

**KULPMONT BOROUGH  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
JUNE 12, 2019  
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 June 12, 2019

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor Bozza, Stephen Bielskie, Robert Chesney, Robert Fanella, Michael Sinopoli, Robert Slaby and Walter Lutz

**ABSENT:** George Malakoski

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Solicitor, Edward Greco and Treasurer Paul A. Niglio

**PRESENT:** Chief Foust, Borough Supervisor Bruce Graff, Code Officer Russ Moroz and Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Margaret Marshall, Edwin Howerter, Hope Masser, Bernadette Fanella, Jeff Gilotti, Joseph Dowkus and Stephen Motyka

Mr. Lutz stated we are going to change things up and Mr. Chesney will now update us on the Mill. Mr. Chesney stated the past primary election we made contact with Ann DiDonato and are now coming to the culmination of the mill project being completed. Mr. Chesney stated there are two parts to that project one is turning out to be \$912,000.00.00 and the second segment is \$143,000.00, which is just over 1.1 million dollars.

Mr. Chesney stated in the eyes of Borough Council that is actually a grant from the EPA to clean that up. Mr. Chesney stated a lot of the credit goes to Borough Council's persistence and help and assistance from the EPA and Ann DiDonato and her department. Mr. Chesney stated as of today there was over 16,500 pounds of metal taken out of the building stacks and has been recycled adding that money filters back into the plant. The bricks from the stacks have also been removed and disposed of in a safe manner.

Mr. Chesney stated during the process air samples were taken and monitored adding out town was completely safe as this work was being done. Mr. Chesney stated due to their care and professionalism our town was safe as this work was being done. Mr. Chesney stated areas were contained and restricted and stated over 63 tons of asbestos from the boiler room and access room were taken out of the building.

Mr. Chesney stated mercury was discovered and was also removed. He stated there are still drums of chemicals that will be removed adding that is part of the trailing costs that traditionally follows a cleanup project of this nature. Mr. Chesney stated the building has been made completely secured adding we owe a lot to Ann DiDonato and her crew's work.

Mr. Cheney stated in order to board up and contain and prevent anything from falling down on the workers wood used has now been donated to the borough which will be used to complete projects for some dug outs and concession stands for our youth, which will save the Borough from having to purchase materials to complete these projects.

Mr. Chesney stated he is happy to announce that as of Monday the impending danger over the last 20 years has been removed, the building is secure and there is even rumor of a possible purchaser adding that the hazardous materials are out. Mr. Chesney stated the project is technically finished and stated on our part we will be able to enforce some liens which may bring in some money that will help to further our cause adding that will all be part of a legal battle. Mr. Chesney then said anyone who has questions for Ann DiDonato, she is here and will be happy to answer any questions.

Ms. DiDonato expressed how grateful she was for the support from the Borough Council and the Community adding it is not often they are so welcomed and receive such help and cooperation. Ms. DiDonato thanked everyone and stated it has been a pleasure working in the community. Ms. DiDonato stated it was May 22, 2017 when she was handed the letter with the problems that existed asking for help and stated it has been a while, but it is not finished other than 9 drums they will dispose of and waiting on some laboratory reports and they will be finished.

Mr. Lutz commended Councilman Chesney and the Code Officer Russ Moroz adding if it was not for those two he is not sure where they would be with this. Mr. Lutz thanked everyone for their work with this project. There were no additional questions for EPA, Ann DiDonato.

Margaret Marshall a resident of 1228 Chestnut Street stated she likes it here in Kulpmont very much. She stated her boyfriend pays for a handicap sign and she spoke to a councilperson adding she does not recall his name. She said she asked this Councilman when they were going to paint lines for the parking spaces.

Ms. Marshall stated the Councilman replied they do not paint lines since they took the parking meters out. Ms. Marshall stated for 13 years they did, and she stated the Councilman he spoke to said yea, yea, yea we are going to paint the lines and he said and don't call my private phone anymore. Mr. Lutz thanked Ms. Marshall for her comments.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT** – (Walter Lutz)

Mr. Lutz stated Mr. George Malakoski and his wife Patti planted flowers down at town park and they are just incredible. Mr. Lutz stated Mr. Malakoski is not here tonight adding he wants to thank them.

Mr. Lutz thanked Mr. Cesari, the Borough workers Councilman Fanella they put new mulch at the playground and stated a story to go with that is he was told by Mr. Cesari a kid fell from the equipment onto the mulch and he did not get hurt.

**OPPORTUNIITY FOR CITZENS TO BE HEARD ON ANYTHING THAT IS ON THE AGENDA:**

**MAYORS REPORT-** (Nicholas Bozza)

Mayor Bozza stated we got confirmation approving the Borough to put signs up for the crosswalks. Mayor Bozza stated. Fanella has the prices and stated it is Councils decision, but we were approved.

Mayor Bozza stated he has been seeing in the paper where towns are being approved for grants for upgrades on their traffic lights.

Mr. Slaby replied that the borough should have received the same type of letter he received in Shamokin in regard to upgrading their equipment and stated there is grant money available. Mr. Lutz asked Mr. Slaby to send us a copy of that letter. Mayor Bozza replied he didn't recall seeing that.

Mayor Bozza then stated he has that and will get to that. Mayor Bozza stated there are two programs an ARMY program which is an Automated Red-Light Enforcement Program which is a zero percent match and there is a Green Light Go 20% matching grant. Mayor Bozza asked Mr. Lutz if he wanted this to look at them. Mr. Lutz replied yes.

Mayor Bozza stated he does not know if anyone noticed, but surveyors have been out for the project that will be coming through in 2027. Mayor Bozza stated Joe Lyons the Assistant Traffic Engineer suggested we apply for this ARMY program.

Mr. Fanella stated he was approached last year by the contractors that will be bidding on the jobs, because they get notified first and he stated one of the things that he talked with him about was a new red light that would be controlled by a fire truck, when they come out they would go all red. Mr. Fanella stated the projects they are going to do is a whole project, they replace lights and everything. Mr. Fanella stated if a light goes up now it may be coming down. Mayor Bozza stated this would be updating the red light. Mr. Niglio added we just upgraded to LED a few years ago. The Code Officer Russ Moroz stated this would be the controls he added he has received one calls on that project already and stated they are moving forward.

Mr. Beilskie commented that the current lights are not timed right. Mayor Bozza stated he was told the Borough would be notified as to what is all in that project. Mayor Bozza commented we could apply and if we get it we get it and if we don't, we don't.

Mayor Bozza stated we had some resident donate some money and displayed signs that were donated for the Crime Watch and stated one they would like to place at Town Park and it would be up to council to agree and approve that. Mayor stated the larger ones would be placed at the four ways coming into town.

Mayor Bozza stated he has been working with some residents and PennDOT on some grants and he stated the project would be for a Pollination Garden and stated this would help because bees are basically getting to be extinct. Mayor Bozza stated in meeting with officials they feel a good spot would be down at the Veterans Memorial Field. He stated Mooses daughter Julie is working with him on that and is very involved in that. Mr. Chesney commented, you do realize these are bees we are talking about. Mayor Bozza replied he thought the same thing he was worried about and was re-assured it is not going to be an issue. Council asked the Mayor to get some information on it and location and they will look at it to consider.

Mayor Bozza addressed fireworks adding we all know it will get crazy into next month. He announced the only law they have to go by is PA Firework State Law which states not any firework can be set off within 150 feet of any occupied structure, which is pretty much anybody's yard.

Mayor Bozza stated the Police Department was instructed to enforce this law. Mr. Bielskie asked if it is any type or all types. Mayor Bozza and Chief Foust replied it is the Ariel fireworks, M-80's, quarter sticks and Cherry Bombs. Adding anything that throws debris. Mr. Bielskie asked about the sparkler type. Mayor Bozza replied the sparklers would be alright.

Mayor Bozza stated he has been getting many calls on open fires. Code Officer, Russ Moroz stated the fire must be 20 feet from any structure, only seasoned firewood or charcoal can be used, there must be a screen, you must have a fire extinguisher or hose handy, there must be an adult present and they must be extinguished by 11:00 p.m. no smoldering fires. Mr. Slaby stated they do not adhere to that on the 1400 block of Poplar Street. Mayor Bozza commented the officers are instructed to enforce the Ordinance.

**MOTION**- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and Mr. Bielskie made the motion to install the Crime Watch sign at the Town Park.

Mr. Chesney asked who is putting up the sign. Mr. Lutz stated they will figure that out. Mr. Slaby commented you do not want it nailed to a street down there or interfering with the sign down there already. Mr. Lutz said they are very responsible and suggested get with the Street Department and Councilman Fanella and they will figure it out. Mr. Slaby stated she deserves to be commended on the good work.

**VOICE VOTE** –

Unanimous

**MOTION** - Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and Mr. Bielskie seconded the motion to have a meeting on the Pollination Garden with Julie Myers.

**VOICE VOTE** –

Unanimous

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

Rhonda Wilk stated approval is needed on the May 8, 2019 meeting minutes.

**MOTION**- Mr. Slaby made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to approve the May 8, 2019 regular monthly meeting minutes.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Rhonda Wilk stated under correspondence we received correspondence from Lee B. Horne Audit Manager, Liquid Fuels and that was copied to Treasurer, Mayor and Council.

We received correspondence from SEDA COG regarding comment period and recommendations for improved transportation to employment, Copied to Mayor and Council.

Correspondence was received form PennDOT traffic Unit, Thomas Squires on the Pedestrian Signs approval Copied to Service and Facilities and the Mayor.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation on PennDOT working on a project to modernize the dot Grants website used for the submission of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund forms and reports, Copied Mayor/Council and Treasurer.

Correspondence was received from KMHJMA dated May 31<sup>st</sup> regarding water terminations notification, Copied to Mayor/Council and Code.

A letter was received from the County of Northumberland County Commissioner regarding opening of the Federal Fiscal Year 2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Copy Grants Committee.

A letter was received from Joseph Dowkus, Stephen Motyka regarding volunteering for projects at the Veterans Memorial Field, Copied to both Mayor and Council.

Letter received regarding 16<sup>th</sup> Street in the Borough copied to Service and Facilities.

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

Mr. Niglio stated Council received a copy of the Financial statement and bills to be approved. Mr. Niglio stated a motion is needed to approve the bills.

**MOTION**- Mr. Slaby made the motion and Councilman Fanella seconded the motion to pay the bills.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**SOLICITORS REPORT**- (Edward Greco)

The Solicitor stated he has been working on the Powell Building to try and get that underway. Mr. Lutz stated we have not taken ownership of the building yet; the solicitor is working on that.

**POLICE CHIEFS REPORT** – Nathan Foust)

Police Report Attachment #2

Chief Foust asked if anyone has questions to let him know adding it is a 18 page print out.

Chief Foust stated he needs approval to have Keystone come up and look at the Radio in the 2015 car. Chief Foust stated there are issues with the radio. Mr. Lutz questioned if there is a service call fee and if he feels it is over \$75.00. Chief Foust replied yes.

**MOTION**- Mr. Slaby made the motion and Mr. Sinopoli seconded the motion to have the radio in the 2015 police car repaired for whatever the cost.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Chief Foust stated he has a breakdown on each call in his daily log. Mr. Lutz questioned if the tickets have been going down. Chief Foust replied no they are steady. Mr. Lutz stated the situation is bad with people not moving their cars. Mr. Slaby stated years ago when he wanted to raise the sweeper fine to \$25.00 people though he was ludicrous and now you hear what is going on, it is not fair to people that move their cars.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT** – (Raymond Siko)

Fire Chief Report Attachment #3

Deputy Chief Jeff Gilotti stated the fire police from Shamokin and Mount Carmel were contacted for traffic control for the car cruise. Mr. Slaby questioned if he heard from Shamokin. Deputy Chief Gilotti replied no. Mr. Slaby stated he will take care of it tomorrow.

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

No Report

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

April Report attachment #4 and May Report attachment #5

**CODE/HEALTH ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT** – (Russ Moroz)

Report Attachment #6

Mr. Lutz stated they started foot patrols last week and stated there is nothing like walking the streets and alleys and stated it is amazing what you find.

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

Mr. Fanella stated Food Surplus will be held on June 20<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. until 12 noon at the Borough Garage.

He stated the Community Yard Sale date is Saturday Jun 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. with a rain date of June 22<sup>nd</sup>. He stated the Car Cruise will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> with the rain date June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Fanella stated there is a collapse on Fifth and Chestnut Street Pipe Project, between Chestnut and Oak Street. Mr. Fanella stated he thinks we need to put that out for bid. Mr. Lutz commented we are having this problem all over the borough, these pipes were put in the same time and they are wearing out in the same time.

**MOTION**- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and Mr. Sinopoli seconded the motion to advertise the Fifth and Chestnut Street Pipe Project requesting bids.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated he would like to thank Ann DiDonato from EPA for the wood donation to the Borough and would also like to thank Mr. Niglio who was in contact with H&P Construction who offered to donate their time and material, with the wood we got to put the roof on the concession stand.

Mr. Fanella stated concerning the concrete work in front of Borough Hall, Mr. Fanella stated we received two quotes and have not received a third. Mr. Fanella questioned the solicitor on if a third is needed. Solicitor Greco replied he does not think so, he stated you need to reach out two three at a minimum and if only two responded, I do not think we need to get the third, we tried. Mr. Fanella stated we reached out to five.

Mr. Fanella stated he would like to make a motion to accept the Giorgini's lowest quote. Mr. Slaby questioned what the amount was. Mr. Fanella replied it was \$17,800.00, the next one was B. Smith \$18,500.00. Mr. Slaby questioned if someone has the threshold. Mr. Lutz replied the threshold is \$20,000.00. Solicitor Greco questioned if that is where he thought the bids would come in. The Solicitor stated three estimates. Mr. Slaby then stated as a precaution he thinks we should have the third one.

**MOTION-** Mr. Fanella made a motion to go with the lowest estimate for the concrete work and Mr. Slaby seconded it when the third quote is received.

A discussion took place concerning the motion would be for the lowest estimate and now the amount has been made public knowledge. Mr. Chesney stated that will cause a problem. Mr. Lutz stated we will table the motion and reach out for a third estimate. The Solicitor stated each year the threshold changes.

No vote taken, the Motion was tabled.

Mr. Fanella stated concerning the recycling center, the bids will be going out for that very shortly and stated we already voted on that and spending money on that at a previous meeting.

Mr. Fanella stated the Sixth and Fir Street Project adding our Engineer Livic is working on a grant for that, we should hear about that around the end of the month the grant will offset the cost on that pipe project.

Mr. Fanella stated the street department is down a person and they are doing a fine job with just Bruce and Doug but reminds that they are down a guy.

Mr. Fanella stated they will not be line painting all of Chestnut Street, we are only painting the ones that have a reserved parking space.

Mr. Fanella stated we received \$900.00 in donation and we will be doing the roof at the concession stand. He stated PP&L will install a pole at no charge and gave us a price for lights down at the Veterans Memorial and stated the monthly cost would be \$45.00 monthly for the three lights.

**MOTION-** Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and Mr. Bielskie seconded the motion to have PP&L place the lights at the Veterans Memorial Field.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Fanella stated he would like to get permission to answer Mr. Sacavage's letter and stated the wants to respond and let him know Council is moving forward on improvement and if they want to help they can, but we are moving forward.

Mr. Fanella stated a heating unit is needed in the truck room.

**MOTION-** Mr. Slaby made the motion to spend up to \$6,500.00 to replace the heating unit in the truck room and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mayor Bozza asked Mr. Fanella if Hope Masser could contact him on the placement of the Crime watch signs that are being purchased and see where it will be suitable to place them. Mr. Fanella agreed she may contact him.

Mr. Fanella stated concerning the pedestrian signs, he stated since it was brought up at the last meeting. He stated they are not putting anymore out and explained how firetruck and emergency vehicles trying to get through during an emergency, everyone pulls to the right as they are supposed to do, which leaves the middle open, it is difficult and stated that is not the way to go. He stated the motion Mrs. Niglio talked about the motion was at the discretion of the Council and stated if Council agrees with him as Chairman of Service and Facilities there will be one at the end and on in the middle of the Borough and that is it. Mr. Lutz stated he understands there was a serious accident coming into town. Chief Foust confirmed that is correct.

Mr. Fanella stated another crosswalk issue is under title 75 vehicle there is a section for pedestrian. Mr. Fanella stated a pedestrian does not have the right to step off the curb and right into traffic. Mr. Fanella stated when they step off the curb they are supposed to stop look left, look right and look left again and then proceed to cross. Mr. Fanella stated what Father is doing is creating a hazard and he has had some complaints from people that they almost hit him because he does step right into traffic. Mr. Fanella questioned Chief Foust if he is correct on the title 75 vehicle. Chief Foust stated he is correct and acknowledged he is familiar with it.

**FINANCE/PURCHASING**– (Robert Slaby)

Mr. Slaby stated last month the we discussed needing a gas tank for a borough truck and questioned the status on that. Mr. Fanella replied they did not proceed with the purchase.

Mr. Slaby stated he went back and looked at the budget and numbers from last year and had a discussion with the President of Council. Mr. Slaby stated the borough is running a little bit higher than last year at this time, but you must keep in mind there is approximately a \$50,000.00 increase and that is about 80% increase for our police department.

Mr. Slaby stated you have got to remember last year we were operating with a full-time officer and a part timer and we choose as council to increase that and the numbers are elevated because of that. Mr. Slaby stated it is common sense, if you put more cops on the cost are going to increase.

Mr. Slaby stated for the first five months of 2019, the borough is doing ok, not rich not poor, basically financial house is in order. Mr. Slaby stated he knows Mr. Lutz is heavily involved and stated there are some Kudo's to go around for doing a good job to Mr. Lutz, Mr. Niglio. Mr. Lutz thanked Mr. Slaby for his report.

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

Mr. Bielskie stated we received bids for the property on the 900 block of Chestnut Street Demolition. Mr. Bielski stated he spoke today with Affordable Contracting and Demolition, our low bid. He stated it should take him around a month to take the building down. Mr. Lutz stated as the Solicitor stated, we need to take possession of the building and there are some additional issues with parking, Mr. Lutz stated a motion is needed to accept the bid. Solicitor Greco stated the motion would need to be contingent upon the Borough acquiring the property.

**MOTION**- Mr. Slaby made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to accept the low bid from Affordable Contracting and Demolition contingent upon us acquiring possession of the building at a cost of \$77,812.00.

Mr. Lutz stated as the Solicitor stated it is contingent on us acquiring the property and the owner fulfilling his promises.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE** - (George Malakoski)

No Report

**GRANTS/RECREATION** –

Mr. Lutz stated the baseball field donations, \$1900.00. Mr. Lutz stated Councilman Fanella will be supervising all kind of improvements at the field and stated Mr. Niglio got us help for the roof and commented that is wonderful.

Mr. Lutz stated there will be a Cougar Day at Bucknell, they will give us 53 tickets for the Cougars to attend the football game when Holy Cross Comes down. Mr. Lutz stated the Holy Cross Coach was a Cougar.

Mr. Lutz stated Councilman Chesney is in the middle of a grant with the county and stated there is another grant that Councilman Fanella is working on with the Kulpmont 100 adding they are for major improvements and upgrades at the field adding Council is very optimistic about both grants.

**PERSONNEL**- (Michael Sinopoli)

Mr. Sinopoli stated an application is needed from anyone interested in employment in the borough.

**MOTION**- Mr. Sinopoli to advertise for a Code officer and was seconded by Mr. Fanella.

Mr. Lutz commented Mr. Moroz will retire in October and stated we want to have a Code Officer in place, so the new Code officer could transition into the position. Mr. Lutz stated we will look to do this sometime after the 4<sup>th</sup> July.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

**MOTION**- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and Mr. Fanella made the motion to advertise for temporary part time street department worker.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Sinopoli stated the initial meeting with the Union will be held on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Lutz stated this is the first meeting and then we will really start to get into discussions.

**FIRE/EMA/POLICE COMMITTEE** – (Chesney, Sinopoli and Fanella)

Mr. Chesney stated a meeting will be held with the Fire Department in the very near future and also a meeting with the Police Department just to update and go over a few kinks in the contract.

Mr. Chesney stated he wants to give thanks to the American Legion for the great concert and tribute to the Veterans. Mr. Chesney stated it was well organized and a great day and tribute to all our citizens who have served in the armed forces.

Chief Foust stated he has an application for part time employment for the police department. Council discussed the issue of updating the application stating it is two years old and a more current application would be desired. Chief Foust stated it is less than two years old. Mr. Lutz asked Chief Foust to get the application over to the Personnel Committee to review and stated there are some things still needing to be ironed out, but we would like to move on that quickly.

Mr. Lutz stated if we hire a full-time officer we need to go through Civil Service, this would be a part time hire.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mr. Motyka of 1471 Scott Street questioned the recycling grant and stated Mr. Fanella mentioned \$20,000.00 going for concrete work and questioned if any of that money is going to do the concrete from the DEP grant. Mr. Fanella replied no and stated that was approved last year and we just never spent it. Mr. Motyka stated if you do the ramps or anything additional to the paving, you cannot divide it to escape the prevailing wage law. Mr. Lutz thanked Mr. Motyka and stated he appreciates him telling them that.

Joseph Dowkus 1135 Poplar Street. He stated people see he is running for council and so people bring up issues to him. He stated their concerns of the high grass and weeds down by the factory adding there has been reports of snakes being down there on Chestnut Street and stated they wonder when the grass will be cut down there, so they could move their vehicles. Mr. Dowkus stated there are all kind of rocks and debris and so they would like to know when it will be done.

Mr. Lutz replied that it is done and added he cut it last year as well himself. Mr. Lutz stated the first time of cutting it is terrible, but now it will not be so bad. Mr. Lutz stated we will probably cut it again for the brew fest and then in the fall we will tidy it up. Mr. Dowkus stated the reason it was brought up to him is, so they could move their vehicles, so they don't have all kind of crap being thrown up. Mr. Lutz stated they will try to be very careful.

Mr. Dowkus questioned what the procedure is to use the town park and questioned if there is a calendar or anything for use. A discussion took place and there is not a policy

in place. A discussion took place on a possible procedure for reserving and using the town park.

Mr. Dowkus stated The Eagle Scouts are all doing projects in all different towns and they will be doing the project in town park in cleaning and painting the gazebo in town park. He stated it will be two Saturday's one to pressure wash and prep and one to paint. He stated this was already discussed and approved at a prior meeting and stated he is only keeping it alive in conversation. Mr. Lutz asked Mayor Bozza if he will be up there. Mayor Bozza replied he will be, and he will make sure we have a letter on the dates they plan to be there.

Mr. Dowkus questioned on how to report an abandoned vehicle. A discussion took place and it was explained it must be reported to the Police Department. Mr. Lutz stated you would call and report it and it is a combined effort of the Code Office and the Police Department. Mr. Lutz stated we got about 25 vehicles adding it is a process. Mayor Bozza added it does not happen overnight.

Mr. Dowkus stated he gets crap all of the time from his constituents, his people in the 1000 block of Scott Street and stated he gets crap with them all of the time with what garbage gets dumped down there and the rain runoff, the tree house of horror down there. Mr. Lutz stated we got it adding they are talking back and forth with the Township and trying to get something done. Mr. Dowkus replied he talked with the code officer today and he said he never heard anything. Mr. Lutz stated he spoke with the township supervisor. Mr. Dowkus stated he talked to them as well. Mr. Fanella stated he spoke to multiple supervisors.

Mr. Dowkus stated there was a discussion about locking the gate at the Veterans Memorial Field and stated that was a question on how we can lock the gate and open the gate, we didn't have that figured out. Mayor Bozza replied that is a problem, usually our officers do that and right now we are unable to do that right now, right now it is a little tough to do. Mr. Lutz commented lights will be put down there and we will get some cameras down there.

Mr. Dowkus questioned about the three strikes your out and questioned if the police could put something in excel and bring it up so when there are three strikes it would come up. Chief Foust replied that would be something for Mr. Moroz, the code office would keep that documented and he would notify the landlord.

Mr. Lutz reminded Mr. Dowkus his time is up and suggested he write down and send a note. Mr. Lutz stated they will get with him and chat.

Mr. Bielskie stated we are starting to work on zoning in Kulpmont, currently there is no zoning. Mr. Bielskie stated in the meantime let it be known that anything that is residential is residential and anything that is commercial is commercial and if anybody wants to change anything it must be approved by council, to be on the safe side. Mr. Lutz stated we have somebody talking about putting a garage in a residential

neighborhood and we get a little anxious about that. Solicitor Greco stated there is no zoning ordinance and so we do not have anything to stop it.

Mr. Slaby stated years ago we stopped the crematory from coming in and stated they were told by the law firm representing the Borough, we needed to get a zoning ordinance intact. Mr. Slaby stated the Judge ruled in favor of the Borough despite the fact that all of the evidence and the person that was going to put in the crematory backed off. Mr. Slaby stated we need to have zoning and stated sooner or later something is going to happen here. He added it is a long process but there is nothing stopping anybody from putting something next to anyone's home. Mr. Bielskie stated the code requirements would put a stop to it. The Solicitor stated we don't have any zoning ordinance.

**OLD BUSINESS** –

None

**NEW BUSINESS-**

Mr. Slaby stated he was doing some checking and stated he is a person that believes we need to be competitive and stated he is disturbed over the fact that the Solicitor, Mr. Greco is paid a whopping \$2,000.00. Mr. Slaby stated he would like to see a raise from \$2,000.00 annual retainer fee to \$6,000.00 and his hourly rate to \$75.00 per hour.

Mr. Slaby said he is stating based on the fact at his current position in Shamokin where he works the Solicitor of Shamokin gets paid more than that and the Solicitor of Coal Township gets paid more than that. Mr. Slaby stated he knows of other municipalities as well that get paid more than that.

**MOTION-** Mr. Slaby made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to increase the Solicitors retainer to \$6,000.00 annually and his hourly rate to \$75.00.

Mr. Chesney stated he agrees what the Solicitor Greco has been doing for a year and a half is an outstanding job.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** LUTZ (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), MALAKOSKI (absent), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)  
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Lutz stated he, Mr. Bielskie and the Code Officer went to a seminar down at the County about blight. Mr. Chesney is working with someone at the County on some new Ordinances. Mr. Lutz stated code violations, vacant properties and code inspections have all been discussed and stated they are working on those. Mr. Lutz stated we will be talking about all of that more. Mr. Lutz stated we are going to start filing liens adding we are cutting grass at some properties and at the end of the season we will be filing liens.

Mr. Lutz stated into issues with feral cats. Mr. Lutz stated we are looking into a program called TNR, Trap Neuter and Release of Cats. Mr. Lutz stated we had a picture of 15 cats up on a deck last year. Mr. Slaby stated he counted 22 cats over the weekend at his end of the neighborhood. Mr. Lutz stated the problem is not going away.

Margaret Marshall stated her son has been a state agent for 8 years and is moving up here. Ms. Marshall stated he bought a house here and will be fully in it within the year and stated she hears they are looking for officers. Mr. Lutz replied he should come up and apply. Chief Foust also responded to Ms. Marshall that he will need his certification.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming events

August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Holy Angels Parish Picnic

October 12<sup>th</sup> Kulpmont Knights of Columbus Wine Festival 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Rhonda Wilk  
Borough Secretary**

**Date of Approval \_\_\_\_\_**