

# MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 8, 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 6:00 p.m.

Councilman DeMelfi was absent.

**PURPOSE:** Committees/Workshop

**1. STREETS**                    **MICHAEL RADOCHA, CHAIRMAN; GEORGE SABOL III, CO-CHAIRMAN; FRANK JACOBS**

Councilman Radocha stated how they were done with the Street Sweeping for now. Councilman Jacobs stated about getting the sweeper back at some point in time. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how Mr. Staehle attended the second training session for the street sweeper. Mayor Kitchko stated how the second training session went much better than the first session because there were less people in attendance.

Councilman Radocha stated how they had some inlet issues, but they jumped on them and got them straightened out right away. He stated how they were going to continue to work on them.

Councilman Radocha stated how he was talking to Councilman Jacobs about possibly purchasing another riding mower and a push mower. He stated that the new riding mower did not have to be as big as the one they already had. Councilman Radocha stated how it would be around \$4,000.00 for both. He stated that once the new pickup truck arrives, they should be getting the other two streets pickup trucks up for sale, which should help offset the cost.

Councilman Sabol asked Councilman Radocha if he had chance to look at the Cemetery Road. Councilman Radocha stated how they should be able to do something up there. Councilman Sabol stated how it looked like the pipe might be blocked. Councilman Jacobs stated how they have two black top jobs to be done on Industrial Road. Councilman Radocha stated about sending a letter to Heritage Glass. Councilman Jacobs stated about all of their stone that was washing out onto the roadway. President Hawk stated about getting an estimate for the spot coming off of the scale road. He stated that they could present something to the Panther Creek to see if they would contribute towards it. Councilman Jacobs stated about renting the zipper from the COG.

Councilman Jacobs stated that they should get something done on the bridges, which was addressed two years ago on the bridge inspection report. President Hawk stated how they should get something done to show that the Borough did make an attempt to repair the damaged areas.

President Hawk stated how he had talked to Matt Johnson from the Railroad and he told him how they had talked about the crossing at the pond at their meeting. He stated how they did not say that they would not put it back in, but if the Borough would fix the drainage pipes/angled down, it would go a long way with helping them cooperate. President Hawk stated that whenever they were able to do it, they just needed to contact Mr. Johnson so he could have an inspector at the site. He stated how there was no cost to the Borough for the inspector. Councilman Jacobs stated how Mr. Johnson was supposed to get them some information as to what they did somewhere else.

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Councilman Radocha asked if the Borough crew knew which pipes they were talking about. President Hawk stated how they were starting at the triangle and then heading west. Councilman Radocha asked if they knew how many there were. Councilman Jacobs stated how there was at least one for each Avenue. Councilwoman Porembo stated how it was really bad with flooding where Park Avenue met Industrial Road. She stated how the inlet sits higher than the roadway and a third of the roadway was now lost. Councilman Radocha stated how the pipe was blocked on the other side. Councilman Jacobs stated how there was not much pitch there. Councilwoman Fox stated how the Railroad used to dig out on the east side of Industrial Road so the water would flow.

Councilman Sabol stated about the Committee looking at what they thought that they would need to get fixed. He stated about creating a list with a time period for how long each issue should take to be completed. Councilman Jacobs stated about the wash out on High Street. Councilwoman Porembo asked if they were getting any summer help. Councilman Radocha stated how Keith Gogal had worked with them last summer. Councilman Jacobs stated how they really do not have any big projects scheduled. Councilman Radocha stated about just bringing him in when they have something to do. Councilman Jacobs stated how he did not have a problem with Mr. Gogal working 30 hours a week.

Councilwoman Porembo asked if they were going to get the street sweeper back for the areas that were missed. Councilman Jacobs stated that they should get it again, because they really only used it for three days. He stated about checking with Nevin Fry to see when it would be available. Councilwoman Porembo asked how much it cost for renting the street sweeper. Mayor Kitchko stated how it was \$400.00 per day. Councilman Radocha stated about the water issue with the street sweeper. President Hawk stated how they had discussed it at their Water Authority meeting and whenever they get the street sweeper again, they will make sure that they will be able to get water.

### **2. SEWER**

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

Councilwoman Fox stated how Eastern Environmental had been working at the sewer plant. She stated how the contractor had removed a pipe, which did not need to be removed and took it down to their shop. She stated how the contractor now wants \$12,000.00 to replace the pipe with a stainless steel pipe. Councilman Radocha stated how his understanding was that whatever was removed was going to be sandblasted, painted and reinstalled. He stated about not releasing any payments to the contractor. Councilman Radocha asked if they were back in liquidated damages. Councilwoman Fox stated how their time extension ended on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Councilman Radocha asked if they were still going to be assessing liquidated damages when he came to the painting. Councilwoman Fox stated "yes". Councilman Jacobs stated how they had subcontracted the painting.

Councilwoman Fox stated how the contractor was working on replacing the three electrical boxes. Councilman Jacobs stated how they had gotten all of them replaced. He stated how they had to replace the three electrical boxes at the unit, at the sewer plant. Councilwoman Fox stated how Martins was supposed to be in some time that week to replace the electrical boxes up at the pumping stations. She stated how they had to replace a capacitor two weeks ago.

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Councilwoman Fox stated how Rose Richelo had called her that day in regards to a blower attachment for the weed whacker at a cost of \$140.00. She stated how they could discuss that at a Sewer Committee meeting. Councilwoman Fox stated about the pump they use of the digesters to pump the water off. She stated how they want to look into getting another pump. Councilwoman Fox stated how they have been purchasing new pumps from R. J. Walker, but they had been burning them up right away. She stated about a Zoller Pump. Councilman Radocha asked what the cost of that pump would be. Councilwoman Fox stated how she did not give her a price. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they have been purchasing pumps from USA BlueBook. Councilwoman Fox stated how they found a different place to purchase their testing strips. She stated how they were getting them from USA BlueBook, but Pollard Water was cheaper.

Councilwoman Fox stated that when she was at the Sewer Plant the other day, the gentleman was there from PA Rural Water and he gave them the audit report on the energy use for the Sewer Plant. She stated that the only thing that would save the Borough a lot of money was to replace the air raiders. Councilwoman Fox stated that it would save them \$18,000.00 a year but it was over \$100,000.00 to replace the air raiders.

Councilwoman Fox stated how she also talked to the gentleman from PA Rural Water about the tunnels. She stated how he had given her two names. Councilman Radocha stated about talking to someone from Tamaqua. Councilwoman Fox stated how she did not talk to anyone from Tamaqua yet. Councilwoman Poremba asked if there were any grants/rebates, which they could assist the Borough in getting. Councilwoman Fox stated how they might have been able to get some kind of grant/rebate from PPL.

Councilwoman Fox stated about the tunnels and how they had not seen the videos yet. She stated how she did not feel that it was a sewer project. Councilwoman Fox stated how the sewer line did run through the tunnel, but that was not where the damage was. She stated how there was damage to the tunnel itself. President Hawk asked if they had found anything with the sewer line. Councilwoman Fox stated how the one sewer line was broken and they were taking water in. She stated how it was between Loggie Road and Ridge Street. Councilwoman Fox stated how they had gone in and installed a steel clap on it. She stated how it has been repaired already. Councilwoman Fox stated how they did not do anything to the tunnel.

Councilwoman Fox stated how she had talked to Solicitor Yurchak and they were allowed to hold an executive session in regards to safety. She stated about holding an executive session with all of Council to view the video of the tunnel inspection. She stated about getting the engineer to also sit in on the meeting to help with any questions. Councilwoman Fox stated about getting some representatives to also attend the meeting to see what kind of help they could provide with the repairs of the tunnel. Councilwoman Poremba stated about the tunnel in Tamaqua. Councilwoman Fox stated how she was told to talk to Kevin Steigerwalt in regards to the Wallbash in Tamaqua. She stated about setting up an Executive Session for sometime in the near future.

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### **3. BUILDINGS**

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

Councilman Sabol stated about the apartment. He stated that they need to decide as to what they want to do with the apartment. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated about checking with the local hospitals to see if they have college interns that were looking for a place to stay/rent for a few months at a time.

Councilman Jacobs stated about the propane at the Borough garage. He stated about looking into getting another supplier, because it was a big expense to heat the garage. Councilman Sabol asked who should be responsible for cleaning the front of the Borough office. Councilman Jacobs stated how the janitor usually does clean/sweep out front. Councilman Sabol stated about getting the Borough crew to pressure wash the front of the building.

### **4. PUBLIC SAFETY**

**ROSEMARY POREMBO, CHAIRWOMAN; DAVID DeMELFI  
CO-CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK**

Councilwoman Porembo stated how there were still two outstanding AFA Appeals. She stated that she did not know if they had received anything from Carl Faust. President Hawk stated that the last thing he had seen for the High School Apartments was that they had contacted Mr. Faust for their final inspection. Councilwoman Porembo stated about the Knox Boxes for the Borough buildings. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they were installed but they did not get the copies of the keys for the Fire Companies yet.

Councilman Jacobs stated how the material list that was given to them for the replacement of the 2 dry hydrants from Mr. McArdle came to \$2,000.00.

### **5. SANITATION**

**GEORGE SABOL III, CHAIRMAN; ROSEMARY POREMBO,  
CO-CHAIR, MARY FOX**

Councilman Sabol stated how they were still working on the contract. He stated about having another meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Councilwoman Porembo stated that once they get all of the wording in the contract, they would have Solicitor Yurchak review it prior to advertising.

### **6. RECREATION**

**MARY FOX, CHAIRWOMAN; GEORGE SABOL III, CO-  
CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK**

Councilwoman Fox stated that the next Recreation Commission meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. She stated how she had given them a copy of the bi-laws. Councilwoman Fox stated how they have to get the park rules approved so they can get the signs ordered. Councilman Sabol stated about the property on Mill Street. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they will have to approve the agreement of sale at the regular meeting. She stated that then it will go onto the County Planning Commission.

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**7. BUDGET/  
PURCHASING**

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

No report.

**8. PERSONNEL/  
SAFETY**

**ROSEMARY POREMBO, CHAIRWOMAN; MARY FOX, CO-  
CHAIRWOMAN; FRANK JACOBS**

No report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Borough Council Members entered into an Executive Session at 6:53 p.m. for personnel reasons. The Council Members exited their Executive Session at 7:53 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.**

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RoniSue Ahner  
Secretary/Treasurer