

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 6:00p.m., Borough Office
114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

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

President Hawk called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
Councilman DeMarco and DeMelfi were absent.

PURPOSE: Committees/Workshop

1. STREETS DON DeMARCO, CHAIRMAN; DAVID DeMELFI, CO-CHAIRMAN;
GEORGE SABOL, III

Councilman Sabol stated how he, Councilman DeMarco, Mike Tirpak, and Daniel Staehle met on Tippets Road. He stated how they had discussed what had to be done with the road and the drainage by the railroad. There was a discussion concerning inlets and piping the water under the railroad. Councilwoman Fox stated about discussing it with the Railroad when they meet with them. Councilman Sabol stated how there was more of a problem then just replacing the blacktop. He stated how there was a big water problem and if the Railroad would not go along with tying into the pipe, then they would have to grade the area by the old train station to disburse the water evenly. He asked if they had the money to fix Tippets Road. Councilman Jacobs stated how they had not received any quotes for the work. Councilman Sabol stated how Mike Tirpak had said that it would be around \$30,000.00. A discussion continued concerning the LCCC property. President Hawk questioned about hooking onto the pipe or just piping the water to the swale. He stated how they might object to hooking onto the pipe because that would prevent anything in the swale from going through the pipe. President Hawk stated that if they wanted to do it right, they would have to lower the pipe approximately 2' and install an inlet with tying the other inlets into it and divert all the water under the railroad. Councilman Sabol asked if they wanted to talk to the Railroad or did they want to disburse the water into a larger area. President Hawk stated how they would set up a meeting with the Railroad. Councilwoman Fox stated how that was one of their solutions for the drainage in the other areas, to pipe the water under the railroad.

Councilman Jacobs stated how they will be picking the sweeper up on Friday and they will start to sweep on Monday. President Hawk stated how they will be posting the streets the day before.

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated about the prices for the "stopping on the railroad track signs". She stated how the 24" x 30" signs were \$40.50 and the 36" x 36" sign was \$81.25. She stated how the prices came from Bradco.

Councilman Sabol stated that if they were not able to get permission from the Railroad, they would have to get permission to disburse the water onto the LCCC property. He asked if there was any interest in the Borough taking ownership of that property. Councilman Sabol stated how it was 42 acres. Councilman Jacobs stated how he would like to meet up there some evening and walk the property to see what they were talking about. Council Members decided to meet on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. on Tonolli Road to walk the property.

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 6:00p.m., Borough Office

2. SEWER

**MARY FOX, CHAIRWOMAN; FRANK JACOBS, CO- CHAIRMAN;
GEORGE SABOL, III**

Councilwoman Fox stated how Rose Chapello will be starting at the Sewer Plant on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. It was mentioned about Ms. Chapello having scheduled a trip and getting her CDL license.

Councilwoman Fox stated how she had requested a two week schedule from Mr. Pilla, which he was going to start working on and include the training for Ms. Chapello.

Councilwoman Fox stated how she was going to check with Mike Tirpak on the specification for Hazard Street (from Catawissa Street to Railroad Street/2 blocks) and Rhume Street to see if they were ready to go out for bid. There was a discussion on the CDBG funds. Councilwoman Fox stated that as soon as they know that they were ready to start on the projects, they can look at renting the excavator. She stated how their quote originally stated that it was free delivery, but when Solicitor Yurchak reviewed the contract, there was something included for delivery. She stated how she was still waiting on a new quote. Councilman Sabol stated about looking into a 5 year plan.

Councilwoman Fox stated how Ron Tirpak has been working with Shawn Coniglio on the sewer line because of the sale of Kovatch. She stated how the Sewer Committee will be meeting with a representative from Kovatch, Ron Tirpak, and the Water Authority on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. She stated about Kovatch having a meter on every building. President Hawk stated how they should have water meters on the wells at Kovatch also, because it could still be running into the sewer system.

Councilwoman Fox stated how she was going to talk to Ms. Coniglio to see if they were still having a problem with the meters at the Dollar General and the Prison. There was a discussion concerning the water meters that have been installed for sewage consumption.

Councilman Jacobs stated that on the next rainy day, the Borough crew could help to get the ceiling up in the pole building.

3. BUILDINGS

**GEORGE SABOL, III, CHAIRMAN; FRANK JACOBS,
CO-CHAIRMAN; DAVID DeMELFI**

Councilman Sabol stated how the roof was leaking at the Borough garage. He stated how it was not anything major. He stated about getting some rain spouting. Mayor Kitchko stated how they had just taken down the rain spouting down that was falling down. Councilman Jacobs stated how they had been looking into getting someone to look at the roof and to seal some of the screws.

Councilman Jacobs stated about purchasing two heating and air conditioning unit at the Recreation Center. He stated about the Borough purchasing one and the Recreation Commission purchasing the other one.

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 6:00p.m., Borough Office

President Hawk asked about the terminates. Councilman Jacobs stated how he was told that the only way to get rid of them was to rip the floor up. Mayor Kitchko stated how he had evicted all of the birds also.

4. PUBLIC SAFETY

**DON DeMARCO, CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK, CO-CHAIRMAN;
ROSEMARY POREMBO**

Councilman Sabol stated about how the cones were missing and the end zone had not been painted on Garibaldi Avenue. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how the Borough crew will not paint until after they sweep the street. Councilman Sabol stated how they had voted to add 10' to the end zone for the drop off / pick up for the school.

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated about a custom sign for the Borough of Nesquehoning having a burn ban in effect sign – 36" x 36" would cost approximately \$105.63. Councilwoman Fox stated how Bowmanstown's signs were 12" x 18". President Hawk stated about checking into the cost of the smaller signs.

Mayor Kitchko talked about the meeting that they held at the Recreation Center concerning the ATVs. He stated how they had talked about starting a club. He stated how they had discussed registering and receiving a sticker. Mayor Kitchko stated how it was a well attended meeting and the individuals that attended the meeting were not the individuals who were firing semiautomatic weapons on the mountain. Councilwoman Fox stated how they were talking about insurance and how they have to have licenses, which DCNR uses for snowmobile trails. It was mentioned that Kovatch has 4,300 acres and posting signs at the property where the white house was located. Councilman Sabol stated about the LCCC property for a staging area.

5. SANITATION

**DAVID DeMELFI, CHAIRMAN; MARY FOX, CO-CHAIRWOMAN
DON DeMARCO**

Councilman Jacobs stated about the way the garbage cans were being thrown from the back of the truck and how garbage was being left on the streets. Councilwoman Fox stated about calling Larry Wittig. There was a brief discussion about the number of garbage trucks, the route they take and the time they start.

Councilwoman Fox stated about the recycling bins. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that we had gotten two quotes: Solomon Containers was \$395.00 a month for 8 bins one pick up a week and Advanced Disposal was \$410.00 a month for 9 bins one pick up a week but half of the bins would be side fill. Councilwoman Fox stated how Tim Kincade did make mention that they were getting a substantial amount of recycles. The Council Members discussed where the bins would be placed. They also discussed if they wanted to keep recycling or wanted to do away with the recycling. Councilman Jacobs stated about seeing what Tamaqua Transfer could do for the Borough. Councilwoman Porembo stated that if they do away with the recycling, there might be more garbage lying around town. It was mentioned about contacting Solomon Containers to match the quote from Advanced Disposal.

Councilwoman Fox stated how the electronics recycling was scheduled for Thursday, May 12th from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Locust Street.

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 6:00p.m., Borough Office

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

Councilwoman Fox stated how she had sent an email to the girl from DCNR to see if she would look at the soccer fields. She stated how she was hoping to get something done with the soccer field, which was approximately 11 acres. Mayor Kitchko stated how there were three soccer fields set up.

Councilwoman Fox stated how she had mentioned at the Recreation Commission Meeting about utilizing the Recreation Center for other activities, such as teaching a class for canning. Councilman Sabol stated about an indoor yard sale and charging \$10.00 a table. Councilwoman Fox stated how she had not heard anything back from the committee yet. She stated how the next Recreation Commission Meeting would be held on June 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. . Councilwoman Fox asked about the rental agreements for the Recreation Center. She stated about the rules and regulations and about getting the signs posted in the parks.

Councilman Sabol stated how it would never be too late to look into the DCNR Grant. He stated how he was meeting with Mary Himmelberger from Barry Isett on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at the Elementary School. He stated how they could look at all the parks and fields. Councilman Sabol stated how he had been looking into the Greenways and Trails Grant. He stated how it was a 15% matching grant. There was discussion concerning Barry Isett with the comprehensive plan that was done for the Borough several years ago and concerning their code services.

7. BUDGET/ PURCHASING FRANK JACOBS, CHAIRMAN; ROSEMARY POREMBO, CO- CHAIRWOMAN; DAVID HAWK

Councilman Jacobs stated about needing purchase orders when purchasing items. He stated how they have to stick to the budget. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they had met with MCT and things were going well with the Police Pension Plan. She stated about planning for the next group of police officers, who will be eligible to retire in 10 to 12 years, to make sure that the plan will be able to support the next three officers upon their retirement. Councilwoman Porembo stated about looking into having a policy set up concerning the head of a department signing off on purchases.

Councilwoman Fox asked about the line of credit. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they had withdrawn \$115,000.00 from the line credit for 2016. Councilman Jacobs stated that the mild winter had a lot to do with it. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they were going to be off on some line items for 2016, because there have been some things that have come up, which they did not include in the budget.

Councilman Sabol asked if they received any revenues from the coal mining operations. Councilwoman Porembo stated about receiving property taxes for the land. Councilman Sabol asked how come they cannot get anything for them stripping the land. President Hawk stated how he did not think that the Borough could do anything.

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 6:00p.m., Borough Office

Councilman Sabol asked if the Sewer and Sanitation funds were in good shape. President Hawk and Councilman Jacobs stated "yes". Councilman Sabol asked how much they received in Liquid Fuels. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how it was around \$81,000.00. Councilman Sabol asked of the primary use for Liquid Fuels was to fix the roads. He stated how it was discussed about taking money from the Sanitation fund. He stated how President Hawk was opposed to it and that he had to agree with him. Councilman Sabol asked about getting the Liquid Fuels money back into fixing the streets instead of paying for streetlights. President Hawk stated how street lighting was an approved use of the Liquid Fuels Funds. Councilman Sabol asked if they were able to lower the Sewer and Sanitation bills but add on a tax for street lighting so they were able to put the Liquid Fuels back into streets. President Hawk stated how the Budget Committee can look into it. Councilwoman Fox stated about reducing the street lighting bill as well. She stated how she did not see a problem with reducing the Sewer bill but was a little worried about touching the Sanitation because of it being under contract. President Hawk stated that if they would reduce the amount of the Sanitation bill they could always increase it again in a few years when they would be under new contract. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how she wanted to remind them that when bidding for street construction jobs under the Liquid Fuels, they have to go by PennDOT's regulations. Councilwoman Porembo stated about assessing a tax for road repairs instead of street lighting. President Hawk stated that they could still pay for the street lighting out of the liquid fuels and they would get more out of their money through the General Fund.

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

Councilwoman Porembo stated how the Sewer Apprentice would be starting on May 16th. She stated how the Personnel Committee would be meeting with her to go through the handbook and contract. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they will be meeting with the insurance company regarding the health insurance. She stated how they will be discussing whether to stay with their current broker or go with another company. She stated how they should have information for all of Council for the June Meeting.

Councilwoman Porembo stated about a Resolution to change the authorized signers for the Police Pension Fund. She stated about the list of physicians workers compensation, which will have to be approved at the May Meeting. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they were still looking into the Safety Committee. She stated how they will have to adopt a Resolution for it. Councilwoman Porembo stated how the office staff was working on cross training.

President Hawk stated about holding an Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. on May 25, 2016 for personnel reasons.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Sabol moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

RoniSue Ahner
Secretary/Treasurer