 14' high with 12' x 12' doors, two of them which would be sufficient if we build this thing down at the West End, in the back behind the present truck room.

Mr. Varano stated that there will be two doors in it; adding that it is certified steel building and that the frame is heavy duty 14 gauge. Mr. Varano stated that delivery is free; installation is free on your own pad. Mr. Varano stated that the only thing that we have to do is build a pad. He added that the only thing you have to do is, if you want water put a drain in the pad or through the pad.

Mr. Varano stated that the building itself is on sale right now for \$16,850.00, that's R16 vapor barrier, noise reduction. Mr. Varano stated that heat would have to be put in it and he would say probably a 200 amp service because if you put the kind of heat that should be in there like the wall heaters down at the West End adding that he does not know what they paid for them but that he does know that they are fairly cheap and they do a good job.

Mr. Varano stated that the Borough will not be paving any streets this year because the water company is paving them adding that we are going to have all of those millings down there and we could put them down and pave over them and go right around. Mr. Varano stated that we are going to have money left in the highway fund. The Treasurer replied that you cannot use highway funds. Mr. Varano questions why you couldn't and said that it is a paper street. Mr. Niglio stated that if you have a street there then yes, but you are going to have to build the street to Penn Dot specs. Mr. Varano replied that is no problem.

Mr. Varano stated that this whole kit and caboodle is probably going to cost less than \$50,000.00 stating that which he was told that we couldn't bring in a building at that price. Mr. Varano stated that he thinks that this council right here would vote to pay half of the bill if the fire department pays the other half of the bill with money from the fire department funds. Mr. Varano states that is our proposal in contrast to keeping it down at the East End. Mr. Varano asks if anyone from council would like to make a motion to accept this or if we would like to hold off and have a little forum.

Mr. Deitrick states that he thinks that it should be tabled for now and discuss with council and the fire department. Mr. Varano stated that he does not want to table it, he just wants to table it for right now and announced that if anyone would like to speak to come up to the microphone and state your name, address and keep it down to 3 minutes, please and asked all to keep the background noise down because Rhonda has a heck of a time hearing what is on the tape.

Jeff Gilotti of 653 Spruce Street stated that the so called expert that you brought in here from Seda Cog requested a 75' x 75' building and stated that a 30' x 50' is not going to accommodate what they need down there adding that you are planning to use what the West End has and your not going to be able to do that. Mr. Varano replied yes you will and asked why wouldn't it adding that it is grandfathered. Jeff Gilotti replied to Mr. Varano that he needs to send a letter to the West End and see if they will approve this and send a letter to the fire department.

Jeff Gilotti stated that his recommendation to him is that it is not adequate for what they need. Mr. Varano asked why it is not and asked Barry Fetterman how many bays they have now down at the West End. Barry Fetterman replied two. Jeff Gilotti stated that they are in a 50' x 50' building right now which is 2500 square feet and you are now talking a 30' x 50'. Jeff Gilotti asked Mr. Varano to give him a break and stated now they are going to downsize.

Mr. Varano asked Jeff Gilotti to tell him what they need that space for. Jeff Gilotti said they need a 75' x 75' ..... Mr. Varano replied no you do not. Jeff Gilotti replied that he is saying they don't but that he says that they do. Jeff Gilotti made the comment to Mr. Varano that he can say all he wants. Mr. Varano replied that he can tell him all that he wants because he is the logistics expert and told him not to debate that with him. Jeff Gilotti replied that the logistics expert was Mr. Seda Cog and he brought nothing to the table other than what you told him. Mr. Varano replied to Jeff Gilotti not to tell him about space because he will put him to shame.

Jeff Gilotti stated that he is telling them what they need and stated to send a letter to the West End and to the fire department. Jeff Gilotti stated that he received the estimate today from Mr. Giorgini and for \$8200.00 we could go under one building and be consolidated and everything will work out and if you guys do not want to do that then that is fine. Mr. Varano stated "no we do not want to do that."

Jeff Gilotti stated that he is going to go on record that this fire department wants to go to the East End and stated that it is the cheapest thing for the taxpayers and the savings for the taxpayers and it is the best thing to do. Jeff Gilotti states that they were asked to consolidate and they had said here is what we are going to do to consolidate and if you don't like the plan then that is fine. Jeff Gilotti stated that if you want to spend any money on a building then you are wasting taxpayer money. Mr. Varano replied that he is wasting taxpayer money keeping us there for three years. Jeff Gilotti replied no you guys wasted \$275,000.00 on a .....Mr. Varano stated that Jeff Gilotti's 3 minutes were up and asked him to please sit down. Jeff Gilotti continued to speak and Mr. Varano asked him to please sit down and stated that he was out of order.

Ray Siko Deputy Fire Chief thanked Mr. Varano for putting his money towards either a station and/or apparatus and stated that he does appreciate that. Ray Siko stated that he appreciates what they are trying to do and move forward here but the problem is that the current station that they have now between the East End and the West End combining

that space, yes by going to the East End under one roof, we can squeeze it in there adding that Russ has been at the station multiple times and they have discussed this. Ray Siko stated that in reference to the question about four bays, yes we have three Engines in addition to the utility truck and the medical unit and by going to the East End yes we agreed to putting the medical unit and housing it at the West End and stated that what you have to understand is that is the only medical unit in this town until Area gets here. Ray Siko stated that they understand that it is just going to be a point of issuing keys and when there is a medical call you would just have to go somewhere else.

Ray Siko stated that in reference to the four bays that Chief Gilotti discussed was that we are going to need the four bays and that is just for the current apparatus we have now. Ray Siko stated that what he is saying is that it is still small, but they could make it work one way or another. Ray Siko stated that the 30' x 50' and understands that we are looking at if we could squeeze fire trucks in there, we also have air systems and turn out racks that they have to put in there and that they all consumes our space.

Ray Siko stated that the only point that he is trying to make is that he understands that everybody is hurting for money and added that what he is here to say is that as the Borough, we have to have a fire station and provide protection to this town long after all of us are gone.

Ray Siko said that he understands that it is a quick band-aid to put up a building and put the apparatus under roof so that the borough hall could be fully completed as to what you guys want adding that he truly understands that. Ray Siko stated that he thinks that it is a waste of money because he thinks that we are going to go from here and figure out it is not going to work and then be back to square one trying to get something bigger and we are already behind with our size now. He added that we have to keep that in mind, we have to have this here for the long haul.

Ray Siko stated equipment sizes are changing and recommendations are changing for apparatus adding that we are going through that now with the West End building as an example, those trucks squeeze in with 3 inch's of clear on the roofs and stated that we are not getting a new truck in there and even if we buy a used vehicle the height requirement are totally different than what we have now and we would be limited on used ones because of height.

Ray Siko said to trust him and that he appreciates what they are doing and Jeff said I can't make the decision being the president I need to go back to the fire department as a whole and the administrative office of the fire department and say, here is their proposal and here is what they are offering."

Ray Siko stated that keeping that in mind, they just lost their \$175,000.00 grant for turn out gear adding that they got excluded in the last round. Ray Siko commented that as a fire department they are back to square one in getting money at \$2,000.00 a set to replace their turnout gear. He added that he understands that grants are gone and that they missed the boat and that he said that in 1993 that they missed the boat.

Ray Siko stated that he does appreciate what council is doing, but asks to send them something that they can get the both the fire department and both company's and try and discuss what they are going to do.

Mr. Deitrick stated that you say that a 30' x 50' is not big enough and questioned Ray Siko on what size building would be big enough if we would put a building up. Ray Siko replied that he listens to guys who know this or do this. Ray stated that he knows nothing about buildings stating that the most he could tell him is that if a fire engine is 32' long x 6' wide and if they have four of them then they have to go that big adding that is all he knows.

Mr. Deitrick questions how he would be loosing space though if you use the two existing bays at the West End and then put two more in. Ray Siko replied that their apparatus does not fit in the West End. Mr. Deitrick questioned what about the new building if they make it to their specs. Ray Siko replied back "you're talking leave the West End's equipment in the West End, add onto the back and put the other equipment in the back of the building.

Mr. Deitrick stated that is correct and asked that he understand where they are coming from and stated that they talked about this before and they do not want to put a street sweeper over a fire truck but added that they council are the keeper of all of the equipment in the borough and said that they need to make sure that they are all under cover.

Mr. Deitrick asked Ray Siko if he could tell council what size would be reasonable if they go that way. Ray Siko replied that he understands but his question is since they are erecting say a new property,.....would they under the fire department have to fall under the new specific guidelines of air monitoring within the station, the suppression of fire alarm systems within the building and also the gear protection area which all falls under the new standards because of carcinogens. Mr. Varano replied that Bill Seigel had told them no and stated that they would most likely be grandfathered down there. The Borough Solicitor William C. Cole stated that he would think that if it is going to be an addition to an existing building he would think that it would be grandfathered in.

Ray Siko stated that if it is not attached are they looking at something different because he is just looking for which way they need to go. Mr. Deitrick replied that they would certainly have to look into that adding that they would just not do it and say oh now we are stuck. Ray Siko replied that another reason they can't make a decision is because they have to look into all of this because you are talking more cost involved. Mr. Deitrick replied that this is just preliminary.

Ray Siko replied that he understands that and agrees and that again he appreciates that it is out on the floor because they are one step closer to getting something adding that again he cant answer how big they need it stating that he can only bring it back to the members.

Mr. Deitrick questions if as president he can take it back and find out size-wise what is needed. Ray Siko replied absolutely.

Mr. Varano questioned that you are talking 2500 and 1500 which is 4000 square feet and asked if he is telling him that they cannot fit all of the equipment in 4000 square feet. Ray Siko replied that the West End is 38' x 48'. Mr. Varano replied that you still have almost 3500 square feet. Mr. Deitrick stated that nothing is in stone and we are all having proposals now and we need to work as a team to accomplish everything.

Barry Fetterman 1260 Chestnut Street stated that they are in agreement that they can build there adding that is no problem but we have to be in agreement on what we are building. Barry Fetterman stated that at 38' x 48', they really do not have all of the room to store all of the stuff that they have, unless you build a small building back there for them to keep theirs in theirs and ours in ours.

Mr. Varano replied that he told them they were getting rid of one truck. Mr. Varano stated that what Mr. Fetterman told him that the Hahn was a piece of shit. Barry Fetterman replied that we don't want it. Mr. Varano replied that we are getting rid of that truck and so then you have space for another truck. Mr. Varano stated the Hummer missed non-response 170 times last year in a year, in a year's period and questions if that is the medical truck. Ray Siko replied that the paperwork you are questioning is a CAD reporting system and what that mean is that when that vehicle is dispatched to a call and when that vehicle comes up on the air it time stamps a punch response. He added that when there are calls, concerning that vehicle if we have someone closer in town that goes to the call then they notify communications center on scene.

Ray Siko stated that so that vehicle does not get a time stamp for response, just a time stamp for being on scene. Ray Siko stated that when you look at a dispatch time of 8:00 a.m. and show a time of 8:37 a.m. then that means that fire department personnel was on the scene and not a vehicle per-say because the way that it falls under the guidelines for quick response time. Ray Siko stated that if he is at 932 Scott Street and have a call at 934 Scott Street then he is not going to get the vehicle he is going to the scene and notifying the 911 center on scene.

Mr. Varano stated that what they were told is that there are medical supplies in every vehicle. Ray Siko replied that is correct, they carry basic medical equipment on each vehicle for certification and the squad carries all of it under the guidelines of quick response through the State Department of Health naming oxygen, childbirth, decontamination and others stating that specific unit carries and that what that's focused for all of the medical.

Mr. Varano questioned if that's an ambulance. Ray Siko replied no, that is the quick response. Mr. Varano questioned if the other vehicle that is wider have the same thing and same capabilities. Ray Siko said no stating that the utility carries all of the support equipment, additional Jaws of Life, lighting equipment, road equipment, saws and also

carries a small medical bag and an AED on that vehicle as well. Ray Siko states that other than that, advanced medical equipment no the squad car carries that.

Mr. Varano stated that he still thinks you have room for that in the West End stating that if you get rid of the Hahn, which they are calling a piece of shit stating that he is calling a spade a spade, if you don't want it well then we will sell it, we will strip it and sell it. Mr. Deitrick stated that is an additional spot for the response unit. Ray Siko replied, trust me I do understand that.

Mr. Deitrick stated to figure in what space you need minus the Hahn because that is going to go, you still have two trucks plus your two pieces of response vehicles. Mr. Varano stated that all that you are going to have from the East End is the KME and the utility, the West End will have the Sutphen and the utility and questions really how much room do you need. Mr. Varano asked really, seriously ... we are looking to economize, we are looking to consolidate.

Mr. Deitrick adds that we want this to work for everybody and not losing any equipment either, just tell us what space you need down there to accommodate four pieces of equipment.

Mr. Varano stated that we can build a bigger building but you guys are going to need to help pay for it adding that he knows that we can bring this in for under \$50,000.00, which he was told that he was out of his mind.

Ray Siko stated that again he is sorry and not familiar with what is needed as far as size of a building. Mr. Varano replied that he is and then directs the statement to Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Gilotti sitting in the audience that he can laugh all he wants. Ray Siko stated that he will bring it back to council. Mr. Varano thanked Ray Siko.

Mr. Deitrick stated that he would make a motion to take the Hahn out of service.

Ray Siko stated that they cannot just take a piece out of service because of responses under the Emergency Management Plan with the Borough. Mr. Deitrick questions if you have to notify the Communication Center first asking if he does that or do we do it. Ray Siko questioned to do what. Mr. Deitrick replied to take it out of service.

Ray Siko replied that to take it out of service has to come from a chief official in a Borough or Township Municipality. Mr. Varano stated that is what we are doing; we have a motion to take it out of service. Ray Siko stated that there are things that have to get done. Mr. Deitrick asked what has to be done then. Ray Siko stated that he will get the wheels turning and stated that he can't give a time line because a lot of it is through the communication center, getting emails out to mutual chiefs making them aware of what we are doing. Mr. Deitrick replied that is fine as long as we get the wheels turning.

**MOTION**- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Nicholas Goretski to start the process of taking the Hahn out of service.

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

Mr. Varano questioned Jeff Gilotti on where we are at with that Dagenstein Grant that you guys said you were going to put in. Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Gilotti replied that he sent the paperwork to Rhonda for her to give to Clarence to start. Jeff Gilotti said that he cannot do the grant because the borough is the owner of the station. Mr. Varano replied that it is the owner of that station but it is not the owner of the West End and stated to do it for down there. Jeff Gilotti asked if you guys are going to do that. Mr. Varano replied no, you are going to do that. Jeff Gilotti replied no.

Mr. Varano asked why and added that they did not want to do any of these options but to stay down there and asked Jeff Gilotti why he does not just admit it. Jeff Gilotti stated that is the best plan for the taxpayers. Mr. Varano replied that is his opinion.

Mr. Deitrick stated that he thinks that we just need to hold off on that grant until we decide what option we go with and then if it be, then we will apply for it. Mr. Varano replied that we don't own the property so we are in the same predicament. Mr. Deitrick stated that we can then work with the West End to apply for it, if we go that option. Mr. Goretski commented if there is no deadline.

Mr. Varano stated that the only deadline was that this quote is only good until Thursday because of the plight of the steel industry noting that it could go up or it could go down. Mr. Varano stated that is by far the better option and questions if we possibly want to make a motion to buy this.

**MOTION**- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to table the purchase of the building for right now.

**VOICE VOTE** –

Unanimous

**OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Janine Buery from 1144 Poplar Street stated that her concern is that she is between two properties, one has been abandoned for years and the other one someone just moved out and stated that the grass is high, rats, flies and her concern is what is in that house. She added that there is a baby pool with stagnant water in and high grass, garbage and stated that she just wants to know are they going to be fined for this or what is going on. Mr. Varano commented that they should be fined everyday.

Russ Moroz the Code Officer stated that this house is going to be posted unfit for human habitation and the fines will progress daily at \$100.00 a day and they will have ten days

to respond to what they are going to do with the property. He added that there is currently another property in Kulpmont that is being fined daily and states that he has not heard from them so it will go to the Magistrate and stated that these are getting fined under UCC and not under our ordinance they are actually getting fined under the building code and stated that it is the same thing that will happen with this property.

Janine Buery stated that she has pictures and questions if the borough would come and cut the grass or what could they do stating that she has pictures of garbage in the entry way probably from two years ago just for her own record.

Russ Moroz states that he is faced with the situation where people get fined and they do not cut the grass, they get fined again and still do not cut. Russ Moroz stated that the Borough comes and cuts the grass; they have been coming and cutting that grass for approximately seven years. Russ Moroz stated that the problem with that is we now have quite a few properties in the borough that are getting overgrown and stated that he can only ask the Solicitor if he would want to actually put liens on the properties.

The Solicitor William C. Cole responded by saying that it certainly would be up to council and if the board desires, that is what we will do. Mr. Varano replied that he would sooner take them to the magistrate. The Solicitor agreed with Mr. Varano stating that or that we could take them to the magistrate. Russ stated that the problem when you take them to the magistrate is that they still do not cut the grass, they get fined and they still do not cut it. Janine Buery stated that she is more concerned with the flies and the bugs. She stated that everybody is telling her to get a small claim against him; she states that the property is tearing down her roof and eating her wall away. Mr. Deitrick questioned the Solicitor on if she could sue him civilly. Janine Buery replied that she can but that it would cost her money to do that.

The Solicitor William C. Cole stated that the whole scenario and it is not only with the situation here which is awful because it goes back to the tremendous neglect of the properties. The Solicitor added and when that occurs it effects all of the neighbors and the entire community and the only thing that the borough can do is in our own plan in regards to trying to alleviate the blight and trying to address it we can certainly arrest them and take them before the judge, we can file liens against them and also sue them and get judgments.

The Solicitor added that to bear in mind that the judgment has to them be executed and there must be some kind of asset to take away from a person in order either to obtain funds to cure the property or get them to respond to that. He added that he knows that is where the frustration of Russ Moroz is, these people are not around. The Code Officer Russ Moroz stated that everything gets sent right to him in Quakertown adding that he has already paid fines on that property.

Russ Moroz added that is the problem, these people are away and they do not care, they are not looking at it every day. He added that they pay the fines and never take care of the problem.

Russ Moroz stated that he just had the borough cut the grass at a property last week because the guy was incarcerated and it is a question of is he getting out, he did not know so he had no choice but to say go ahead down and cut the grass. Russ Moroz stated that he does not know what is going to happen with that and if we will ever get paid.

The Solicitor William C. Cole stated that again if Russ Moroz and the board determine that it is a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the community they can certainly enter it to prevent any further harm. Mr. Deitrick commented and could put a lien on the property for all of the work we do. The Solicitor replied "absolutely or both if the board so desires."

William C. Cole stated that he thinks that the citizenry knows this but that he will say it anyway and that is that if the Borough had the means then the Borough would certainly take matters into their own hands and clean these properties but it is just with as many properties that there are it is just not a realistic financial burden. He added that he thinks that our Treasurer would agree.

The Solicitor added that some have had to be done that way over the years but they have been situations where we had literally homes full of garbage where we may have had to do that.

Mr. Varano stated that the Borough could clean up the entry way and get the grass cut adding that a lien could be placed on the property but that if it sold a Judicial sale the borough would not get any compensation. Russ Moroz agrees to have the borough workers cut the grass and clean up the entry way.

\*\* Tape recording ran out\*\*

Rich Mychak from Mount Carmel would like to speak on the police proposal. Mr. Varano questioned Mr. Mychak if he were a citizen on the Borough of Kulpmont. Mr. Mychak replied no. Mr. Varano stated that he would not be permitted to speak as a citizen per PSAB.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Motyka stated that plans are moving forward concerning the DEP grant. Arrangements are being made for trees to be planted at the Veterans Memorial Field. Mr. Motyka stated that at this time he would like to purchase the 48" x 62" message board that will display information and be placed at the DEP project. He stated that the board will need to be purchased by the borough and the funds will be reimbursed through the Grant.

**MOTION**- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to order and purchase the information board for the DEP Environmental Education Grant not to exceed \$1100.00 plus shipping.

**VOICE VOTE-**

Unanimous

Mr. Deitrick stated that he and Rhonda Wilk met with Barry Gaverick a Municipal Specialist from Penn Dot concerning the upcoming Multimodal Grant which requires a project to be \$100,000.00 or more. Mr. Deitrick stated that the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Project would not qualify being under that amount but that it would be possible to look at combining that project with a project on 9<sup>th</sup> Street which would help with water drainage off of Chestnut Street. He stated that the existing project would be around \$30,000.00 and with the \$15,000.00 Atlantic Sunrise Grant the cost to the borough would be around \$15,000.00. He added that combining the projects the cost would be around \$130,000.00 to \$140,000.00 and our match would be \$40,000.00 plus and some work need to be done and some things in place to be able and ready to apply if council agrees to do so for the upcoming grant scheduled to open up sometime in the fall.

It was also discussed that the Borough could look into applying for some CDBG money through Northumberland County if a survey would be done of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
RHONDA WILK  
BOROUGH SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF APPROVAL