

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2016**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Clarence H. Deitrick
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by body present, Kulpmont Borough Council held
its regular monthly meeting Tuesday January 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Novakoski swears in Nicholas P. Goretski, III to borough council. Mayor Novakoski swears in the Fire Chief/EMA Coordinator Kevin O'Hearn and Deputy Fire Chief Raymond Siko.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor Novakoski, Clarence H. Deitrick, Walter Lutz, George Malakoski, Stephen Motyka, Bruno R. Varano, Joseph Winhofer and Nicholas P. Goretski, III.

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

PRESENT: Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk, Chief Michael Pitcavage and Code Officer Russ Moroz.

OTHERS PRESENT: Joe Politza, Vince Wasilewski, Mike Staugatis, Stephanie Niglio, Joe Pancerella, Nick Bozza, Joe Meyer, Bob Chesney.

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

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Bruno R. Varano)

No Report

MAYORS REPORT (Bernard Novakoski)

Mayor Novakoski states that he is starting a volunteer police and states that he is looking for volunteers that want to sign up and states that he has the paperwork and will have it done in a little while.

SECRETARY REPORT (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk states that approval is needed from the December 8th regular monthly meeting.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to approve the meeting minutes from the December 8, 2015 regular monthly meeting.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Rhonda Wilk states that under correspondence we received correspondence from the Northumberland County Department of Public Safety and states that it was concerning the update of the EOP plan for the municipality by July 1, 2016 and that was copied Council/Mayor and EMA director.

Mr. Varano asks Kevin O' Hearn if he will take care of that. Kevin O'Hearn responded yes.

A letter of intent for the consideration of serving as EMA was received from Kevin O' Hearn and was copied to Council/Mayor

Correspondence was received from KMHJMA, a copy of their 2016 budget which was copied to Council and Mayor.

TREASURERS REPORT (Paul A. Niglio, Jr.)

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

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

Mr. Lutz questions Mr. Niglio on how one would get to see the detail before the meeting on the list of bill.

Mr. Niglio questions if he is asking to see the bill.

Mr. Lutz said yes the package for a particular bill.

Mr. Niglio states that the bills are in the office on the secretary's desk.

Mr. Motyka states that the bills and as we put signatures on them with the back up of the exact check, purchase orders and so.

Mr. Niglio states that the bills are there everyday as they come in.

Mr. Lutz replied that he would just come up everyday and could check it out and asks if that would be the procedure. Mr. Niglio replied yes.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (no), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (yes), GORETSKI (yes)

6 Yeas – 1 Nay

Mr. Niglio states that the 2016-01 Tax Levy Ordinance was advertised and we need to pass the Ordinance for 2016 which is identical to 2015. Mr. Niglio states that it is 17 mills for General Purposes, 3 mills for Street Lighting and 3 mills for fire prevention.

MOTION – Mr. Deitrick made the motion to pass the 2016 Tax Levy Ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Motyka.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (no), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (yes), GORETSKI (yes)
6 Yeas – 1 Nay

SOLICITORS REPORT (William C. Cole)

No Report

Mr. Varano states that he is requesting an executive session at the end of the meeting for possible litigation.

POLICE REPORT (Chief Michael Pitcavage)

Report attachment #2 – Mr. Varano states that the Chief is out on a call so any questions may be directed to the Mayor.

FIRE CHIEFS REPORT (Kevin O’Hearn)

Fire Chiefs report attachment #3.

Kevin O’ Hearn states that this report was provided and done under Jeff Gilotti. Kevin O’Hearn states that they have applied for a \$165,000.00 FEMA grant and states that was put in today and hopefully they will be successful. Mr. Varano replied good luck and stated that he hopes that they get it.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Kevin O’Hearn)

Kevin O’Hearn states that Rhonda Wilk had forwarded the email and states that he has the current plan so he will update it and if he needs any information he will contact Rhonda Wilk.

BUILDING INSPECTOR’S REPORT (TRI Country COG)

No Report

CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REPORT (Russ Moroz)

Report attachment #3

Mr. Motyka questioned that on the report it has listed that there are 174 rental properties and 64 landlords and questions if that is correct.

Russ Moroz states that there are still more that have to come in, that is the ones that paid. There are more properties but there are some that are vacant and some that have not paid yet.

Mr. Varano replied “so we have some delinquencies.” Russ Moroz replied yes and fines have gone out in the mail.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Joseph A. Winhofer)

No Report

SERVICE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz states that the food surplus distribution will be held on January the 21st from 8:00 a.m. until 12 noon in the borough garage.

FINANCE/PURCHASING COMMITTEE (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka stated that back in November council agreed to release half of the \$4,000.00 fuel allotment to the fire company and they are still owed the other \$2000.00 and asks if we are able to give them that today or no.

The Treasurer, Paul Niglio states that he will not be able to release that money until March, he states that we have to make payroll and we have no receipts until taxes come in and he states that he has a ton of bills that we are not paying, we don't have any money.

Mr. Deitrick added that part of that is that we are waiting on a \$57,000.00 check from DEP that is in the controllers hand and it could take three to four weeks until that comes.

Mr. Niglio states that the financial report is a little deceiving because in December we received two escrow checks close to \$40,000.000 that is in that balance that we cannot touch, so he states that his main concern is meeting payroll at this time and as the money becomes available we will release it.

Mr. Niglio adds that unless you don't want people to get paid, you guys call the shots.

Mr. Lutz questions what about that \$2000.00, does that have to be brought before council before that check is cut. Mr. Niglio replied no, it has already been authorized.

Mr. Motyka states that he received a correspondence from the USDA that ties into awarding the project bids for the new building. He states that we were accepted for 1.45 million and any money we do not need out of that 1.45 million they want to de-commit to

this project so that they can commit it to other projects in the USDA pipeline. He states that he forwarded the email to every councilperson.

Mr. Motyka states that he is wondering how we get that process started.

Mr. Lutz questioned who the bond council is. Bond Council is Jens Damgaard with Rhoads and Sinon out of Harrisburg.

Mr. Lutz questioned how much they charge.

Bill Cole replied that he is not sure; you would have to consult with them and states that he is not really sure.

Mr. Goretski questions what they mean by de-commit and questions what if it is needed.

Mr. Motyka read a sentence from the letter as follows “the borough is going to contact bond council in regards to closing the interim loan, we will need to close interim loan before we issue the notice to proceed since we have 1.47 million obligated and we will not need anywhere near that amount we will want to de-obligate a portion of the loan.”

Mr. Goretski questions how they will know how much we need.

Mr. Motyka states that they want to see an updated project cost breakdown based on the low bids.

Mr. Deitrick questioned Mr. Niglio on the dollar amount with the tax rate increase.

Mr. Varano replied \$790,000.00.

Mr. Deitrick replied then why do we not cut it off at the \$790,000.00 and move on because that is all we can pay for anyway.

Mr. Varano said exactly, because that is the figure that we have been using to work with the USDA and is covered with the tax increase.

Mr. Motyka states that with that \$790,000.00 figure we need to contact Susquehanna/BB&T Bank.

Mr. Niglio states that he has made contact but they have not yet got back to him.

Mr. Niglio added that we need to do the whole thing that we did to buy the building over again.

Mr. Lutz questioned then who will contact bond council and asks what you will tell bond council. Mr. Niglio states that this is how that works, Chuck Yoder is putting him in contact with whomever is going to handle the loan process with BB&T, they will then

decide who their lawyers are and will contact Bill Cole as to the legal end of what will transpire.

Mr. Niglio states that then tell them we need interim financing of \$790,000.00 and we will draw down what we need as we need it.

Mr. Lutz questions if there is not already a \$250,000.00 loan.

Mr. Niglio states that is correct, we have to satisfy that loan now.

Mr. Lutz questions how then, how do we satisfy that? Mr. Niglio states out of the \$790,000.00 and adds that Susquehanna gave us that loan without doing any appraisals or anything else.

Mr. Lutz questioned then what the security is on that loan. Mr. Niglio states that it is the building, this building here. Mr. Lutz questioned where the loan papers are at. Mr. Niglio states that Rhonda has them. Mr. Lutz questioned Rhonda Wilk if the loan papers are with her. Rhonda Wilk replied that she has a file on the building, in the office.

Mr. Niglio states that now that we have the new building to get the \$790,000.00 from BB&T we will have the collateral in the building because the appraisal on that building is more than that.

Mr. Lutz questions who gave us the appraisal. Mr. Niglio replied that is the original, what they paid for it.

Mr. Lutz questioned then that the take out is the USDA.

Mr. Niglio stated that the USDA will be at the end.

Mr. Lutz questioned if the renovations go forward how will they be paid, will that be submitted to council.

Mr. Niglio replied yes, whoever is the project manager.

Mr. Lutz replied "you mean the outside contractor?" and adds where will council approve the payment of the bills.

Mr. Motyka states every month at the meeting.

Mr. Lutz questioned what is all involved in the redefined cost Ms. Musser is requesting. Mr. Motyka replied that it would be the \$250,000.00 that was paid for the building, the \$300,000.00 for renovation and some re-cooping of costs of some design from the architect, whatever the number is exactly.

Mr. Lutz questions then where will the left over money go.

Mr. Motyka states that this building was turned over to us and now is our obligation to handle so we have to decide if it comes down then we have the demolition cost for this building.

Mr. Lutz questioned if that has to be submitted to the USDA before you can go ahead with all of the rest of it.

Mr. Niglio replied yes. Mr. Lutz commented that if then there is any money left over then the possibility of sheds or something like that.

Mr. Niglio replied that we don't take it and stated that we are not obligated to take it.

Mr. Varano commented that we probably would build a shed.

Mr. Lutz questioned if all of that will have to be together before the USDA can go forward.

Mr. Motyka stated that the building timeline was June of this year and added that we gave the USDA a timeline that we wanted the building renovated in with anything over that date is a penalty to the contractors and they came back and denied that date and gave a different number of days which pushed us into a June completion date.

Mr. Lutz asked what the start date is. Mr. Motyka states that he thinks it was 30 days to mobilize once the contract starts.

Mr. Lutz states that now with this email from Ms. Musser we have no idea when we can start because what has to happen is a whole series...BB&T, Bond Council and all of that.

Mr. Motyka states that we will address the lowest bids today which have been forwarded on to USDA yesterday and states that Bill has a copy of the low bids and did review them, those bids can be turned around in almost a week and we can move forward and award the contract.

Mr. Lutz states that didn't she say that she needs to have some agreement from Bond Council and all of that and what about the demolition and what is going to happen with this building. He adds that he thinks that they are looking for some sort of plan on the full \$790,000.00, after the bond council goes ahead and takes the \$790,000.000, he states that he thinks it was one million four hundred and seventeen thousand if they want \$690,000.00 taken off of the commitment.

Mr. Lutz states that is his understanding of her memorandum which was not particularly expansive.

Mr. Motyka stated that it states that once you issue a notice of work the contractor will need to provide the following documents which is the owners contract agreement and payment and performance bonds which comes from the contractors executed

Owner/Contractor Agreement; Performance and Payment Bonds, executed in five counterparts with Original Power of Attorney attached to each bond; Certificate of Owner Attorney, documenting review of the Agreements and Bonds; Insurance Certificates; Contractors Compliance Statement (Form RD 400-6); Contractors Certificate regarding Lobbying, Debarment, and Identity of Interest; Copies of all Addenda. USDA will review the contract documents and authorize the Borough to issue the Notice to Proceed and to schedule the Pre-Construction Conference.

Mr. Lutz questioned if he forwarded that email to council.

Mr. Motyka replied yes he did. Mr. Lutz stated that he didn't see the detail. Mr. Lutz questioned who will contact bond council.

The Solicitor William C. Cole replied that he will.

Mr. Lutz asked if he could get the name of the individual you are dealing with. Mr. Cole replied Jens Damgaard with Rhoades-Sinon.

Mr. Motyka states that we accepted bids on December 22nd and we have 60 days. Mr. Lutz commented that we must move.

Mr. Varano states that he talked to Michelle today and it should only take a couple of days to review the low bids and then it will be alright to proceed. Mr. Varano states that if you would want to make a motion that upon of approval of the USDA to move forward with this and award the bids.

Mr. Motyka states that he would like to make the bids public.

Mr. Winhofer states that they were read at the bid opening.

Mr. Motyka states that he feels like it is worth it to read through the numbers again.

Mr. Motyka states that they are as follows: the general contractor ECI \$185,000 for general construction, Mechanical lowest bid was Jannis Smith at \$47,900.00, Electrical Contractor was Riley Construction and Mechanical at \$42,780.00, and the plumbing contractor lowest bid was \$18,800.00 and the total contract award would be \$294,480.00 and states those are the numbers that the architect is recommending and Bill Cole has reviewed the contract and has given us the go-ahead.

Mr. Motyka states that there were a dozen general contractors, 10 electrical contractors, 9 mechanical contractors and 4 plumbing contractors picked up bids and there were a couple that did not bid but that was how much interest was expressed.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to award to the USDA recommend and approved contingent on their approval to keep this moving forward.

Mr. Lutz commented that it is hard put to understand how you can approve when we don't know there is all kind of stuff up in the air with bond counsel and whether the USDA is going to approve these bids and all of that.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (no), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (yes), GORETSKI (yes)
6 Yeas – 1 Nay

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE (Nicholas P. Goretski III)

No Report

GRANTS AND RECREATION (Clarence H. Deitrick)

Mr. Deitrick states that as he said the reimbursement has been approved by DEP and we are waiting on the controller and should receive within the next four weeks.

Mr. Motyka states that we recently applied for an educational grant and are cosponsored with the Shamokin Creek Restoration and the Conservation District and if we are awarded the grant we will bring students to Kulpmont and show them Quaker Run and educated them and plant trees. Mr. Motyka states that we will not know until Earth Day on that one.

Mr. Motyka states that he is also looking at a DEP trail grant and states that he is looking for access at the bottom of 7th Street and states that they are 80/20 Grants and that there is one for design and one for construction which we would have handicap access from 7th Street into the Ramp Field. He states that he feels that the Ramp Field is not at its full potential and it is used and he is just trying to improve on that.

Mr. Deitrick questions what the estimated cost on the 80/20 grant because 20% would be our cost.

Mr. Motyka states that the design is about \$24,000.00 in engineering fees for all of the permitting and for 10 parking spaces off 7th street and a prefab bridge and the trail entering is about \$120,000.00.

Mr. Motyka states that there are other funding sources such as the Dagenstein grant and other sources. Mr. Deitrick states that the Borough itself will not be able to come up with much cash. Mr. Motyka states that he will put in an effort for that.

Mr. Lutz states that essentially it has better access for handicap and people.

Mr. Motyka states that is correct it is landlocked from access on 7th Street the way it is now you have to drive in.

Mr. Motyka states that he will reach out to the historical society because part of the grant we applied for will elaborate on the old history of the Scott Colliery and Anthracite mining and that will be part of the information that will be provided to the students.

Mr. Deitrick states that he was in on this in the beginning and it was pretty much made clear that as far as cash from the borough that is not going to happen.

Mr. Motyka states that possibly only one in four you apply for you get and adds that it is very difficult.

Mr. Goretski adds that it is not an easy process and states that when you say 20%, you have to know that you have that money in hand to be able to do it.

Mr. Deitrick states that this grant probably is not going to get approved in 2016 or right away so we do have time to work on it.

Mr. Deitrick states that there are other grants and in-kind, so there are ways to get the 20%, but unless we come up with it then we do not even apply. Mr. Deitrick states that it is defiantly feasible.

Mr. Motyka states that as he said it is a lot of work to get to the point to apply.

BUILDING COMMITTEE (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka states that he feels that we should draft letters to the PAL and the Football Baseball Association and the Senior Center telling them our intent that this building will probably go away and states that it is six months away but there is some leg work for even the Football Baseball Association to find other place to house their equipment.

Mr. Motyka would like council to consider a motion to donate the letters on the East End Building to the Sportsman's club because they could use the same letters on their building and the plantings around the building were all donations from family members to donate to them since they have to be removed prior to the payment work.

Mr. Motyka states that those two things we would have to get permission to donate them.

Mr. Goretski commented that we should probably check with the people that donated that also and see that it is alright with them, personal people did that.

Mr. Goretski states that as long as they are willing he does not see any problems but they should be asked.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Deitrick to donate the letters to the Sportsman's club and the plantings around the building if agreed.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DETRICK (yes), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (yes), GORETSKI (yes)
7 Yeas – 0 Nays

Mr. Motyka states that the architect will take the clock from this building and will reinstall at our future home and states that he contacted a clock shop in Hegins and would like us to send the clock over to them and get an estimate to fix it, there is no cost right now on that.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (J. Winhofer, B. Varano and C. Deitrick)

Mr. Lutz questioned what that Senior Executive Committee is. Mr. Deitrick replied that it is Personnel, EMA, Fire and Police.

Mr. Varano stated that he has been in touch with Sam Scicchitano today about the Senior Center and states that he is setting a meeting up with Karen and she will come up here and we will show them our plans and they will let us know what they want and their requirements are. He states that they will want a kitchen and office for their manager, playroom.

Mr. Deitrick states that they are not making demands, this is a mandate by the Area on the Aging on what they need space wise and what's in it.

Mr. Varano states that this is not specific to Northumberland County it's statewide.

Mr. Lutz questions if there is any provision for that in the East End the way it's mandated by the state.

Mr. Varano states that we are going to see what we can come up with, them using it during the daytime. Mr. Lutz questioned if they said when they will come up.

Mr. Varano replied no, he has to get in touch with her and set something up and asks Mr. Lutz if he would like to attend, it will probably be this week or next week. Mr. Lutz replied yes to let him know.

Mr. Lutz replied the suggestion on the County part that they don't have the dough; he states he does not buy it.

Mr. Varano states that he did not mention that.

Mr. Lutz states that the conversation that we had at the meeting that Vinny was all tangled up in it and states that he thinks it is top priority that the seniors are taken care of.

Mr. Varano states that we will see what becomes of it and states that he just wanted to pass that on.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION- Mr. Lutz made the motion to open up the budget.

No second on the motion

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Motyka states that Lenape Solar will give a short presentation, approximately 40 minutes on Solar. Lenape Solar came up with a Solar Design for the Borough and the Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Municipal Building.

Mr. Motyka states that in early December he met with Joe Miriello from the Sewer Authority and the Mayor.

Mr. Motyka states that they had put some numbers together. He adds that they asked several questions on how to fund a solar project to supply all of the power for the street lights. He states that they have put some of the numbers together and states that currently the Borough is up around \$65,000.00 and he thought the sewer authority was around \$60,000.00, it may be a little bit less.

Mr. Motyka states that Lenepe has crunched some numbers and they have a small presentation. Justin Charles from Lenepe provided some design diagrams of the solar panels and also provided some data on electrical use and cost for Solar, Electrical Usage Summary and Cumulative Savings Charts and handouts were provided to members of council and the mayor. Handouts were also offered to any public members interested in the information.

MOTION – Mr. Lutz made the motion to contact Mount Carmel Township to determine if there may be an opportunity to take over the policing of the Borough.

Mr. Lutz states that if that would happen under the building plan the entire portion that would go the police section, interrogation and evidence room and what not. Mr. Lutz states that there would be a big savings on annual basis and on the building.

Mr. Varano state's that there is a motion on the floor and asks if we have a second, going once, and twice motion dies for lack of a second.

No second

Mr. Lutz states that in a discussion that they had last week, there was a concern that he has on the police coverage that we have in the borough. The Mayor described that by paying \$17.00 and \$13.00 it was hard to get people. Mr. Lutz states that he suggested to go ahead and spend some more money and there was not a real discussion about paying some more money so he states that he would like to make a motion that we don't pay the Mayor and the Councilman in 2016 and that we use that money for the police department

so that we can have more police. He states that if we use the monthly figure paid to the councilmember's and to the Mayor and if we don't pay that and use that money for the police department so we can get more police.

MOTION- Not to pay the Mayor and the Councilmember's for 2016 and use that money for the police department.

No second

Motion fails for lack of second.

Mr. Deitrick states that he wants to comment that he has been charting police hours because he has been concerned also. Mr. Deitrick states that at times earlier in the year we had some issues and states that the last two pay periods we had tremendous coverage there and states that the night coverage there was only 32 hours in 14 days that we didn't have any coverage from 7:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. and that most of the coverage that we didn't have were day hours and states that he does not want people to think that it has not been improving.

Mr. Deitrick states that our coverage is much better than it was and states that he has been working with the Mayor and the Senior Executive committee. The Mayor adds that we have been working on it.

Mr. Deitrick states that what they have asked is to cover from 7:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. as much as you can, because that is where a lot of the issues are. Mr. Winhofer comments to not discuss that. Mr. Deitrick replied well, yea but with the Chief and the Mayor we have almost coverage for all of the hours and states that he is not going to say hours, because the schedules are all different and coverage has greatly improved.

Mayor Novakoski states that he still has incidents that at 2:30 in the morning somebody broke into a druggie's house and they were looking for a drug lab and states that they were in and out of his place all night long trying to take stuff, he was in jail. Mr. Deitrick states that he just wanted to tell the public and council that it has greatly improved over the last few months.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mr. Joe Myer of 810 Spruce Street in Kulpmont stated that he would like to thank the Mayor publicly on a quick response to an incident that happened to his neighbor, her little dog and little girl. He states that fortunately the little girl was not involved while walking on the 1400 block behind the mills when a pit-bull got loose and got after her little dog, the women picked up the dog and it bit her several times, she got her daughter out of the

way and she ran home frightened to death. He states that when he found out he called the Mayor and did a little investigating and found out where the dog came from. He states that again, with not having police coverage he and the Mayor had to wait an hour until an officer came on duty. He states that the police then got involved and the county and she went to the hospital and states that other than that he does not know what is going on with that.

Mayor Novakoski states that they have been cited with two citations and if the dog has two violations the dog will be put down and there is no argument with that.

Mr. Myer states that there should be an ordinance against having that kind of dog and states that in his opinion there is no use for a dog like that.

Mr. Lutz asks if the woman is alright. Mr. Myer states that she is fine, the daughter is afraid. Mr. Lutz states that the daughter will be afraid of dogs probably for the rest of her life.

Bob Chesney from 929 Pine Street states that not to kick an old dog but police protection is still a very big concern for many people that came up to him and expressed that to him personally. He states that he really does wish that council will reconsider looking into the Mount Carmel Township police merger. He states that he understands that years ago it was looked at to become regional and that would have included Mount Carmel, Shamokin and Coal Township all of the entities involved and states that he does understand that would have been more of a costly situation and beyond the realm of our budget. He states that in doing some investigative work off the bat and talking to Mount Carmel Township if some of you guys would reinvestigate that.

Mr. Chesney states that he recalls last years' budget was like \$160,000.00 for police coverage in our town, somewhere in that area and it is still partial but better coverage and states that what he understands is Mount Carmel Township would provide 24-hour service.

Mr. Chesney states that they would use our personnel and they gave him some rough figures but states that he does not want to just bring them out and states that he is just asking once again if some of you could look into that because over the three-year period there was well over \$100,000.00 in savings just with expense.

He asks if council just check that out and maybe by the next meeting something could be done with that and then going back to as was stated that section could then definitely house the seniors without any problem and any type of criminal activity or transportation would be taken care of by the Township in their facility that they have on their location.

Mr. Chesney states that when you look at the time span for a police officer off duty to come here as Joe Myer just expressed it took an hour until someone got there in that dog situation. Mr. Chesney stated that Mount Carmel Township probably could have a guy

here within minutes and plus they would have someone permanently stationed in Kulpmont during those shifts.

Mr. Winhofer asked if they said that. Mr. Chesney replied yes they did. Mr. Chesney states that he would like council to hear that from them first hand.

Mr. Winhofer questions Mr. Chesney where are they going to put them.

Mr. Chesney replied "in our borough hall." Mr. Winhofer replied that you are saying to give the lease out. Mr. Chesney states we have to investigate it, is what he is saying.

Mr. Chesney states that his initial response from them was that it would be a savings and they said that they did bring that up here and states that he does not know, may be that it was thrown out with the regional force and states that he does not know.

Mr. Goretski states that at one time it was brought up and the regional thing was way to costly and states that he knows because he was on then and there was no way that the Borough could get into it.

Mr. Chesney states that he does remember that being stated here and states that tonight we heard of all types of increases and what has to be done, here is something that would be a savings, finally something that would be a savings so he states he is just asking for council to look into it and see what they are saying. He states that as a citizen he is going to investigate it more and have something in facts and writing because he does not want to just hear we checked it out and it was a bust.

Mr. Chesney states that he does not think it is going to be a bust and asks for council to please check it out and thanks them very much.

Nick Bozza of 1121 Scott Street states that he has some good news for once and states that before the holidays the fire chief at the time Jeff Gilotti and himself met with Rep. Lou Barletta and talked awhile and states that what they came up was the best place to do this would be the West End, a three or four bay building to house all of the fire equipment, everything to consolidate.

Nick Bozza states that he has some concerns but that he does not think they are big concerns. He states that one concern is if they will have community support and he states that he does not think that will be a problem and the other concern is will the West End give us that property and states that he has a meeting down there tomorrow and he will bring that up and thinks they will be on board as well.

Mr. Bozza states that his biggest concern and obviously these things will take time and everyone knows how long. Things take time with design and to get it our so he would like council to commit and assure that all of the fire apparatus will stay in that building down there until its done.

Mr. Bozza states that if council will commit to that then we can get this ball rolling and go.

Mr. Deitrick questions if it would be them paying and no cost to the borough. Mr. Bozza states that they are looking into getting grants, funding, everything no costs. Mr. Winhofer questions what the time frame is. Mr. Bozza states that he does not know and that things take time.

Mr. Winhofer questions what the time frame is, it could be a year or five years we need to know. Mr. Bozza states that he does not know, these things take time, possibly a year.

Mr. Winhofer questions how you can commit when you don't know what the time frame is. Mr. Bozza states that he will move pretty quickly on this for us. Mr. Varano questioned how much money he is talking about. Mr. Bozza states that he does not know, they discussed some monies, but that he does not know but he will say it will be enough to build the building, and he is 100% willing to help us out in consolidating.

Mr. Varano questioned where the building will be built. Mr. Bozza states that it would be behind the West End, not attached to the original building it would be a separate building. Mr. Varano questions if the West End closes will we be able to have access. Mr. Bozza states that we are going to put this building under the Kulpmont Fire Department.

Mr. Varano questions if we will have road access to it. Mr. Bozza replied absolutely, there is a paper street. Mr. Bozza questions if they have commitment. Mr. Varano states that personally, he would like to meet with Congressman Barletta also, get council involved.

Mr. Bozza replied that here is what the congressman said, he really does not want to meet what he said is good enough, he is going to get the ball rolling, everything is done, its ready to go and questions why would council have to meet with the congressman.

Mr. Gorestki states that because they have to make the decision and vote.

Mr. Bozza questions a decision and vote for what though; you don't have to vote on anything and adds that the only ones that will have to vote is the West End to give the Kulpmont Fire Department that ground.

Mr. Lutz questions Mr. Bozza on what motion it is that he wants. Mr. Bozza states that he wants a motion to keep the fire apparatus and emergency vehicles housed until we have a decision and states that he guarantees that a decision will be made before June.

MOTION- Mr. Lutz makes a motion to keep the fire apparatus where it is until July 1st. and was seconded by Mr. Motyka.

Mr. Bozza questioned why July 1st. Mr. Lutz replied that he said June for a decision. Mr. Bozza then agreed.

Mayor Novakoski questioned who will pay the utilities for the fire company. Mr. Lutz suggests not paying the Council and the Mayor. Mayor Novakoski states that he just wanted to know if we were going to pick up the tab that is all; the tax payers also have to pay that. Mr. Varano replied that we are the tax payers. Mayor Novakoski questioned if we were going to pay the bills. Mr. Varano questions that we don't have much choice do we.

Mr. Varano stated that they were not moving out anyway.

Mr. Bozza questions what happens if the ball is rolling and July 1st comes and we can't build until August.

Mr. Winhofer replied that you would come back for an extension.

Mr. Lutz states that you come back and say that you got all of this good stuff going on and so we need another month or two.

Mr. Goretski added that you just come back in and say you need another month or two to do it; it does not happen over night.

Mr. Lutz states the way he understands, is what you are trying to tell Mr. Barletta is we are good for now and let's go.

Mr. Goretski agrees and states to let him make his commitment.

Mr. Lutz states that the trucks will not move for awhile anyhow as a practical matter so I think you should be able to tell him lets go.

Mr. Lutz states that he thinks Mr. Bozza did a great job and encourages him to go get them. Mr. Varano questions if he thinks he is going to run into any problems with the West End, and states that they will be losing their allotment, you realize that.

Mr. Bozza questions when. Mr. Varano replied that when the building is built. Mr. Bozza questions why would they lose the allotment and adds that they will still be housing the borough trucks, you are still going to own both of the trucks.

Mr. Varano states that will go into the other building the new building, the West End will not see a penny of that. He adds that will all go to the fire department.

Mr. Varano states that what he is trying to say is that the West End relies on that money to run their building.

Mr. Motyka states that it cost more fuel oil to heat that cement block building. Mr. Varano states he is just saying that they will not receive that \$4000.00 anymore so they know when they are preparing their budget.

Mr. Deitrick adds that is the reason for consolidation is so it saves the borough money also.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DEITRICK (yes), LUTZ (yes), MALAKOSKI (yes), MOTYKA (yes), VARANO (yes), WINHOFER (yes), GORETSKI (yes)
7 Yeas – 0 Nays

Mr. Bozza states that the only other thing he has is concerning the letter the borough sent to the West End requiring their bills and they are going through some change of officers right now and that will take a little bit of time.

Mr. Varano states that he is glad that he brought that up and states that it is in the Borough Code and asks the Solicitor what the section is.

Mr. Cole states that he believes that it is section 1202 paragraph fifty six.

Mr. Bozza questions if they are requesting all bills. Mr. Varano replied utilities and heat and adds that's a standard practice.

Mr. Bozza states that he will let them know, he adds that he can tell you from being an officer that the heat cost is well over \$4000.00.

Mr. Deitrick questions if that is over that amount to heat the truck room.

Mr. Bozza stated that is combined that is not split.

Mr. Deitrick replied that our allotment is to heat the truck room and not for social quarters.

Mr. Goretski states that we were just giving them a vote of support for whatever he can do and if it takes longer than that it takes longer. Mr. Varano responded that Nick Bozza was asking him a question and he just responded.

Mr. Bozza states that they applied for the FEMA grant also. Mr. Varano states that he knows and they talked about the last one, they lost the last three and added that he hopes they get it because it is a nice chunk of change and that he hopes that they get it.

Joe Pancerella of Kulpmont questions the Mayor for some clarification on his volunteer police force, if that is law enforcement.

Mayor Novakoski replied yes. Mr. Pancerella directly questioned that they are volunteer law enforcement? The Solicitor responded that they are special police, not ACT 120;

they are special police to direct traffic at emergency scenes etc... Mayor Novakoski added and to write sweeper tickets.

**** TAPE ENDED****

Joan Cole of Kulpmont concerning a rental property she owns at 620 Chestnut Street. She states that the neighbor has accumulated about 30 bags of garbage at the property and the problem still exists.

Joan Cole states that the garbage is just moved around; there is some sort of yard sale store in the basement.

Joan Cole states that she has a tenant that she did not want to loose them but the renter left last month because she can't breathe because of an asthma condition. She states that she is getting water in her basement coming from next door and states that she does not know the source of the water and where it is coming from.

Mrs. Cole states that she spoke with the code officer and the problem still exists and she does not know what to do and asks that something be done to help her with this situation. She asks if someone can get in and see what is going on and where the water is coming from. The Code officer states that they can request to go in. The Code officer will try to go in with the Police Chief, possibly with an administrative warrant.

Joe Pancerella of Kulpmont states that he is asking council to investigate with Mount Carmel Township to meet with them and report back and states that it is worth looking into.

The Borough Solicitor William C. Cole states that the board met in executive session for approximately 40 minutes for personnel and contractual matters.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

RHONDA WILK
BOROUGH SECRETARY

DATE OF APPROVAL

