

**KULPMONT BOROUGH  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
January 13, 2021  
7:00 P.M.**

Opening Prayer by Councilman Robert Chesney  
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present,  
Kulpmont Borough Council held the meeting for general purpose on  
Wednesday January 13, 2021

Roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Stephen Bielskie, Robert Chesney, Joseph Dowkus, Robert Fanella, Stephen Motyka, Michael Sinopoli and Robert M. Slaby

**ABSENT:** Mayor Bozza

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Solicitor, Edward Greco, Treasurer Paul Niglio, Secretary Rhonda Wilk, Code Official Heather Owens, Police Chief Nathan Foust.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Edwin Howerter, Joe Politza and Becky Lock.

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

No one spoke.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT** – (Robert M. Slaby)

Mr. Slaby stated we will need to deal with a vacancy on the Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Municipal Authority. Mr. Sinopoli chairman of the personnel committee stated we received one applicant for the position, Mrs. Stephanie Niglio.

Mr. Slaby confirmed the position has been advertised. Mr. Slaby stated her term expired on December 31, 2020 and stated she has expressed interest in remaining on that board, although he stated he never seen that in writing.

**MOTION-** Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Dowkus to appoint Mrs. Stephanie Niglio to the Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Sewer Authority Board for a five-year term.

Mr. Slaby Bielskie stated she has a relative employed by the KMHJMA and expressed concern if she would need to abstain from a vote it is possible, they would end up with a 3/3 vote and never really get a true vote. Mr. Slaby questioned the Solicitor if it is automatically considered a No vote if it ends up 3/3.

Solicitor Greco agreed it would be automatically a no vote if it ended up 3/3. Solicitor Greco then added if the board were voting on for example a collective bargaining agreement she would not need to abstain as she would if the vote were on just an individual. Solicitor Greco stated it depends on the situation on if there were a conflict of interest or not.

Mr. Dowkus stated the correspondence of interest was from the 9<sup>th</sup> of December.

Mr. Chesney added if it were a personal situation, he stated he is sure she would abstain. Mr. Slaby agreed and said he does understand that but if a situation came before us and the vote was deadlocked it could pose a problem.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Slaby asked Rhonda to send a letter to the Kulpmont Marion Heights Joint Municipal Authority notifying of Mrs. Niglio's 5-year term appointment to the KMHJMA and to Mrs. Niglio.

**MAYORS REPORT**- (Nicholas Bozza)

Chief Foust stated he gathered all the data from the speed trailer they had use of. Chief Foust provided graphs to Council and explained some of the data pulled from the device. Chief Foust stated there is other data that could be pulled to detail more in times and additional information. Mr. Dowkus questioned if there is a way to find out what time of day the most speeding is occurring.

Chief Foust replied that data could be pulled and stated he is not familiar with the device and he would need to look at pulling that data adding it would be available. Mr. Dowkus suggested to possibly contact Mr. Reiner to possibly assist us in getting that data. Chief Foust welcomed Mr. Dowkus to contact him, come in to assist in getting more specific data from the device any day he is in the office.

Mr. Slaby questioned Chief Foust if the devices are calibrated. Chief Foust stated he does not know what the state police does, they may have a company that calibrates something like that adding he is unsure. Chief Foust stated if used as a speed device it would need to be calibrated.

Mr. Niglio commented the only police that could use radar enforcement in the state would be the state police, no one else. Mr. Slaby questioned what he currently uses for speed detection now. Chief Foust replied they use the stopwatch. Mr. Slaby stated years ago they had the horses on the side of the roadway and the stopwatch.

Chief Foust stated when he was on the phone to order ammo, he was told most Police departments are looking to place their orders now for 2021 and 2022. He stated the prices are locked in right now with Federal until they redo their contract. Chief Foust

stated he is still waiting for ammo he purchased in August. Chief Foust suggest we purchase the ammo now for 2021 now and for 2022 sometime in June at the current prices that are set right now. He stated the cost of the ammo would be \$1119.26 to order the ammo now. Mr. Sinopoli questioned if the cost is total or per year. Chief Foust replied that is the total.

**MOTION-** Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to purchase ammo for 2021 and 2022 in the amount of \$1119.26.

Mr. Dowkus questioned the Chief if we will not need to visit this item again until June of next year.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**MOTION-** Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to purchase a taser magazine in the \$71.06.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Chief Foust stated we ordered the other taser last week, but we will need to purchase a magazine for the taser we have, they are not compatible.

**MOTION-** Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to approve the purchase of a taser magazine in the amount of \$71.06.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**SECRETARY'S REPORT-** (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk stated approval is needed for the regular meeting minutes from December 9, 2020.

**MOTION** – A motion by Mr. Sinopoli and seconded by Mr. Fanella to approve the December 9, 2020 regular meeting minutes.

**VOICE VOTE** –

Unanimous

Correspondence was received from the following and Copied to both Mayor and Council.

Mr. Niglio stated the 2019 audit was completed prior to December 31, 2020. Mr. Niglio stated the reports are being compiled now, there were representation letters that needed to

be done by himself, the Solicitor and Rhonda. Mr. Niglio stated the final bill is listed to be approved today. He stated Klacik is offering the same professional services with the same conditions and the pricing is listed to fall between \$6,700.00 and \$8,700.00 depending on the workload that is involved. Mr. Niglio stated this year the cost was \$6,000.00 and stated he does not expect to exceed those amounts. Mr. Slaby questioned if there were any findings in the 2019 audit. Mr. Niglio replied we have to make adjustments every year, they need to do them for us, nothing major.

**MOTION-** A motion by Mr. Bielskie and Mr. Dowkus to approve Klacik and Associates for audits for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Mr. Chesney questioned Mr. Niglio of the possibility of a different firm possibly doing any better for us. Mr. Niglio replied the first year you pay more but now they know our system and so they get their sample and can move along, a new firm would again need to start from scratch.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**TREASURERS REPORT** – (Paul A. Niglio)

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

**MOTION-** Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to approve the financial statement and pay the bills.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio stated the 2021 final budget has been advertised and is the same as the tentative budget, there were no change. He stated the General Fund has receipts and expenditures of \$767,200.00, the Highway Fund has receipts and expenditures of \$149,750.00 and the Police Pension has receipts of \$390,200.00 and expenditures of \$23,500.00 and a fund equity balance of \$366,700.00.

**MOTION-** Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to approve the 2021 final budget.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio stated the 2021 tax levy ordinance was duly advertised and a motion is needed to approve the 2021 tax levy ordinance. The tax rate for general purposes is 17 mils, street lighting 3 mils and fire protection 3 mils which is the same as last year.

**MOTION**- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Dowkus to approve and adopt the 2021 tax ordinance.

Mr. Slaby questioned if the tax levy ordinance must be advertised once or twice. Rhonda replied the tax levy ordinance was advertised once; Solicitor Greco agreed once is correct.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Niglio stated a letter was distributed to council from the tax collector Linda Nolter and stated she is requesting setting fees for her office which she cannot institute without council's approval. Mr. Niglio stated there is a \$20 tax certification fee, a \$15 duplicate bill fee and a \$15 return check fee. Mr. Niglio stated he is recommending Council approve.

Mr. Niglio stated he discussed this with the Solicitor and what needs to be done is an ordinance setting these fees. Solicitor Greco stated if we have a motion this evening for the advertisement, he will put it together and we then could adopt it at the next meeting. Solicitor Greco stated the Ordinance will state the fee schedule and that it may be modified by resolution.

**MOTION**- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to advertise Ordinance #2021-02 setting the Tax Collector fees for tax certification, duplicates and returned check fees.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**SOLICITORS REPORT**- (Edward Greco)

No Report

**POLICE CHIEFS REPORT** – (Nathan Foust)

Police Report Attachment #2

Mr. Slaby questioned Chief Foust on the speed trailer device asking if there is any discussion needed concerning the correspondence from MPH Industries, the quote for \$8,199.00. Chief Foust replied he would not buy it. He stated we have the data already, a month long. Chief Foust stated it will slow people down but now, for new people coming into town but not for those use to it being there. Mr. Dowkus stated we need to see what all data we could grab out of there. Chief Foust replied it is all on his computer.

Mr. Bielskie questioned what the other item was that he spoke about in his memo. Chief Foust stated he spoke about other options and devices out there that he feels would benefit the police department much more such as a license plate reader. Chief Foust

stated they could be leased, which he feels is the best option. Chief Foust stated he spoke with the Chief from Riverside and stated he just received data that there are currently six million vehicles in the state that are unregistered, vehicles without insurance, suspended registrations, stolen vehicles. Chief Foust stated these are useful tools and no longer could you go by the sticker on the back of the car to determine if a registration is expired. Chief Foust stated the one Riverside use can be taken from one vehicle to another. Chief Foust stated there are many uses; these devices will take pictures of vehicles coming and going even from a house.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT** – (Jeff Gilotti)

Fire Chief Report Attachment #3

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** – (Kevin O’ Hearn)

No Report

**BUILDING INSPECTOR’S REPORT**– (Tri County COG)

Mr. Bielskie stated the new convenience store at the end of town is getting very close to completion.

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

Report Attachment #4

Heather Owens stated her report is slightly different this month due to some computer issues she had where she lost her report and had to reformat this month.

**SERVICE AND FACILITIES** – (Robert Fanella)

Food Surplus Distribution will be held on January 21, 2021 at the borough garage.

**MOTION**- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to advertise the 2021 Street Sweeping Schedule.

Mr. Slaby questioned when street sweeping begins. Mr. Fanella replied we will begin sweeping streets again on Thursday March 25th. Mr. Fanella stated we will advertise it early in the month of February.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated concerning the code car that was damaged, we have been reviewing the cameras and stated the way the cameras are set up, it is not a good system and the night view is not acceptable. Mr. Fanella stated he had someone come in and look at the

cameras and look to make some improvements and upgrades. Mr. Fanella stated the same will be looked at for the Terry Miriello Field, the system up there is not up to par and we would like to have it so the police could monitor and view and a monitor in the office that would be in Rhonda's view so that if there were something going on, she may catch view of it. Mr. Fanella stated if we are going to have security our system needs to be updated.

Mr. Fanella stated this will be part of the Terry Miriello Field improvements project along with the Kulpmont 100 help and the borough donation for these improvements. A 12-camera system would cost \$5,500.00. Mr. Fanella stated the West End Fire Association is donating a 60" TV for this upgrade system, that part will be paid for by the West End.

Mr. Slaby questioned how old that system is adding that it was not brought from the old building because we did not have one there. Mr. Motyka replied it was not part of the new building project but was then added when the building opened.

Chief Foust questioned how much memory this system has. Mr. Bielskie replied he would think it depends on if it is online. Mr. Chesney questioned if that is 12 cameras at the Borough Building. Mr. Fanella stated there will be one on the corners, inside where they are currently, one in the truck room. Mr. Fanella stated the ones at the recycle center will eventually be piped over to the police department as well.

**MOTION**- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to spend \$5,500.00 to upgrade the security in the Borough Hall.

Mr. Slaby questioned Mr. Niglio on the financial part of this. Mr. Niglio stated with the cash carryover the borough could handle that expense.

Mr. Dowkus questioned if this is still part of the contract, we had with the guy installing the cameras at the recycling center.

Mr. Niglio replied that is not paid for yet and questioned what the cost of that is. Mr. Niglio stated we should be getting all the same stuff. Mr. Dowkus stated he hopes that both are compatible.

Mr. Niglio questioned if we fall into a certain amount \$10,000.00 or more, we need to have price quotes, bids. Mr. Slaby agreed. Mr. Slaby stated from what he can see from the quote Rhonda provided him from the camera project at the recycle center and what is being proposed at the borough building you are looking at about \$8,000.00 total between the two projects. A discussion took place on the combined cost and any additional expenses such as computer to run this or monitors, logistics need to be worked out.

Council determined they fall way below the threshold.

Mr. Chesney questioned Solicitor Greco if he had commented last meeting on something about TV for this project. Mr. Dowkus stated according to his notes from last meeting Mr. Slaby stated he would get a TV for Mrs. Wilk's office. Mr. Slaby acknowledged that and said he will get the TV for the office. Solicitor Greco mentioned last meeting where we should get one free hook up through Service Electric, cable TV. Mr. Niglio stated we

currently have high speed internet. Rhonda Wilk stated we did just have to update our speed due to our meetings going virtual.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)

7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated the roof in the truck room is leaking. Mr. Sinopoli stated it is leaking on the south wall and right in the middle. Mr. Slaby asked to make some contacts and get some prices adding he suggest getting two or three estimates. Mr. Slaby questioned if it is leaking very bad. Mr. Sinopoli stated there is a puddle there. Mr. Slaby stated are we at the point where it may collapse. Mr. Sinopoli stated he does not think it will ever collapse, but you need to be concerned about mold. Mr. Fanella stated he will get quotes for next meeting.

Mr. Fanella stated concerning Fir Street, he had Rhonda forward an email to all. He added that is all the information he has on the Fir Street Project.

**MOTION**- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to purchase a cutting edge for the bobcat in the amount of \$248.28.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)

7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**MOTION**- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to purchase parts for the plow in the amount of \$317.51.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)

7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated Kulpmont 100 is going to build a new dug out at the Terry Miriello Field at their cost. Mr. Motyka added the only cost is to dispose of the lumber. Mr. Fanella added that is being taken care of by one of our employees.

Mr. Slaby asked if we want to discuss the recycling center issues adding he would think it is going well since we are now operating under a lock and key system.

Bruce Graff stated he said from the beginning when it was decided to leave them unlocked there would be problems. He stated with Christmas there was more of an accumulation and various items, cans, plastics, cardboard, Styrofoam, bags of garbage all placed in the trailer in the lot. Bruce Graff stated they parked it on the side of the garbage, and it was not bad today, there was only one bag of garbage.

Mr. Slaby stated he was told last week that the cardboard was the cleanest it has been in a long time. Mr. Slaby stated he has had conversations with the person in charge at the center and Mr. Fetterman and stated they have expressed to him that they are very unhappy. Mr. Slaby warned Kulpmont is going to end up loosing this.

Bruce Graff stated when he goes to the center, they are sending him back with items with names and giving him the Styrofoam to bring back.

Mr. Fanella is hopeful the cameras will deter this action once they are running. He stated when people are being fined for this, he feels it will stop.

Mr. Fanella stated he directed the bins to be locked and it was done quickly because of the issues. He stated it was a decision that had to be made immediately. Mr. Fanella stated on Facebook question being asked is what about the people that work, what do they do.

Bruce Graff stated last year when they bins were locked, people cut the wire.

Bruce Graff stated what was done in the past was Council had either he or another street department worker go up every other Saturday and have the bins open so people that work could be able to recycle.

Bruce Graff stated also items are being placed in the bins in bags, they do not want the bags. Bruce Graff stated the items are to be placed in the bins, not in bags.

Mr. Slaby stated it is not only the Styrofoam, the is household garbage being put in there and stated he heard it all in the last couple of weeks. Mr. Slaby stated he thinks we all fee the same way, if they take them out, they take them out. Mr. Slaby stated we are all aware the day may come that they take the dumpsters.

**CODE HEALTH AND SAFETY** (Stephen Bielskie)

No Report

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE** - (Joseph Dowkus)

No Report

**GRANTS/RECREATION** – (Robert Chesney)

No Report

**PERSONNEL**- (Michael Sinopoli)

Mr. Sinopoli stated the personnel committee met concerning salary increases.

**MOTION**- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to increase Rhonda Wilk's hourly rate by \$1.00 retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (no), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 1 NAYS

Mr. Sinopoli recommended a \$1.00 hour increase to Heather Owens hourly raise adding she has not received a raise since she was here. Mr. Slaby questioned how long she has been here. Mr. Sinopoli replied a little over one year.

**MOTION**- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to increase Heather Owens hourly rate by \$1.00 retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Motyka stated he would like to see history on what the rate is now, what the increase was last raise, that would be a better way to present this.

Mr. Sinopoli stated that was presented to the committee. Mr. Slaby stated, and it is the recommendation of the committee. Mr. Bielski stated she is one of the only people that is bringing money in beside the police department. Mr. Slaby stated he agrees with that but also agrees with Mr. Motyka from his perspective.

Mr. Slaby stated he knows this lady sitting beside him, she has gone in the past a long time with no increase. Mr. Slaby stated despite the fact he just recently came back after being Kulpmont's Mayor, he was here for 12 years and then you were lucky if you go a dime back then.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**FIRE/EMA/POLICE COMMITTEE** – (Robert Fanella)

Mr. Fanella stated he is going to send a letter to the Fire/EMA/Police Committee, the Mayor and three Fire Chiefs to meet to talk about our engines and the fire department.

Mr. Fanella stated the Fire Department would like to move a closet in the truck room to provide space to install a washer and dryer, these are industrial type machines. This is just a closet, not structural wall will be removed to make space and they will pay all cost, there will be no cost to the borough.

Mr. Bielskie stated he wants to mention a building on Chestnut Street all the copper has been torn out of there and stated a guy is wanting to fix the building and thinks he can do it for \$3,500.00 to \$4,500.00. He stated he told the person he needs to get plans for the whole building and stated once he gets them, he could do one unit at a time, he is probably looking at \$100,000.00 cost to repair the building.

Mr. Slaby stated Rhonda just brought to his attention a membership renewal for the Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance for 2021. Mr. Slaby stated the amount for renewal is \$20.00.

**MOTION**- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to renew membership with the Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance membership for 2021.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Dowkus stated the Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance does a lot for the borough and would like to donate \$50.00 to them.

**MOTION-** Mr. Dowkus made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to donate \$50.00 to the Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance in addition to the membership renewal.

Mr. Bielskie questioned if we donated last year. Mr. Niglio replied we just paid the dues last year.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

None

**OLD BUSINESS-**

Mr. Motyka stated we sent a letter to the YMCA and we had a speedy response. Mr. Motyka stated they would like to set up a zoom meeting for informational purpose and questioned if we are limited or all seven members would be able to listen in on that meeting. Solicitor Greco stated this would be a workshop, no decisions will be made. Mr. Slaby questioned if he could do this by phone. Mr. Motyka stated it would be a zoom meeting and so you could participate by phone and stated he will provide the information needed for this meeting.

Mr. Chesney questioned if we will soon move to sell the properties on Chestnut Street, we talked about this and stated he feels we need to act on that. A letter showing interest came in, but we will need to do this by bid, that person would be able to bid. He stated we need to advertise it, work on the wording and stated he thinks we need to act on that. Mr. Motyka stated it was also talked about to possibly have live bids.

Mr. Slaby agreed and suggested if we do that, we may want to have a minimum and a right to accept and reject all bids. Mr. Chesney stated we have numbers on the property worth, we will not make that public, but we have numbers. A discussion took place concerning the process. Mr. Slaby suggested sealed bids, these are clean empty lots. Solicitor Greco stated if someone puts a bid in for the minimum but if it is a live competition, you may get more bids.

Solicitor Greco stated you could still set a minimum and say bidding starts at X amount of dollars. A discussion took place on advertising the properties for live auction.

Solicitor Greco stated the advertisement should state what the minimum bid should be. Mr. Chesney stated he has a advertisement outline that was sent in by the county.

**MOTION**- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to advertise the properties on the 900 block of Chestnut Street, 3 properties for live auction.

Solicitor Greco stated Council will need to agree on a minimum bid, that is not secret because that you would need to advertise. Another discussion took place between Council members concerning the sale. Solicitor Greco stated he feels they should be sold as two parcels. Solicitor Greco stated a number for minimum bid must be included.

Mr. Motyka stated let us finalize this for the March meeting. Solicitor Greco stated we could finalize this for the March meeting, and we will have the number and the advertisement ready to go in the paper February for the auction to be then held in March. Mr. Slaby asked Mr. Fanella if signs could be purchased from Walmart or somewhere that could read for sale by Auction to be posted on the property. Mr. Fanella agreed.

Mr. Dowkus then stated he will retract his motion to advertise for the sale by live auction of the properties on Chestnut Street. Mr. Fanella retracted his second on that motion.

Solicitor Greco stated also public sewer and water accessible could be in the advertisement.

Mr. Fanella stated he would like to talk to Mt. Carmel Township, he said up at the landfill they have half pipes that are just laying there and would like to approach them to see if we could get some off them to use where water comes off the street instead of washing out. Mr. Fanella stated he has five or six areas in mind where these could be used.

Mr. Dowkus questioned about the stipend to the West End for \$3,000.00 that we did in the past and questioned if we received a letter from Mr. Lutz. Rhonda Wilk stated there was no letter received concerning a stipend from the West End.

Mr. Slaby questioned Mr. Niglio how this was done in the past. Mr. Niglio stated he was told when to do it by Mr. Lutz. Mr. Slaby asked if there is a motion to pay that stipend to the West End Fire Company for the 2021 stipend.

**MOTION**- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Chesney to pay the \$3,000.00 stipend to the West End.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (no), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 1 NAYS

**NEW BUSINESS-**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Slaby thanked the public for coming to the meeting this evening.

**The January 13, 2021 meeting was adjourned at the call of the Chair**

**Rhonda Wilk  
Borough Secretary**

**Approval date – February 10, 2021**