

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
March 11, 2020
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 March 11, 2020

Mr. Slaby requested for moment of silence to remember a person who spent many years on Borough Government, Mr. Frank Chesney who recently passed away.

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

ABSENT: None

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Solicitor, Edward Greco, Treasurer Paul Niglio, Secretary Rhonda Wilk, Code Official Heather Owens, Borough Supervisor Bruce Graff

OTHERS PRESENT: Joe Politza, Edwin P. Howerter, Barry Fetterman, Linda Rodak, Marsha Karnes, Diane Graff, Stephanie Niglio, Annette Amrich, Joseph Amrich and Edward Petrovich

Mr. Slaby reminded all in attendance to please sign in.

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

No one spoke

PRESIDENTS REPORT – (Robert M. Slaby)

No Report

MAYORS REPORT- (Nicholas Bozza)

Mayor Bozza stated Easter Egg Hunt is listed under his agenda and stated that will not take place this year and stated plans are being discussed for next year.

Mayor Bozza stated Rhonda Wilk received updated quotes for computers for the police department. The quotes were for both Lenova at \$575.00 and HP/Dell at \$476.00. Mayor Bozza stated he would like to see a motion to purchase two Lenova Computers from Liquid Technologies and to include \$89.00 per hour labor cost to install, set up and transfer data for the police department. Rhonda Wilk stated the set up is estimated to be approximately 4 hours.

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to spend up to \$1,600.00 for two computers and set up for the Police Department from Liquid Technologies.

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

Mayor Bozza stated he sent some letters out requesting donations to help with the flags and some hardware that are displayed along Chestnut Street. Mayor Bozza stated Aldo Mirarchi donated \$100.00, Kulpmont Cruise Association \$100.00, Kulpmont Sportsman's Association \$100.00, Kulpmont VFW \$200.00, West End Fire Association \$100.00, Kulpmont Knights \$100.00 and the Kulpmont 100 donated \$300.00. Mayor Bozza stated with the Kulpmont 100 donation the entire cost was covered. Mayor Bozza stated the Borough Solicitor, Edward Greco is also donating \$100.00. Mayor Bozza thanked all who donated and asked that thank you letters be sent. Council agreed.

Mayor Bozza stated Chief Foust received an application for a part time police officer. Mayor Bozza stated this person just graduated from the academy and expressed the need for a part time officer in this borough.

Mr. Slaby stated he agrees and stated as previously holding the position of Mayor in this borough for 12 years he wholeheartedly agrees to hire a part time officer.

Mr. Slaby suggested that the Mayor and personnel committee meet to discuss that and suggested to confer with Mr. Niglio on the funds for this before we hire anybody.

Mayor Bozza agreed and asked Mr. Niglio to stick around a little bit at the end of the meeting for the executive session.

SECRETARY'S REPORT- (Rhonda Wilk)

Rhonda Wilk stated approval is needed for the reorganization meeting on February 12, 2020 regular monthly meeting minute.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to approve the February 12, 2020 meeting minutes

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Rhonda Wilk stated Correspondence was received from Northumberland Conservation and Copied to Mayor/Council.

The Kulpmont Fire Department Station 200 will have a training on Monday March 16th and are requesting permission to close streets Eighth from Chestnut to Spruce and Maple Street from Ninth to Seventh Streets, Copied to Mayor/Council/Chief Foust

MOTION- Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to close streets requested for fire department training.

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Matt Siko sent correspondence to the Borough on the annual appreciation banquet to be held on March 28th at the West End Fire Hall. RSVP requested, Copied mayor/Council/Police Chief/ Code Officer

A letter was received from the West End Fire Association for consideration of yearly \$3,000.00 stipend and Copied to both Mayor/Council

Livic Civil sent correspondence in regard to Fir Street Culvert Replacement and was copied to Mayor/Council

Rhonda Wilk stated a letter was mailed from the Borough to Mr. Stellar, Superintendent of Mount Carmel School District concerning forgiveness of taxes for 2019 and future years for the property located at 923, 929-931 Chestnut Street and was copied to the Solicitor and Finance Committee.

Solicitor Greco commented on the sent correspondence from the Borough and stated Mount Carmel School Board will meet next Thursday.

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. Dowkus 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 requested to meet with Council in executive session to discuss a personnel matter he has.

SOLICITORS REPORT- (Edward Greco)

Solicitor Greco stated he is requesting to meet in executive session to discuss possible litigation matters. He stated this is a long standing litigation matter that will need to be discussed.

POLICE CHIEFS REPORT – (Nathan Foust)

Police Report Attachment #2

Chief Foust stated he has nothing additional to add. Mayor Bozza and President of Council are to meet in the near future

FIRE CHIEF REPORT – (Jeff Gilotti)

Fire Chief Report Attachment #3

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – (Kevin O’ Hearn)

No Report

BUILDING INSPECTOR’S REPORT- (Tri County COG)

No Report

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

Report Attachment #4

SERVICE AND FACILITIES – (Robert Fanella)

Mr. Fanella stated the food surplus will be held on March 19^h from 8 a.m. until 12 noon at the Borough Garage.

Mr. Fanella stated the Terry Miriello field playground is now open.

Mr. Fanella stated he would like to remind everyone of the street sweeper beginning this month on March 25th for the season. Schedules are available in the Borough Office and on the Borough website at www.boroughofkulpmont.org

Mr. Fanella stated he is looking into ordering 3 sheets of aluminum sheeting to complete the project in the police department. Mr. Slaby questioned if that is done or that he will need a motion for this purchase. Mr. Fanella replied the aluminum needs to be order yet and stated a motion is not needed this was already approved.

Mr. Fanella stated there is a leak in the backhoe and stated him and Bruce both looked but they can't see where it is at. Mr. Fanella stated it will need to be repaired, but when we call the guys from Wilkes Barre, you all see the bills for the cost just to drive here. Mr. Slaby stated it is ours, it is like the police cars, the fire truck.... We need to get it fixed. Mr. Fanella stated if it is not under warranty, we don't need to go to the dealer we could possibly look to go somewhere closer to have it repaired.

Mr. Slaby stated possibly we could consider options for a lesser amount cost wise to go somewhere else. Bruce Graff stated he does not know who we could get and stated he does not know who repairs heavy equipment.

Mr. Dowkus questioned if it is a hydraulic leak. Mr. Fanella replied possible transmission. Bruce Graff stated it is not under warranty, possibly if there is a recall with what is causing the problem it may be covered, we don't know. Bruce stated his opinion is the motor or transmission will need to get pulled. Mr. Fanella stated possibly a CAT dealer in Frackville could repair. Bruce Graff added he is not pushing Medico but we have no way to get it somewhere, we cant drive it there and Medico will leave a loaner for the Borough. Mr. Fanella agreed and stated he just wants to say the repair is not going to be cheap. Mr. Slaby stated it needs to be repaired; we can't approve an amount because we don't know. Mr. Slaby stated if need be we will need to have an emergency meeting. Mr. Slaby suggested proceeding expeditiously. It was agreed Bruce will make a call tomorrow.

FINANCE/PURCHASING– (Stephen Motyka)

Mr. Motyka stated he would like to forgo his salary for his entire 4-year term.

The Solicitor directed Mr. Motyka to provide the Borough with a letter to keep on file stating he would like to forgo his salary for the four-year term. Mr. Motyka agreed to provide a letter.

MOTION - Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to accept the wish of Mr. Motyka to forgo Councilman Salary for his four-year term.

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

Mr. Motyka mentioned he and Mr. Dowkus attended the training on the 14th and 15th of February. He stated it was very informative and stated the first day covered police and personnel and the second day covered finance and taxation. He encouraged any member if they have the opportunity to attend the training and stated it was very informative. Mr. Dowkus agreed. Mr. Motyka stated they also offer a full class on rental property, he stated possibly the class would benefit out code officer.

CODE HEALTH AND SAFETY (Stephen Bielskie)

No Report. Mr. Bielskie stated we have been getting many complaints about noise. Mr. Slaby stated he seems to recall an ordinance that stated it was quite from 11:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Mayor Bozza replied the only thing he has seen is that a contractor cannot start before 7:00 a.m. Mr. Slaby stated he recalls when he was Mayor there was the concern of garbage trucks noise at 4:30 a.m. in the summertime when everybody had windows open.

Mr. Bielskie stated most of the complaints now are working at night. Mr. Bielskie stated he would donate a decibel meter to the police department. Mr. Dowkus suggested an application you could download onto your phone and stated they are pretty accurate. Solicitor Greco stated the only thing about using an application is the accuracy and stated if it is a regular decibel unit would it be inspected, weights and measures anything like that.

Mayor Bozza questioned if they would need to be calibrated after so long. Mr. Bielskie stated he does not think there are any adjustments on them, the factory sets them. Solicitor Greco stated he thinks they would be a better option.

Mr. Dowkus stated concerning noise, the committee is looking at that and will see if there is an Ordinance that could be considered.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE - (Joseph Dowkus)

Mr. Dowkus stated Ordinance 2020-01 for Reserved Parking has been advertised.

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion to adopt the Reserved Parking Ordinance 2020-01 and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie.

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

Mr. Chesney commented with any ordinance and especially in the area of parking, you need to use courtesy and common sense. He added in some situations we have three or four parking spaces in a row and some vehicles such as vans or extended pick up trucks may take more space. Mr. Chesney stated he would just hope that common courtesy and common sense could be used.

Mr. Slaby questioned if you start at the corner. Mr. Graff stated what they have been doing is going to the center of the entry way of the house to the center of porch, that is what they have been doing on the parking space. Mr. Slaby questioned as Mr. Chesney stated, how you do it for extended trucks. Mr. Slaby stated you could remember by “HIS “hydrant, intersection, 15’, 20’, 30’. Bruce Graff stated sometimes there are 8 or 9 of them on one block, everyone wants to park in front of their house. Mr. Slaby stated, they are not going to fit.

Mr. Dowkus asked everyone not to use the internet or Facebook to complain. Mr. Dowkus asked residents and anyone with concern to call into the office and speak to Rhonda. Mr. Dowkus stated by calling into the office you can make a valid complaint or claim and Council will look into it.

Mr. Dowkus stated the 2020-02 Quality of Life Ordinance has been advertised.

MOTION- Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to adopt the Quality of Life Ordinance 2020-02.

Mr. Motyka questioned about the fines, and stated he looked at the fines in Mt. Carmel and for scattering rubbish and the fine in Kulpmont is three times the amount of what Mt. Carmel is. Mr. Motyka questioned why we do not issue warnings.

Mr. Slaby stated he agrees with him wholeheartedly and stated he had this discussion with Mr. Bielskie. Mr. Bielskie replied to Mr. Motyka the fine amounts were all made when you and the past council set those amounts. Mr. Bielskie stated all they did was gone through the ordinances of the quality of life and used the same fine amounts.

Mr. Chesney commented he thinks what happened in the past was that when people are fined \$25.00 they say the heck with it and would guess that was what caused fines to be raised to make it a stinger so that it does not happen.

Mr. Chesney stated the Borough is not looking for money on these fines; obviously we are going to get money if people screw and stated he believes that is why the fines were set a little higher, to deter people from doing what they are not suppose to do.

Mr. Slaby stated he agrees with the previous council to a certain degree and then said however if you get enough publicity in tomorrow's paper in regard to passing an ordinance that would be fine and dandy. Mr. Slaby stated but 365 days from now somebody moves into town and that person then contacts someone on council that they did not know.

Mr. Motyka stated if they go to the magistrate, we could lose the case because of not giving a warning. Mr. Motyka stated it is something to think about and stated as a group that may be something, we may need to look at again. The Solicitor added many municipalities issue a warning and inform of the violation and provide a time frame to comply, and after that if they would not comply, they would be fined.

Mr. Slaby suggests that this subject be considered to be brought to the table again. Mr. Bielski stated they will check it out.

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 only other thing now is the noise ordinance and stated we are looking into that.

GRANTS/RECREATION – (Robert Chesney)

Mr. Chesney stated we are waiting for the state budget to be approved and their funding and how monies could be allocated. He added the Kulpmont 100 is still working on that Bright Light and stated as he said before it is just a nomination of a group that has done group things, and the Kulpmont 100 is investigating that. Mr. Chesney stated it is a recommendation.

DCNR grant is being discussed at the County level. Mr. Chesney stated the dog park is still in the stage of outlining and stated it is pretty well thought out. He stated once all of that money is recorded it will then be implemented. Mr. Chesney stated the park is going to be down where the borough building was going to be.

Mr. Chesney stated he thinks the dogs will be comfortable and enjoy the area. Mr. Chesney stated there is also a grant that they are checking into that will be in the fall. Mr. Chesney stated he spoke with Mr. Christiana very recently and spoke about another property on Chestnut Street and stated he said they would be more than willing to work with Kulpmont again because of the way the recent demolition was handled.

Mr. Chesney stated we still have some money left from the other building. He stated there is a lot of grant action that will be initiated and hopefully granted.

Mr. Motyka stated the AARP grant is due April 1st and asked Mr. Chesney if he minds if he puts those 10 pages together and pursue. Mr. Chesney agreed and stated if he wants to do it that is fine. Mr. Motyka stated we looked at the digital speed devises both ways on Chestnut Street. He stated he did some research. Mr. Chesney stated it does include a few different things. Mr. Chesney commented we would still need to discuss what it would be used for. Mr. Motyka stated it is already March 11th and so we would need to move on it.

PERSONNEL- (Michael Sinopoli)

No Report

FIRE/EMA/POLICE COMMITTEE – (Robert Fanella)

Mr. Fanella stated he spoke with Ashland Diesel today and stated when the parts are in for the repair on the firetruck, they will be calling us and we will get the truck over for repairs.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mrs. Niglio of 415 Spruce Street said she would like to make note that the Quality of Life Ordinance was adopted in March of 2018 and stated for the record, as the other people in

office..... Mr. Bielskie replied, the fees came from the previous administration and ordinances. Mrs. Niglio replied she does not think that is correct information.

Mr. Petrovich of Spruce Street in Kulpmont questioned what could be done about the citation he received for burning wood in his burner for heat and an appeal. Mr. Petrovich stated he had a first violation and learned about an appeal, he stated he was told he does not have a garbage man and he does and had papers to prove it. Mr. Petrovich stated it is a second violation now of \$150.00 He stated he used coal and wood for 25 years and all of a sudden, he is in violation. He asked if an appeal is available to him and what he must do and stated he does not understand why he cannot appeal and asked what he must do to eliminate the violations.

Mr. Bielskie explained an appeal is for a UCC Code for building matters, not a Borough Code and stated the appeal would run through the District Magistrate. Mr. Slaby asked Mr. Petrovich to stick around until the end of the meeting and the Solicitor and Mr. Bielskie could try to shed some light on your matter. Mr. Petrovich agreed.

Annette Americk of 307 South 15th Street in Kulpmont complained about the corner of Scott and 15th Street and cars coming down from Wood and Polplar Streets, the cars come through like a racetrack and asked what could be done. She asked about a stop sign possibly on the north and south to keep down the speeding through or a slow child at play sign. She stated she is surprised nothing has happened so far. Council briefly discussed and decided to refer this to the committee for review. Solicitor Greco stated the street ordinance will need to be reviewed and an amendment to the ordinance made, possible traffic study done and added there is more involved and to be considered than just placing a stop sign. Solicitor Greco stated if it is feasible, we then could look into it. Mr. Slaby stated if there is an ordinance, perhaps it will need to be amended.

Ms. Americk stated recently in January her brother had an incident at the Brady Fire Company and stated because an AED unit was available his life was saved. She stated you have three to five minutes to save somebody. Ms. Americk questioned if the Borough Building considered having an AED available. Mr. Motyka replied he feels this is something to investigate adding the Senior Action Center is housed in the building.

Linda Rodak of Eight Street Kulpmont asked if possibly there was a grant for the AED for the Borough Building with the Senior Action Center located here. Mr. Motyka agreed and recommended looking into getting one, possibly with a grant.

OLD BUSINESS-

Mayor Bozza stated within the next two weeks they will be getting a load of stone for down at the pollination garden, just to let everyone know.

Mr. Chesney stated he would just like to mention about the recycling bins and asks everyone if you see someone placing the wrong items in the bins to please say something and feel free to stoop them.

Mr. Chesney requested that Rhonda Wilk send out a thank you letter to HPCI Construction for the completion of the roof down at the field, they donated time and material and ready for the baseball season and we would like to thank them for this.

NEW BUSINESS-

Mr. Motyka stated he would like to have another earth day cleanup this year and stated he would like to do litter clean up in and around the Veterans Memorial Field, Fir Street and the Sportsman's Club asked that we remove those old shacks in the woods and clean up and there are some other alley ways I would like to clean up as well. He stated the date would be April 25th from 9 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

MOTION – Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Chesney to participate in the Earth Day Cleanup April 25th from 9 a.m. until 12:00 noon

VOICE VOTE –

Unanimous

Mr. Motyka stated the Borough of Kulpmont paid for the garbage last year and asked that Rhonda investigate the possible trash cost to dump be covered under the registration possibly to pay for the trash.

Mr. Motyka suggested that a form be used for complaints that may be addressed to any department or committee and stated he would provide a form that Easton uses to the Code Health and Safety Department that they could review and work on a form. Council briefly discussed and agreed it would be a good idea, that would include name, address contact information and the complaint. Mr. Slaby stated he liked what Mr. Motyka shared with him and asked Mr. Motyka to put something together and get it to the other members of council to review and possibly we could adopt it at a future meeting.

Mr. Motyka stated concerning the DCNR grant with the deadline being April 20th, he would like to apply for that it is a \$40,000.00 grant with \$20,000.00 in kind, cash put up to build restrooms at the Veterans Memorial Field. Mr. Motyka stated Mr. Dowkus had a meeting with the school district and stated he thinks we will have their support.

Mr. Motyka stated he would mirror the grant we received from the playground; it should be a similar templet. Mr. Slaby asked if they have discussed this with Mr. Stellar or Mr. Sacavage. Mr. Motyka replied there is no commitment, but they did come back with a few questions. The Solicitor stated the school board did not committee any financial support and added they were going to meet. Mr. Dowkus stated they are receptive to meet and stated they will get more information together for the school board.

Mr. Motyka stated he envisions \$30,000.00 in materials for the building and stated he thinks it will cost another \$30,000.00 to run the water line, power and sewer line. Mr.

Motyka stated he would like to meet with council if approved by motion on a location. Mr. Slaby stated he heard what Mr. Dowkus said about the school district and stated the other part we need to be enlightened about is the boroughs money. Mr. Slaby stated he would like the Treasurers input on the money, he added nobody better than him to let us know if the borough could financially afford this. Mr. Motyka stated this would be the same as the recycling grant, you need to pay first and then get reimbursed. Mr. Chesney stated this is something we could further discuss.

MOTION- Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Dowkus to apply for the DCNR Grant.

Mr. Chesney questioned if that money could be used for other projects. Mr. Motyka replied the grant money is itemized. Mr. Motyka stated whatever we apply for, if you have another idea. Mr. Chesney stated we need to discuss that and as we said in the past there are so many infrastructure things that need to be taken care of and added we could apply and if we get it, we don't have to take it. Mr. Slaby stated that is correct and stated again, he would like to hear from Mr. Niglio.

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 apartment building owned by Mr. Ortiz approached and asked about tenants being allowed to park in the rear of the property the Borough now owns on Chestnut Street. Mr. Fanella stated Mr. Ortiz would be willing to place some 2B stone for parking and a fence to keep vehicles from parking further than designated. Solicitor Greco stated there would be some liability and another consideration would be not knowing what the intention is of the Borough, the possible sale of that lot. Mr. Fanella stated the 2B stone would help with the erosion that is beginning to occur down there. The Solicitor stated we would need to come up with an agreement and request certificate of liability insurance. Mr. Fanella stated parking on Chestnut Street on that block is limited. Council briefly discussed all options, and the possibility of even making a parking lot.

Mr. Fanella stated he will be looking at a machine with Mr. Bielskie at Tri County Cog that may help with patching potholes. Mr. Bielskie explained belonging to the Cog, members would all pitch in and pay a maintenance fee. He added you would purchase your own materials needed, but other than that the cost would only be our share of the maintenance fee.

Mr. Slaby announced Council will now meet in executive session to discuss personnel, contractual and possible litigation matters.

Solicitor Greco stated Council met in executive session to discuss personnel, contractual and possible litigation for approximately 1 hour.

Mr. Slaby responded and stated he will let the Solicitor answer that question. Solicitor Greco responded by saying it is not the Council, Mayor, his decision to say what he can

or cannot do. The Solicitor stated if there is a citation issue, he has the right to appeal and that would be up at the magistrate's and have a hearing explaining the District Magistrate would then decide if guilty or not guilty of the citation and the violation.

Mr. Slaby stated it is not up to Borough Council to sit here as the Jury or the Judge. Mr. Chesney explained you get a citation and pay it or not pay it. Mr. Chesney added if it is not paid it will probably be fined again and if you do not want to pay that, it will go before the District Magistrate to hear your case and the magistrate will then make a decision, if you do not like his decision you could then take it to County Court.

Mr. Petrovich asked what he must do so that these violations do not keep coming on, what he could do to stop them. Solicitor Greco responded by saying not to burn anything except for wood per the Ordinance of Kulpmont or coal. The Solicitor added that includes no wood chips, no paper, and cardboard nothing other than seasoned wood.

Mayor Bozza questioned Mr. Petrovich how long he has lived in the Borough. Mr. Petrovich replied he lived in the Borough all of his life. Mayor Bozza explained that he has heard many complaints from neighbors and stated some of these people are firefighters and they know different smells. Mayor Bozza then said there is a petition going around signed by neighbors that they do not want you burning.

Mayor Slaby stated he has a petition here that has been delivered that is signed by neighbors of the 900 block of Spruce Street. Mr. Bielskie stated if it gets bad enough, he will then get involved because it is a health hazard now, the smoke effecting peoples lifestyle.

Solicitor Greco stated also if it gets bad enough 911 could be called by someone and the fire department could arrive and then investigate the source of the odor, the smoke. Mr. Bielskie replied once they are called, they have the right to come in.

Mrs. Petrovich responded by saying they have been through all of that and they found nothing. Mr. Petrovich then stated they use seasoned wood adding that green wood would block the chimney and cause a problem. Mr. Petrovich stated any kind of plastic would cause a chimney fire.

Mr. Petrovich stated he had a reputable company from Harmon Stove Company come in to clean everything and inspect everything so that it was proper. He then said he brought that paperwork in and gave it to the former code officer. Mr. Petrovich stated everything was done properly. Mr. Petrovich questioned if he is getting bad coal, it is wood and coal that he is using and questioned it being said it causes and odor.

Mr. Bielskie questioned how high the chimney is above the roof. Mrs. Petrovich said it is not above the house roof. Mr. Bielskie responded by saying it must be above the roof in order to get the correct draft. Mr. Petrovich then replied "it is" it was checked.

Solicitor Greco then said again, the process would be as he previously explained. Mrs. Petrovich stated they are dismantling the stove, so this won't happen again.

Mr. Petrovich questioned to avoid everything if they are telling him he would need to pay the second violation; they gave 14 days to appeal it. Solicitor Greco replied the appeal is up at the magistrate.

Mr. Slaby began a discussion concerning the expense that was spoken about in executive ending that expense that was discussed and then adjusting the Treasurers salary from \$2,400.00 to \$3,200.00.

Mr. Bielskie commented it is the same amount of money. Mr. Bielskie stated the Finance committee will get together with the Personnel committee and get back to the council with the recommendation for the pay increase or denial. Solicitor Greco stated it sounded like Mr. Niglio was fine with meeting with personnel and then doing it in one motion. Mr. Chesney stated he wants to meet with the personnel committee.

Mr. Slaby asked Rhonda Wilk to write a check to cover the January and February expense. Mr. Chesney stated he thought this was just going to start next month if approved. Solicitor Greco replied January and February was approved, March was not approved. Mr. Chesney stated there is nothing to justify the \$66.60 for Verizon. A short discussion took place and it was decided to prepare the check to be signed by two signers.

Mr. Slaby questioned if Paul Niglio would need to be one of the check signers. Rhonda answered no and stated three others could sign the check.

MOTION- Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Dowkus to grant \$3,000.00 to the West End for storing our street sweeper and equipment.

Mr. Chesney commented the street sweeper, and other equipment is stored there.

ROLL CALL VOTE- DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes), CHESNEY (yes), FANELLA (yes), SINOPOLI (abstain), BIELSKIE (yes), SLABY (yes)
6 YEAS – 0 NAYS – 1 ABSTAIN

A discussion took place between the Mayor and the Council on the hiring of a part time officer to work a maximum of 28 hours per week.

MOTION- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to hire Gary Bregensir as a part time police officer for a maximum of 28 hours per week.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slaby wishes all a Happy St. Patrick's Day and thanked everyone for coming.

ADJOURNMENT

**THE MARCH 11, 2020 MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE
CHAIR**

**Rhonda Wilk
Borough Secretary**

Date of Approval May 13, 2020