

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Bruno R. Varano
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by body present, Kulpmont Borough Council held
its regular monthly meeting Tuesday February 10, 2015.

Roll Call was taken and the following members were present. Mayor Novakoski,
Nicholas Bozza, Clarence H. Deitrick, Stephanie Niglio, Philip Scicchitano, Bruno R.
Varano and Stephen Motyka

ABSENT: Joseph A. Winhofer

APPOINTED POSITIONS: Borough Solicitor William C. Cole and Treasurer Paul A.
Niglio, Jr.

PRESENT: Borough Supervisor Bruce Graff, Chief Michael Pitcavage Borough
Secretary Rhonda Wilk and Code Officer Russell S. Moroz.

OTHERS PRESENT: Myron F. Turlis, Joe Politza, Frank W. Pecaitis, Vince
Wasilewski, Rose Pecaitis, Gerry Zarkoski, Martin Zarkoski, Ed Moleski, Thomas
Lazarski, Kathy Taylor, Bob Taylor, Bernie Nestico, Joe Pancerella, Bernie Britt, Bruce
Graff, Bob Chesney, Bob Gusick, Frank Rakowsky.

Mr. Varano reminded all present to sign in and to also print their name. Mr. Varano also
asked that anyone that would like to speak to please come to the microphone and state
their name and address.

Mr. Varano states that at the end of the meeting anyone having any questions or anything
else to speak on that they also come to the microphone.

Mr. Varano states that any citizen that would like to be heard now to please come to the
microphone at this time.

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

Robert Chesney 929 Pine Street states that according to the minutes, there will be some
information given on the new building. He states that at the present time and with
continuance of the August 3rd editorial prior to our big meeting down at the West End,
toward the end of that article it said that the challenge for Borough is to prove it
absolutely necessary and the best option to go ahead with this new building and that the
challenge for the opponent is to provide a meaningful legitimate option and states that at
that time we have not only presented plans for three other alternatives but throughout the

course of these meetings we have presented at least ten other viable sites that we consider viable.

Mr. Chesney states that he feels that these sites have just been given a little bit of lip service and not been followed through 100%. He states that as he has been doing the whole time he keeps asking for the whole time for about a year and a half now that this whole thing will cease until we have had some time to speak about it.

Mr. Chesney states that on four occasions we the citizens have shown the council that the majority of the citizens are against this project although it keeps rolling on.

Mr. Chesney asks council if at this time if there is any documentation as requested by the USDA in the August 29th letter if there is any viable proof on the side of the council that the citizens are for this project. No one spoke. Mr. Chesney said "let that be stated that there is none."

Mr. Chesney added that they have presented petitions, filled the Legion and the West End with a vast majority of people that were against it, so that is that. Mr. Chesney asks if any of the council members looked into what it would cost to tear this building down.

Mr. Bozza asks Mr. Chesney if he understands what is going on here as far as the East End building and everything and asks if he understands the situation.

Mr. Chesney states that he does.

Mr. Bozza asks Mr. Chesney then to tell him what he feels he knows is going down, and asks what the USDA is waiting on.

Mr. Chesney states that the USDA has knocked down the price of the East End and for bids on the new building.

Mr. Bozza states that is correct.

Mr. Chesney states that he understands that and adds he is only asking if anybody ever researched on what it would be to tear this building down.

Mr. Motyka states that the contractor that ripped down the former St. Mary's school was one of his sub-contractors on a job and he gave a price to the school district of \$150,000.00. Mr. Motyka states that he gave that to him verbally and he does not have any paperwork on that.

Mr. Chesney asks if that was Steinberger from Williamsport.

Mr. Motyka states that is correct.

Mr. Chesney states that he also spoke to him and states that it was not \$150,000.00 and states that it was anywhere from \$100,000.00 to \$130,000.00. Mr. Chesney states that he spoke to some other local contractors and they said that with scrapping it would come in way under \$100,000.00, so they are talking possibly under \$80,000.00.

Mr. Deitrick asks if that was with the asbestos remediation.

Mr. Chesney states that the asbestos tiles does not present the problem, the problem is when it becomes free flowing around piping and things like that.

Mr. Bozza states that he disagrees with him and states that he has been trained in this as so has probably Mr. Motyka and Mayor Novakoski. Mr. Bozza states that when you touch that tile you make it air born and it has got to be contained.

Mr. Chesney states that is correct but it is not as much a problem as the other form that flies around, not as intense but states he understands that you do have to remove it.

Mr. Chesney states that the reason he is bringing that up is because of to date there has been close to \$200,000.00 spent on architectural fees and building fees and for \$200,000.00 this building could have been bye -bye and another pole barn could have been put up to put the equipment in for the winter.

Mr. Motyka states that hind site is 20/20.

Mr. Chesney states that this is what we have been asking for a year and a half ago and what we have been asking for.

Mr. Varano states that you would still have had to pay architectural fees if you were going to put a building here.

Mr. Chesney agrees but states that it would all depend on what the plan of the building was through and we were saying a year and a half ago to just put up a moderate size building here to house the things that we needed.

Mr. Varano asks what a moderate size building is.

Mr. Chesney replied 2500 square feet instead of 4000 square feet, and states that he will just say that for a number. Mr. Chesney states that we are spinning our wheels with that and something could have been done already and states that he is tired of a fight and it should not have been a fight. Mr. Chesney states that with that money have being spent he does not know where we come in with that.

Mr. Chesney states that the USDA also said that with the tax increase that has been presented and the assumed bills that are going to come in to take care of that, it can only be under \$800,000.00 for the whole project and so far we have \$200,000.00 spent.

Mr. Varano replied that is not counting the savings and states that if you read that letter completely that is not including savings; there is a considerable amount of savings.

Mr. Chesney states that there will be savings in any new building you build there will be savings. Mr. Chesney states that the savings parameters are not in line, it is just obviously weighted on one side because of this building and whatever the costs are but we are wasting most of the cost here because they are going in parts of this building that are un-used.

Mr. Chesney states that have we stopped and really looked because over a year and a half ago, we would have built a moderate building here, the garages would have been up and we wouldn't be here and we would all have been having a good time.

Mr. Varano thanks Mr. Chesney.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Bruno R. Varano)

No Report

MAYORS REPORT (Bernard P. Novakoski)

The Mayor Wishes all a Happy Valentines Day.

The Mayor states that he would like to report that our cops did well and states that they got the guy who robbed the Turkey Hill almost one hour after he did it and they also got the guy that was getting in the mail and states that they are doing a heck of a job catching these people and states that they will get the bank robber next.

SECRETARY REPORT (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda states that approval is needed on the meeting minutes from the January 13, 2015 regular monthly meeting.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Niglio to approve the meeting minutes from the January 13th regular monthly meeting.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

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

Rhonda states that correspondence was received from Shaffer Design Associates.

Correspondence was also received by Service Electric Cablevision concerning the franchise agreement and also a letter concerning the encryption of the Basic Service Tier.

Rhonda states that the Mount Carmel Junior Baseball League forwarded a copy of their liability insurance for this year.

Keystone Collections Group sent a letter concerning the 2014 Local Earned Income Tax Return Filing Information and a phone number was provided for the residents to call for help, the helpline phone number is 1-888-328-0565 and they also provided a web site for assistance on line and that is www.Keystonecollects.com. Rhonda states that there will also be some blank forms mailed to the borough office for anyone needing a form.

Correspondence was also received form Ameri-Health Casualty Insurance with information to develop a Safety and Health Management program. Mr. Varano questions if there is a savings if we institute this program. Rhonda replied that they did not provide any information on a savings and that this is not mandatory. Rhonda states that she will check back with them on if there would be any savings to the Borough if the program is implemented.

PSAB 104th Annual Conference will be held this year in Lancaster and the dates are April 26th – the 29th and that information and all other correspondence has also been copied to Council and Mayor

TREASURERS REPORT (Paul A. Niglio, Jr.)

Mr. Niglio states that he has just one note under secretary's report, I did ask Rhonda to call them today and they did say that they just started to mail them out. Mr. Niglio states that the email states they were mailed out, but they are just going out in the mail now and states that some forms will be here in the office for anyone needing one.

Mr. Niglio states that a motion is needed to approve the financial statement and to pay the bills.

MOTION- Mr. Bozza made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to approve the financial statement and to pay the bills.

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

SOLICITOR REPORT (William C. Cole)

The Solicitor William C. Cole states that he did review the resolution that is being brought before council for the transfer of the liquor license from the Elks Lodge to the Kulpmont Sportsman Association and states that is in order as far as legal content and form and states that he believes that will be brought up under Councilman Bozza's report.

MOTION- Mr. Bozza made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to approve resolution #707 to transfer the liquor license from the Elks Lodge to the Kulpmont Sportsman's Club.

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

POLICE CHIEFS REPORT (Michael Pitcavage)

Mr. Varano states that the Police Chiefs report is attachment #2 and questions Chief Pitcavage if he has anything additional to say. Chief Pitcavage states that he would just like to say that he would like to commend our officers from our department and the assisting agencies the other night for the Turkey Hill robbery and states that they did an outstanding job in apprehending the suspect.

Mr. Varano thanks the Chief Pitcavage and adds that he gets a that a boy from the council also.

FIRE CHIEFS REPORT (Jeffrey Gilotti)

Report attachment #3

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Kevin O' Hearn)

No Report

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

No Report

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REPORT (Russ Moroz)

Report attachment #4

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Philip Scicchitano)

No Report

SERVICE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE (Nicholas Bozza)

Mr. Bozza states that the Food Surplus distribution will be held on February 19th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

MOTION- Mr. Bozza makes a motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to purchase 25 5-gallons of yellow paint and 25 5-gallon of white paint at a cost of \$1298.50.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Bozza states that concerning the flag poles that we put up on Chestnut Street, the flag poles are shot and we would like to order the whole set for each pole and states that the cost is going to be for 40 sets at a total cost of \$1599.60 plus the shipping.

Mr. Bozza states we do usually get some donations towards the purchase of the flags so he states that he hopes that we receive some donations and the cost to the borough will go down.

Mr. Deitrick questions if we can just get the brackets and poles by themselves since we just got the flags.

Mr. Bozza states that we replace the flags every year and that it is cheaper to buy the whole set and states that the guys are wire tying them now.

MOTION- Mr. Bozza made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to purchase the complete set of flags, poles and brackets complete.

Mr. Varano states that he would like a letter sent out to the Veterans organization and all of the businesses in town requesting donations.

Mr. Scicchitano questions if there is a cost on these.

Mr. Bozza answered that they are \$39.99 a set for a cost of \$1599.60 plus shipping.

Mrs. Niglio questions if we need 40 sets.

Bruce Graff states that we need about 33 or 35 and states that he figured on a couple extra so that if something happens.

Mr. Bozza states that right now we have no extra and what we have is all wire tied together.,

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

MOTION- Mr. Bozza states that he would like to make a motion to advertise the street sweeper schedule for the 2015 season to include the side streets, the north and south streets.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Bozza states that they did form a committee for the Kulpmont Anniversary Centennial and states that they did come up with some ideas and states that we do not have a date yet but for the first meeting he states that he feels that they did very good. Mr. Bozza asks Rob from The News Item if he could please put in the paper that any residents that have any old photos that they could donate or let us use their old photos to please drop them off at the Borough.

Mr. Bozza states that we cannot guarantee that they will get them back but we will do everything possible to do so.

Mr. Varano states that he would like to say that when we had the centennial in 1975, that was a true centennial. Mr. Varano states that we were founded in 1875 but we were incorporated in 1915.

Mr. Bozza states that there are some questions about that.

Mr. Varano states that incorporated is different from founded.

Mr. Bozza states that from what they found possibly they may not have been incorporated until 1916, January.

Mr. Varano states that he did find where it was founded in 1875 by Monroe Kulp.

Mr. Bozza states that they will be meeting again and he will be giving updates.

FINANCE AND PURCHASING (Stephen Motyka)

No Report

CODE HEALTH AND SAFETY (Philip Scicchitano)

No Report

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE (Stephanie Niglio)

Mrs. Niglio stated that she will need to make a motion.

Mrs. Niglio states that first we need to get some prices on signs for the engine brake retarder prohibition signs that we are going to place in the borough and states that it is from the letter we got from PennDot telling us where we can place them.

Mrs. Niglio states that the Mayor had asked her to send a letter to them to find out if we would be applicable for that and states that we are. She states that they have a map which she forwarded to Nick Bozza on where we can place them in the borough and states that we need to get some prices.

Mrs. Niglio states that they are going to be what they are because there are not many sign places. Mrs. Niglio states that we will approve it at the next meeting and states that we need to adopt an ordinance for the approval restrictions to be signed per PennDot and states that it is in the correspondence that they gave us.

Mrs. Niglio states that she just needs a motion to create the ordinance. Mr. Varano asks Mrs. Niglio if she is making it. Mrs. Niglio states yes she will and makes the motion.

MOTION- Mrs. Niglio made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Bozza to create the ordinance for the approval restrictions.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

GRANTS AND RECREATION (Clarence Deitrick)

Mr. Deitrick states that we still have two grants out there waiting for approval.

BUILDING COMMITTEE (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka states that the state architect underneath the supervision of the USDA came back with the limited acceptations to the blue prints, one was the dates in the specs had to be changed to coincide with the bid date and states that is an easy change and the other question they had was a discussion with the state architect about vertical wells compared to horizontal geo thermal field.

Mr. Motyka states the architect came back and all of that should be in order and we can advertise. The first advertisement will be on 2/16/15 which is a Monday and then the second will be on 2/23/2015 which is the following Monday. A pre bid meeting with all of the interested contractors would be on site on 2/25/2015 and then the bids due and opened will be on 3/17/2015.

Mr. Motyka states that he did not check the dates. Mr. Varano states that the 17th is a meeting day and it is also the sewer authority meeting day and states that we could open bids. Mr. Bozza states possibly earlier at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Varano adds that we are advertised for that day anyway.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka states that he would like to make a motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to advertise the bid for the documents we have on the new municipal complex.

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

Mr. Motyka states that the bid documents are in the office downstairs if anyone would like to look at them.

Mr. Varano states that he did see that the NPDES permit, they cancelled that and questions if we would be able to get our money back. Mr. Motyka states that the way it was explained to him was that the two year permit expired and he is recommending waiting to see what the bids are before we do anything else, its called the NPDES permit and it is about discharge, which is what you are required to do, storm water and discharge whenever you build a new building.

Mr. Varano asked Mr. Motyka what he means by if not work is done we can withdraw our permit.

Mr. Motyka states that he is not sure and that he would have to follow up on that.

Mr. Varano also questioned if the USDA called Rocky Baer or asks if we are obligated to call him to get prices on the East End building.

Mr. Bozza states that he thinks we have to wait until we get the bids.

Mr. Motyka states that he has not followed up with Rocky Baer or the USDA and states that he was hesitant to give us a price until he sees our cards.

Mr. Varano states that is basically what he told him last time he talked with him that they can not do anything until we get the bids in.

OLD BUSINESS

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

No Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Joe Pancerella of 700 Pine Street states that the way he read the letter from the USDA it had indicated that they were authorizing Rocky Baer for a total of three to five thousand dollars to do that study of converting the East End.

Mr. Varano states that we have not heard from them and states that is why he had asked Steve whether he looked at it yet or what.

Mr. Pancerella states that again the way he had read the letter, the way it appeared to him the borough was to take the next step.

Mr. Varano replied that we do not have keys to it and asks how they would get them in there if they do not have keys to the property and adds that the borough does not own it. Mr. Varano states that will be all ironed out shortly when the bids come in and things will start moving.

Kathy Taylor 1548 Scott Street asks how much is the money that they are saying they are going to give you. Mr. Varano states that it 1.47 million. Kathy Taylor said she though it was lowered.

Mr. Varano answered that it was never lowered; they stated in that letter that what we raised taxes for only amounts to a loan of \$790,000.00 as Bob Chesney alluded to earlier.

Mr. Varano states that you have to consider into that any kind of monetary savings that are going to be involved with the move.

Kathy Taylor states that you come hear and try to listen to you and nobody knows anything its, we didn't get that we didn't hear that, they didn't get back to us..... Mr. Bozza states that they are waiting on the USDA; the ball is in their court right now and adds that they are holding everything up.

Kathy Taylor states that she is glad and hopes that they are.

Bob Guzick of Shamokin states that he did the job down here on Chestnut Street about a year ago and states that he is still waiting for the rest of his payment on that job.

Mr. Guzick states that the borough is writing checks galore on this new building, whatever you are doing and states that he does not care about that.

Mr. Varano states that does not concern you.

Mr. Guzick states that it does not concern him, but you are writing checks before they do the job and states that he did the job and wants payment. Mr. Guzick states that people have bills to pay and have to put food on the table.

Mr. Varano said that there were some questions on you bill.

Mr. Guzick states that he wrote a second bill, there is no question on it, you got the itemized bill and asks council to pay it or he will start litigation. Mr. Guzick states that people have to eat food and pay bills buddy. Mr. Guzick states that he did the job and now is only asking for his money and states that he was called and came right away and that he took care of the borough real good on this fire job up here and then a year later he is waiting for the rest of his money. Mr. Guzick asks what, you have nothing to say.

Mr. Varano said there was a question on the hours and the bill you turned in.

Mr. Guzick stated that he gave council an itemized one after that and that lowered it.

Mr. Varano replied that there were questions on that one. Mr. Guzick asks what questions, lets finish it now or are we going to wait another year.

Mr. Varano states that he does not have the questions in front of him right now. Mr. Guzick states that there are no questions; he itemized the bill so pay it. He states that he itemized the bill pay it, do a job with fuel and guys and everything.

Mr. Guzick asks Mr. Varano how he would like to go a year without a paycheck when you have kids at home. Mr. Varano states that he wouldn't and that he is not disputing that and states that there were questions on the bill and we do not have a full council right now and one of the persons that had question on this bill is not here right now.

Mr. Guzick states that the questions were on the first one and then he made an itemized bill. Mr. Guzick states you say you don't have a full council; you are making votes on everything else. Mr. Varano states that he is talking about questions on the bill. Mr. Guzick states that the questions were on the first one the second was pretty precise.

Mr. Varano states that as far as total hours, labor hours, operator hours, machine hours that they do not correspond to what we have. Mr. Guzick asks what he has, because that is fact.

Mr. Varano states not him, and adds that he was not there but the code officer was councilman and the Mayor was there. Mr. Guzick states not all day and that they popped in.

Mr. Guzick states that all that he wants is what is fair is fair and wants payment that is all.

Mr. Varano answered alright, duly noted and asks if anyone else would like to speak.

No one responded and Mr. Varano announced that at this time Council will go into executive session.

The Borough Solicitor William C. Cole states that the board met in executive session for approximately 1 hour for personnel matters.

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bozza to give Chief Pitcavage \$1.00 an hour increase retroactive to Jan 1, 2015.

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

MOTION- Mr. Deitrick made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bozza to give Rhonda Wilk a \$0.50 hour increase retroactive back to January 1, 2015.

ROLL CALL VOTE – BOZZA (yes), DEITRICK (yes), MOTYKA (no), NIGLIO (no), SCICCHITANO (no), VARANO (no), WINHOFER (absent)
2 YEAS – 4 NAYS

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

RHONDA WILK
BOROUGH SECRETARY

DATE OF APPROVAL