

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office
114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

ROLL CALL: COUNCILMEN JACOBS, RADOCHA, SABOL III; COUNCILWOMEN FOX, POREMBO; PRESIDENT HAWK & MAYOR KITCHKO

President Hawk called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Councilman DeMelfi was absent.

PURPOSE: General Purposes

- **Award Bid for Willow Lane**

Councilwoman Fox stated how the lowest bid was from Doli Construction Corporation at a bid price of \$287,328.00. She stated how the bid was for sewer line replacement as well as the storm drains. She stated how they had been awarded a grant for part of the sewer portion of the project. Councilman Jacobs stated how it was broken down on the bid sheet as to how much of it was for sewer and much was for the storm drains.

Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to award the bid for the Willow Lane project to Doli Construction Corp. at a bid price of \$287,328.00.

Councilwoman Porembo asked if that grant was from the CDBG. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they were awarded \$150,000.00 through the DCED – PA Small Water and Sewer Grant program.

All voted yes, except Councilman Radocha who voted no. Motion passed.

Councilman Radocha stated how he thought that the bid price came in way over budget. He stated that he did not know if they could use the grant in house. Councilman Radocha stated how Mike Tirpak thought that the project would be around \$200,000.00. Councilman Jacobs stated how that was several months ago. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that when they applied for the grant, it was for approximately \$300,000.00, which was just for the sewer work. Councilman Radocha asked what they received for the grant. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated "\$150,000.00." Councilman Radocha stated how the sewer stuff was getting way out of control. Councilman Jacobs stated how they had talked about it with the Budget Committee and the Sewer Committee. He stated about the project at the sewer plant along with the project with the pumps in Lake Hauto. Councilwoman Porembo asked for a breakdown on sewer as to what they had spent on the projects. Councilman Radocha stated that they were going to spend \$1 million in 2019 for sewage.

Councilwoman Porembo stated about the cost of the project at the sewer plant, the cost of the pumps, which would include the cost to install them and the cost for the gear box. She asked if there were any other projection of what was happening at the sewer plant or other cost that they were going to incur in the near future. Councilman Radocha stated how they had another issue coming up. He stated how they were going to need a tunnel inspection, which they know that they already have a problem. Councilwoman Fox stated how that was not sewer. Councilman Jacobs stated how they were going to get the two tunnels inspected, which they received a quote for \$4,500.00 to get them both inspected (two days). Councilwoman Porembo asked if there was a possibility of work that would need to be done on either of those tunnels. Councilman Radocha stated how it was sewer and that they know that the one of the tunnels had collapsed.

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Councilman Sabol stated about getting back to Willow Lane and asked Councilman Radocha what he was trying to say. Councilman Radocha stated how they had completed Rhume Street in house. He stated how he did know that they had gone over budget; how they were over with the overtime and how they were over with the material, but that it was probably not a \$300,000.00 job either. Councilman Jacobs stated how they had probably spent \$260,000.00 - \$270,000.00 on Rhume Street. Councilman Sabol asked if they were talking about what they had spent out of sewer. Councilman Radocha stated how they had a grant for the sewer. Councilman Sabol asked how much the grant was for. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated "\$150,000.00." Councilman Radocha stated that if the material was listed at \$100,000.00 - \$120,000.00 and they were only going to spend \$50,000.00 in labor. Councilwoman Fox asked if the grant specified how they had to use the grant funds. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how the \$150,000.00 could only be used for the sewage portion of the project. She stated how the work/cost on the storm drains was going to be the Borough's responsibility.

Councilwoman Poremba asked if the \$287,328.00 was for the entire project on Willow Lane, including paving. Councilman Jacobs stated how the paving was not included in that price. Councilman Radocha stated how there was probably no restoration included in the cost because the curbs would have to be installed once they were done with the replacement of the lines. Councilman Jacobs stated that once they get the curbing installed, they were able to get the base work done. Councilman Sabol asked Councilman Radocha how much more time he would need to figure it out. Councilman Radocha stated how he would have to see what the material cost was, the cost for the structures and the pipes. He stated about getting the figures from Mike Tirpak to see what it would total.

Councilman Radocha asked Secretary/Treasurer Ahner what the grant was for. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how it was \$150,000.00 and it was only for sewer. Councilman Radocha asked if it was broken down on the bid sheet. Councilman Jacobs stated "yes." Councilman Radocha asked if they would use the entire grant for the sewage work. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they would use the entire amount of the grant for the sewage portion of the project. Councilman Jacobs stated how it was broken down as to how much for the inlets, storm drain pipe and the sewer pipe. Councilman Radocha stated how he did not want to get into a problem where they were not able to use the entire grant with doing the work in house. Councilman Jacobs stated about his issue with doing the work in house. Councilman Radocha stated how there was no control over the workers when they did the work on Rhume Street. Councilman Jacobs asked if they were able to control it. Councilwoman Fox stated how it was hard to control them.

Councilman Jacobs stated how there were so many things that had to get done; Industrial Road, there was two spots that had to be grounded out and fixed. He stated how the bridge inspections were done two years ago and none of that work was completed. Councilman Jacobs stated how it might be costing them some money, but to get the guys out . . . Councilwoman Fox stated how they did go over what they expected to spend for Rhume Street because of all of the overtime. Councilman Radocha stated that once they started hitting all of those hours, they should have stopped the job and not worked on Fridays.

Councilman Sabol asked the cost of the bid that they just approved. Councilman Jacobs stated "\$287,328.00". Councilman Sabol stated how they have to come up with \$137,328.00. Councilman Jacobs stated how there was so much from streets and so much from sewer. He stated how the streets were going to pay for the storm drains and the storm drain pipes.

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Councilman Sabol stated to Councilman Radocha how he had been in the business for many years and he would go along with his recommendation. Councilman Radocha stated how he did not think that they should award it until they see what the list was and talked with Bob Pilla to see what he thought. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how Mr. Pilla was at the bid opening. Councilman Radocha asked what Mr. Pilla said. He stated how he had not talked to him about it. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how he had made the remark about it being a good price.

Councilwoman Porembo asked what they would have to put into it yet to finish Willow Lane. Councilman Radocha stated that to finish the road, they were going to spend approximately \$500,000.00 total. Councilman Jacobs stated how they have the pumps being installed in Lake Hauto and somebody was going to have to be there. He stated how they had the issue at the plant, which they just met the day before with the painter and the contractor. He stated how they were going to need somebody to oversee what was going on at the plant. Councilman Jacobs stated how they were going to have too many things going on that Summer and they did not have enough manpower to go around to oversee a lot of it. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they were talking about Diaz Avenue, the bridges, and the inspections of the tunnels. She asked if they thought that there was enough work to do in house that they could do the final (paving) of Willow Lane once the work was completed. She stated how there was a lot of work to be done that Summer. Councilman Radocha asked if they know if they were going to get the funding for Diaz Avenue. Councilman Jacobs stated how they would not find out until November, so it would be a project for 2020. He stated how there was preliminary work that needed to be done on Diaz Avenue. Councilman Radocha stated how that would not take them all Summer.

Councilman Radocha asked if there was any money in the budget to do any streets. Councilman Jacobs stated how they should have approximately \$170,000.00. Councilman Radocha stated that if they were going to do Gene Kennedy's hill (Chestnut Street), they will be using the Borough crew for that work. He stated how they have to think harder on the next project and let Willow Lane go out on that bid. Councilwoman Fox asked Secretary/Treasurer Ahner about the cost facture for Rhume Street. She stated how she had a spread sheet but did not have it with her. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how she did not know the exact amount that they spent on the project. She stated that she would have to pull information out because she did not keep track of the overtime spent on the project, the fuel consumption or equipment cost. She stated how there was also overhead that was never really taken into account on projects. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how she could possibly get them a total cost for material that was spent on the Rhume Street project. President Hawk stated how he did agree with Councilman Radocha in that if they were able to do the work in house, it was going to be cheaper that what they would pay a contractor. Councilman Radocha stated how Councilman Jacobs was correct with the amount of things that had to be done. President Hawk stated that with the items that needed to get done and with the experience they had from Rhume Street; whereas, things might go smoother the next time, he felt that it was too taxing on the Borough workers. He stated how they would not be able to get anything else completed. Councilman Radocha stated how he would now vote for it. Councilman Sabol stated how he was glad that they discussed it.

Councilman Jacobs stated that if they did not have the other projects; the pumps in Lake Hauto and the pump on Locust Street . . . President Hawk stated about the rehabilitation of unit #2 at the plant. Councilwoman Fox stated how they will need to discuss the tunnel that was caving in on Mill Street. Councilman Radocha stated how they were going to spend \$1 million on sewer in 2019. Councilwoman Fox state dhow the sewer might be paying for the tunnel but there was no sewer line going through that tunnel. Councilman Jacobs stated how he did not think that sewer should pay for it.

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Councilman Radocha stated how they would not have any streets if they pay for everything.

Councilman Jacobs stated that if they pay for things out of sewer where there was no sewage involve, they were going to get themselves in a bind for spending sewer fund on streets. He stated that if it were not for the tunnel bringing the water (runoff) from the Little Italy, where would it be going.

Councilman Jacobs stated how there was too much to do in town that had to get done by the Borough crew and in the meantime somebody will be taking vacation. Councilman Radocha stated how there was no doubt in his mind, because every time they turned around, there was only two or one of them working. He stated about letting Willow Lane go out on bid. He stated how they have to look into the rest of the stuff that needed to be done and do as much as they could by themselves.

Councilman Sabol stated to Councilman Radocha that if he wanted to give him a heads up as to what the Borough crew was supposed to be working on, he would check it out. He stated how he knew that he was busy. Councilman Radocha stated how he would let him know. Councilman Jacobs stated that as soon as they were able to get black top, there were two really bad spots on Industrial Road. Councilman Radocha stated about the Co-Generation paying for part of that. President Hawk stated how they sent the Borough a yearly amount. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how that was done. President Hawk stated how it must have been just for the initial 20 years. Councilman Jacobs stated how that was more for Dennison Road.

Councilman Jacobs stated how there was work to be done. Councilwoman Fox asked if they were going to do Chestnut Street. Councilman Radocha stated how the sewer work could be done in house. He stated how the homeowners were going to need to install curbing. Councilman Jacobs stated about sending letters to the property owners on Willow Lane about installing curbing. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated about sending out the pre-letter letting them know that the curbing will need to be installed in the very near future.

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that once they have received their certifications in the mail, they might be able to apply for the grant through the Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road program for Mussmano Avenue. She stated how they would have to get Chris Storm up to the site again to see what they could possibly apply for. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they might be able to install a drop inlet and do something on E. Mussmano Avenue. She stated that the work could be done in house; whereas, the grant could pay for all of the material, if approved. President Hawk stated to Councilman Radocha that if he would get a price for Industrial Road where the truck roads comes in, he would approach the power plant to see if they would contribute something towards the repairs.

- **Adopt Act 172 Resolution (Amendment)**

Councilwoman Poremba moved and Councilman Sabol seconded to approve the Amended Act 172 Resolution.

Councilwoman Fox asked if the Fire Companies' rosters would be gone over every year. President Hawk stated that had to be done annually. Councilwoman Poremba stated that at the end of every year, the Fire Companies would have to give a list of the eligible volunteers, who had met all of their requirements. She stated how each Fire Chief would have to verify that list. Councilman Jacobs asked if there was a time period if they came up satisfactory for Council's approval to pay out for the real estate taxes. Councilwoman Poremba stated how they would get paid in 2020 for taxes paid in 2019. She stated how there was not a timeline or a set time period as to when they would be paid.

BOROUGH OF NESQUEHONING
CARBON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ANNUAL CRITERIA TO QUALIFY FOR THE
NESQUEHONING BOROUGH VOLUNTEER SERVICE CREDIT PROGRAM AS
ESTABLISHED BY ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, Act 172 of 2016 was signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf in November of 2016; and,

WHEREAS, Act 172 authorizes municipalities to grant local tax credits on real estate and earned income taxes for volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) volunteers; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Nesquehoning has duly adopted Ordinance No 2018-5 of 2018, establishing a volunteer service credit program, enacting tax credits for volunteer members of volunteer fire companies and nonprofit emergency medical service agencies and establishing administrative procedures and appeals.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the following criteria are established to qualify for the Nesquehoning Borough Volunteer Service Credit Program. Each of the following criteria must be met.

1. This program is available to volunteers of the Nesquehoning Hose Company No. 1, New Columbus Fire Company, Hauto Fire Company, Nesquehoning Ambulance Service and Leighton Ambulance
2. Each Volunteer must be a resident of Nesquehoning Borough.
3. Each Volunteer shall respond to at least 20% of the total annual call volume for the emergency service in which they are participating and for which they are claiming the tax credit.

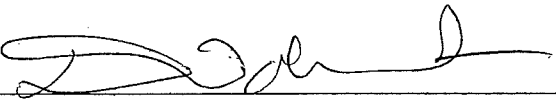
4. Each volunteer shall participate in at least 30% of the total annual training & drills conducted by the emergency service in which they are participating and for which they are claiming the tax credit.

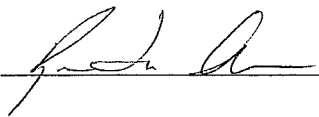
5. Each volunteer shall participate in at least 1% of the total administrative and support levels of the emergency service, or involvement in other events or projects that aid the financial viability, emergency response or operational readiness of the emergency service in which they are participating and for which they are claiming the tax credit. Administrative and support levels include, but are not limited to fund-raising, facility maintenance, equipment maintenance, financial bookkeeping and administrative paperwork.

6. Each volunteer shall have completed one (1) year of service with the emergency service in which they are participating and for which they are claiming the tax credit.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Borough Council of Nesquehoning has caused this Resolution to be duly adopted, signed, and attested this 10th day of April, 2019.

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF NESQUEHONING

by:  President

ATTEST: 

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Councilwoman Poremba stated that once they have given the certificate, they should have the funds to pay the volunteers. Councilman Jacobs stated how they were always slow at the beginning of the year. Councilwoman Poremba stated how they will have to put the maximum amount aside for the 2020 budget year. She stated that the EIT portion will be filed with their taxes. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner asked if there was a form that gets issued for the EIT. Councilwoman Poremba stated how there was a certificate that will be handed out. Councilman Jacobs stated how they were not necessarily getting the \$200.00. Councilwoman Poremba stated how the maximum amount that they could receive was \$200.00. She stated how the volunteers who registered for the Real Estate, would probably not have a problem with the \$200.00, but the volunteers who registered for the EIT could only get up to \$200.00 based on what their tax amount was going to be.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

1. STREETS

MICHAEL RADOCHA, CHAIRMAN; GEORGE SABOL III, CO-CHAIRMAN; FRANK JACOBS

Councilman Sabol stated about Councilman Radocha looking at Garibaldi Avenue at Cemetery Road. He stated how there was a low spot in the roadway at the curb line where the water lays. He asked if they could install an inlet and pipe the water into the ditch. Councilman Radocha stated how he would look at it with him. Councilman Jacobs stated how they have to watch with channeling water onto somebody's property. Councilman Sabol stated how the water was running in that direction anyway. President Hawk stated how there was a difference between the natural flow/drainage of water and the water being directed somewhere, even if it was going in the same direction.

Councilwoman Fox asked if they had a game plan for work over the Summer. Councilman Radocha stated how it was just what they were kind of talking about earlier. Councilwoman Fox stated how she did not know if they were looking at more than just Chestnut Street. Councilman Jacobs stated how they will have to get letters out to those property owners as well in regards to getting the curbing installed. Councilman Sabol stated how he would contact PennDOT again to see if they can get any of their millings.

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner asked if there was a way for the Borough to check the storm drain that ran down Coal Street. She stated how they were getting water in their basement on Coal Street and someone had mentioned to her that it could have been from the storm drain being broken/ collapsed. Councilman Radocha stated how he would get someone to check into it.

Councilman Jacobs stated how he had attended the CDBG meeting at the County, but it was pertaining to the awarded contracts from last year. He stated how it was not for the projects that were submitted for 2019.

2. SEWER

MARY FOX, CHAIRWOMAN; FRANK JACOBS, CO-CHAIRMAN; MICHAEL RADOCHA

Councilman Jacobs stated how they had a 2 hour meeting at the sewer plant with the contractor and the painting contractor. He stated how everybody was pointing their finger at the painting contractor because the paint was peeling. Councilman Radocha stated how the bottom line was that the Borough had a contract with the contractor not the painting contractor.

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Councilwoman Fox stated how they had subcontracted with the painter. President Hawk stated how the Borough should not have to deal with the painting contractor. Councilman Jacobs stated how Carbon Engineering might request someone from their office to oversee the painting while it was being done. Councilman Radocha stated how they should not pay someone to sit down at the plant to baby sit the painter. Councilwoman Porembo stated that they should not have to sit down at the plant all day. She stated how they should go down to the plant every day to take pictures in the event that they need to go back after the contractor. Councilwoman Fox stated how it should be up to Mike Tirpak to follow the project through. Councilman Jacobs stated how he hoped that they were going to start back up their work on Monday with the mechanical work. He stated how it was the painting that was flawed and it had to come off.

3. BUILDINGS GEORGE SABOL, III, CHAIRMAN; DAVID DeMELFI, CO-CHAIRMAN; MICHAEL RADOCHA

Councilman Sabol stated about the flooring in the apartment and questioned as to what they wanted to do, leave the tile or get carpet. He stated how they still needed to get the Borough crew to do some cleanup work in the apartment before it would be ready to rent. Councilman Jacobs stated about getting them to get the baseboard heaters straighten out as well.

4. PUBLIC SAFETY ROSEMARY POREMBO, CHAIRWOMAN; DAVID DeMELFI CO-CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK

Councilwoman Porembo stated how Mr. McArdle had sent her an article about Kidder's and Albrightsville's Fire Companies merging. She stated that as a Public Safety they had been talking about whether to merge the three Fire Companies, but it seemed like they were all pretty stable on their own. Councilman Jacobs stated that his concern was when the Borough had to reimburse the Fire Companies for their vehicle insurance. He stated how he did not feel that they needed all of those vehicles. Councilwoman Porembo stated that as they move forward, they might have to look at what they have and what they really need to provide safety to their residents and their volunteers. Councilwoman Fox stated how she was surprised at the trunk-or-treat when someone from the Fire Company approached her to find out when they were going to merge the Fire Departments. Councilwoman Porembo stated how she was also approached about them merging the Fire Companies. She stated that when the committee had discussed it and reviewed everything, they did not see a reason as to why they had to merge. Councilwoman Porembo stated that Nesquehoning Hose Company had the most volunteers that were trained. She stated that when they were called out to a fire, if one of the other companies arrived on the scene first, they would back down when they arrived from Nesquehoning. Councilwoman Porembo stated that when they were asking to be put together, their complaint was that there would not be the same amount of money being donated and one company would control where that money would go.

Councilwoman Porembo stated that the Committee would take all of their suggestions. She stated that the Committee was not looking to add more money, but to keep with the money that they were giving. She stated that they were trying to be fair with everything and looking at what they were asking for. President Hawk stated how the three Fire Companies do their own fund raising and each of them do raise money. He stated how they were thinking that if they were consolidate into one Fire Company, they probably would not get as much in donations to the one Fire Company as they do as three Fire Companies.

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President Hawk stated how there were people in the Borough who donated to all three Fire Companies and if they would consolidate, the people might cut back when only sending to one Fire Company, because they will view it as one opposed to three. He stated how the Borough has to watch how the money was being spent. Councilman Sabol stated how he has supported all three Fire Companies for several years. He stated how he does get frustrated not knowing if he was donating that they could purchase duplicate equipment. Councilwoman Fox stated how they should be looking at what each Fire Company has in the way of equipment. Councilman Sabol stated about the Borough. He stated how he would like to see what it was costing the Borough for each Fire Company. Councilman Sabol stated how they had given money to New Columbus for a generator. Councilwoman Porembo stated that they probably would not have paid for that if the Borough did not designate that as an emergency shelter.

Councilwoman Fox asked if Nesquehoning Hose Company was paying for their addition. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that the Borough paid for the initial engineering for the grant application. She stated that any other funds that the Borough expensed for the engineer was reimbursed by the grant. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they had reached their limit for engineering under the one grant, so the Fire Company was now paying their own engineering bills. She stated that when it came time for the expenses for the wall or the building, Nesquehoning Hose Company will have to pay anything that the grant does not cover.

Mayor Kitchko stated about the VFW holding the Memorial Day Parade. He stated about having an extra officer out for the outlying of the cemeteries on Sunday and extra officers and crossing guards out for the parade on Monday to help with traffic control. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that it would be Sunday, May 26, 2019 and Monday, May 27, 2019. Councilwoman Fox asked if they work an entire shift. Mayor Kitchko stated that they usually only work a few hours.

Councilwoman Porembo moved and Councilman Sabol seconded to allow Mayor Kitchko to schedule an additional officer for the outlying of the cemeteries on Sunday and to schedule extra officers and to call out the crossing guards for the Memorial Day Parade on Monday. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilman Jacobs stated that he had received a complaint about people dumping on the Broad Mountain. He stated about the ATV riders how they were leaving all of their garbage lay around. Councilman Radocha stated how it was not all from the ATV riders because they were not bringing their televisions and couches with them to dump on the mountain. Councilman Jacobs stated how he had seen pictures and how he could not believe what was up there.

5. SANITATION GEORGE SABOL III, CHAIRMAN; ROSEMARY POREMBO, CO-CHAIR, MARY FOX

Councilwoman Fox stated how they did get some answers/wording from Steve Deasy concerning liquidated damages for the Sanitation contract. She stated that when they meet again they can look at getting that wording added to the contract. Councilwoman Fox stated that they want to get the contract written up and have Solicitor Yurchak take a look at it before they put it out for bid. Councilwoman Porembo stated that they want to have the contract ready for review by the June regular meeting. She stated that they want to vote to advertise at the July regular meeting to possibly award the contact at the August or September regular meeting. She stated that their current contract expires on September 30th.

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Councilwoman Porembo stated that they were looking and that they had request for recycling. She stated that it was not something that vendors/contactors wanted to get involved with because of the cost factor. Councilwoman Porembo stated that they were looking to bid that out as a portion of the contract. She stated that they did not know if anyone will bid on the recycling, because they do not know if a contractor would take it on at that time. Councilman Jacobs stated that they might want to consider bidding it sooner. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they were going to vote to advertise in July that the bids will have to be for the August meeting. She stated that it will give them a chance to review and award the bid at either the August or the September meeting.

Councilwoman Porembo stated that they will try to make sure that they all have a copy of the contracts in the hands in plenty of time. Councilwoman Fox stated that Mr. Deasy recommended options, such as a three year contract with the option to renew for one year, twice, at the price of the cost of living increase. She stated how they were trying to get information from a bunch of different places and Mr. Deasy did give them some language to use. Councilwoman Porembo stated that they were also planning on holding a pre-bidders meeting. Councilman Jacobs stated how he wanted the absentee landlords putting a house full of garbage out when their tenants move out in the middle of the night. He stated how their current hauler picks it all up. Councilman Jacobs stated how their current contract states about only picking up one big item during the first pick up of the month. Councilwoman Porembo stated that they wanted to keep a complaint log; coming from residents and from the contractor. She stated how they were also looking at the recycling and how the contractor would place a tag on an item to let the resident know how that item was not recyclable. Councilwoman Fox stated about their large item pickup day, Tamaqua will take two or three items. Councilman Radocha stated how it was not costing them any more money. Councilman Jacobs stated how it will look bad for the next contract because it will increase their tonnage and they will get higher quotes. Councilwoman Fox stated how they were coming in lower in tonnage without having the recycling. Councilman Sabol stated that when they called around, they found out that every town has that same problem. There was a brief discussion about purchasing garbage bags and the problem that they have with bears/animals.

Councilman Sabol that when he had contacted Weatherly Borough about their garbage, he talked to their Borough Manager. He stated that their Borough Manager, Harold Pudliner, writes the grants for the Weatherly Borough and he has received over \$7 million in grants for the Borough. Councilman Sabol stated that Mr. Pudliner was willing to sit with him and help him with the key words that were needed when writing a grant.

6. RECREATION MARY FOX, CHAIRWOMAN; GEORGE SABOL III, CO-CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they were turned down for both grant applications (Johnson Park and Hauto Fire Truck). She stated that Jourdaine Middleton, from Barry Isett and Associates had sent her a message in regards to submitting a grant application to the DCED Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they would be resubmitting the application for Johnson Park. She stated that it had to be submitted by May 31st. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that Ms. Middleton would be getting her all of the required material needed to submit that grant application.

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Councilman Sabol stated how he was down at the Courthouse looking at the maps and he did not realize how much land the Borough owned up at the Sports Complex Field. Councilwoman Fox stated how she thought that it was 15 acres. Councilman Jacobs stated how it was mostly wetlands. Councilman Sabol stated about looking for funding to putting in a trail up on Industrial Drive. Councilman Jacobs stated that it might be okay if trails were permissible. Councilwoman Porembo stated about a walking trail. She stated about joining up with St. Luke's for some kind of wellness program. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they could inquire about wellness grants if they would put in a walking trail. She stated about getting a cost estimate for the trail prior to approaching St. Luke's with their request.

Councilwoman Fox stated how she originally had big plans for the Sports Complex Field, but when they had the woman from the Army Corp of Engineers up to the field, she had pin-pointed all of the wetlands. She stated how the woman explained to her how they should have installed drainage before dumping that fill onto the field. Councilwoman Fox stated how that had killed her hopes because it was mostly wetlands. Councilwoman Porembo asked if any of the field was usable, like the soccer fields. Councilwoman Fox stated how part of the soccer field was able to be used, but part of the field was still wetlands. She stated how they were not permitted to allow any vehicles (construction/dump trucks/equipment) to drive on the field. Councilman Jacobs stated about getting them back to look at the field, because they had relaxed some of the restrictions for the trails. Mayor Kitchko stated that if they were not able to put in a walking trail, they might consider a dog park. He stated how they were already getting complaints from in town.

Councilwoman Fox stated how everyone had received a copy of the park rules. She stated how they could vote on the rules at their next meeting and then get the signs ordered. Councilwoman Fox stated how there were openings on the Recreation Commission if anyone was interested. She stated how they also reviewed the by-laws that were drafted several years ago but were never adopted. Councilwoman Fox state dhow they did reinforce the rental fees, which were \$25.00 non-refundable and \$25.00 per hour and the rental forms being turned into the office. She stated about a tax exemption number. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated about their tax statues and if they would have to obtain their own tax number. She stated that the Borough was considered a political subdivision and used their EIN number. Councilwoman Fox stated how they also questioned as to why their mail was being opened. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they keep copies of the bank statements in order to reconcile the bank accounts. She stated how some of their other mail just gets opened by accident.

7. BUDGET/ PURCHASING

**FRANK JACOBS, CHAIRMAN; ROSEMARY POREMBO, CO-
CHAIRWOMAN; DAVID HAWK**

Councilman Jacobs stated how they all received a copy of the budget vs. actual. He stated how all committees should tighten their belts (no spending). Councilwoman Porembo asked if they could get a break down from the sewer accounts with classifications for the projects. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that she could give them a budget vs. actual and try to include the breakdown of the project costs.

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

8. PERSONNEL/ ROSEMARY POREMBO, CHAIRWOMAN; MARY FOX, CO- SAFETY CHAIRWOMAN; FRANK JACOBS

Mayor Kitchko stated about adding to the April's Regular Meeting Agenda raises for the crossing guards. He stated that it would be \$1.00 per hour and it would start with the 2019 – 2020 School year. Councilwoman Porembo asked what they were making. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated "\$9.00 per hour".

Mayor Kitchko read the resignation letter from Derek Marouchoc effective April 16, 2019.

Mayor Kitchko stated how they had two part-time applications at the police department and wanted to know if they wanted to schedule back-ground checks on the applicants.

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Porembo seconded to authorize the background checks on the two part-time applicants. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Fox stated that they all received the list of street lights for Catawissa Street. She stated about looking at the list for their next meeting.


EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Borough Council Members entered into an Executive Session at 7:42 p.m. for personnel reasons. The Council Members exited their Executive Session at 7:54 p.m.

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Porembo seconded to accept Officer Derek Marouchoc's resignation and his sick/personal/vacation time will be prorated accordingly. All voted yes. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilman Sabol seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



RoniSue Ahner
Secretary/Treasurer