

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 6:00p.m., Borough Office
114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

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

President Hawk called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
Councilman Demelfi and Councilwoman Fox were absent

PURPOSE: Committees/Workshop

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Borough Council Members entered into an Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. for personnel reasons. The Council Members exited their Executive Session at 6:17 p.m.

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

Councilman Radocha stated how they had patched all of the pot holes on the parade route. He stated how they did do some concrete work also. Councilman Radocha stated how they were going to try and get some black top work in, weather permitting. Councilman Sabol stated how they had done the concrete drainage/runoff at the bridge. He stated how the water was going down behind the wall. President Hawk asked if they were going to put more material in the sink hole on Industrial Road. Councilman Radocha stated that the Borough crew had told him that they did it, but he did not go up to look at it. President Hawk stated that it was really low. He asked if they were going to do anything else before the winter, because the lower part of the hill before the railroad tracks was pretty tore up. He stated how they were going to be digging it up with the plow.

Councilman Radocha stated how the weather was killing them. He stated how it was really hard with only two people. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they should not forget about Chestnut Street. Councilman Jacobs stated how they need a third person. Councilman Radocha stated that they were not able to steal Mr. Pilla because he did not have a second person. He asked if they had received any applications. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they had met and reviewed the applications. She stated that they have two names for the Street Committee to review. Councilman Radocha stated how he would take a look at them. Councilman Sabol stated about checking into getting prisoners, because they were good workers. Councilman Jacobs stated how they need the third guy to help them with the blacktop. He stated about Mountain Avenue and the pot holes on that road.

Councilwoman Porembo stated to Councilman Radocha how she had talked to Toni Macaluso and that they have all of the millings across the street. She stated how Ms. Macaluso had asked about the Borough crew placing some of those millings up behind the restaurant. Councilman Radocha stated how they had taken care of that.

Councilman Jacobs stated that if they do not get some of the streets overlaid they were going to lose them.

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Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they should make sure that they look at the curb cut on W. Columbus Avenue. She stated that she will be reworking the application for the curb cut.

Councilman Jacobs asked about the grant that was awarded. He asked if they had to bid it out or if the Borough Crew could do it themselves. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that she had the contract for signatures. She stated that she did not think that it mattered if they bid the project or if they did it themselves. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that the contact deadline was June 30, 2021. Councilman Sabol stated that it basically gives them two years. Councilman Jacobs stated that once they get up past the apartments, the roadway will have to be cut down, because it was too high. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that once they were done with the sewer and storm drains, they had to mail out letter for the property owners to install the curbing before they pave the roadway.

2. SEWER

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

Councilman Jacobs stated that the committee had met and that they discussed about changing all the pumps at the pumping stations early next year. He stated that they were going to hold on refurbishing the wells. Councilman Jacobs stated that they were going to look at installing all of the same standardized pumps at the pumping stations. Councilman Radocha stated that they were getting information from Martins. He stated that they were planning on being COSTARS providers.

Councilman Jacobs stated how they had also talked about purchasing a new pickup truck for the sewer department with a utility body. Councilman Radocha stated that they would move the F250 up to the Borough garage.

Councilman Radocha stated that they were having issues with the contractor with the coatings at the plant. He stated that they were coming up on the end of their extension. Councilman Jacobs stated that it was October 23rd. Councilman Radocha stated that the extension should have been for painting or sandblasting not waiting on materials. He stated that the materials should have been ordered at the beginning of the contract.

Councilman Radocha stated how he did not know if the span was being stretched out long enough on the digesters. He stated how it was not like they were going to fail. Councilman Radocha stated about the pumping stations and how it took from 1993 until 2018 to get that corroded. He stated how it was not going to fall apart if they do not coat them in the next year or two. Councilman Radocha stated that he felt that they were spending too much money on the sewer that year. Councilman Jacobs stated that most Boroughs were constantly of updating their sewer plants. Councilman Radocha stated that most of them were updating for additional capacity.

Councilman Radocha stated about how the pumping station on Locust Street was handed over to the Borough. He stated how that did not benefit the Borough. Councilman Radocha stated how they have added expenses and it benefited Kovatch at the time. He stated how they were only paying for the phone and the electric, but they were looking to upgrade and install a \$7,000.00 pump.

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3. BUILDINGS

**GEORGE SABOL, III, CHAIRMAN; DAVID DeMELFI,
CO-CHAIRMAN; MICHAEL RADOCHA**

Councilman Sabol stated that Mr. Quigley should be finishing up the meeting room within the next two weeks. He stated that he stopped in at McGinley Carpet and asked for a sample board, but he would not let him have one. He stated that McGinley told him that there was a cost increase and that his quote would have to increase.

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how she had looked into getting a projector. She stated that she found a small one that would cost approximately \$200.00. She stated that they would need to figure out where they wanted to place the screen.

Councilman Jacobs asked if they had the furnaces serviced. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they were not done yet. She stated that she would get something scheduled.

Councilman Jacobs stated about the punch clock. He stated that it did not tell time or punch right. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that she messed with the clock the other day and it was on the right date and time until the month and time change. She stated that she cannot unplug the clock or it will freeze up again.

**4. PUBLIC
SAFETY**

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

Councilwoman Porembo stated that it seemed like the Trunk-or-Treat was a sore subject. She stated that she had talked to Chief Smith about it and he wanted to move Trunk-or-Treat to Sunday, October 28th from 6 – 8 p.m. Councilwoman Porembo stated that it would still be held at the Nesquehoning Hose Company. She stated that she had asked him about using crossing guards or extra police and he left that up to Council. Councilman Jacobs asked why the change. Councilwoman Porembo stated that it seemed like it put more contention in the town then what it was supposed to do. She stated that if people wanted to go trick-or-treating, they should go to safe places/houses, but the trunk-or-treat was going to be a safe place to go for people who did not want to go door to door. Councilman Radocha stated that it was good to give people a taste of the trunk-or-treat but not take away from the actual trick-or-treat. Councilwoman Porembo stated that they have received donations for the trunk-or-treat.

Councilman Jacobs stated how they will probably get a bunch of children from other towns. President Hawk stated that they will still have the regular trick-or-treat on October 31st. Councilwoman Porembo stated “yes”. Secretary/ Treasurer Ahner stated how the main issue was that people would like to see the trunk-or-treat in addition to the trick-or-treat and not replace it. Councilwoman Porembo stated that the goal was to keep the children safe. She stated that they were taking into every consideration of what they have seen and what they know. She stated that if they were holding both events, how were they hurting the town. The Council Members had a discussion in regards to the trunk-or-treating/trick-or-treating.

Councilwoman Porembo stated that they had their meeting with the Carbon County Housing in regards to the Automatic Fire Alarms, which was continued. She stated that it was going to be inspected by Carl Faust.

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Councilwoman Poremba stated about the hearing for 90 E. Catawissa Street, which would be held on October 30, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. She stated that Solicitor Yurchak had asked Mr. Faust to make a list of everything that he has found wrong at the property.

Councilwoman Poremba stated that they were ready to follow Jim Thorpe Borough Act 172 Ordinance. She stated that they were going to have Solicitor Yurchak draft up a copy.

President Hawk asked where they were at with the Chief's contract. Councilwoman Poremba stated that they were going to have the mayor get some dates from the Chief when he would be able to meet.

Councilman Jacobs stated how he had received a few calls in regards to the Ambulance Association. He stated how they have to get further clarification from Mr. McArdle. Councilwoman Poremba stated that she could ask Mr. McArdle for a copy of the budget and what they were doing with their funds. President Hawk stated how she could also ask him if they were going to honor their subscriptions until it would normally expire. He stated about him if the County 9-1-1 has protocol if Leighton was not able to answer calls.

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

No report.

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

Mayor Kitchko stated that there was no meeting in October. Councilman Sabol asked if there was another meeting scheduled. Mayor Kitchko stated that he did not know. He stated that the next meeting would be normally scheduled for December.

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

Councilman Jacobs stated how they all had received an actual vs. budget for 2018 and a proposed budget for 2019. He stated that the respective committees should review the budgets and come back to council with their recommendations. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that she still has to prepare the Fire Truck Fund and Sport Complex Fund budgets. Councilman Jacobs stated that the Ambulance's workers compensation was different than the Fire Company's workers compensation. She stated that under Mr. McArdle budget request, he was looking for 4 radios. She stated that if they were budgeting in for Nesquehoning, they should budget in for New Columbus and Hauto as well. President Hawk stated that they do not have to approve the radios for Nesquehoning. He stated that they should say why they need them. Councilman Radocha stated that there was more money being spent, every couple months, for the aerial truck. Mayor Kitchko asked if it was something that had to be done every year. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how she thought that it had to be certified every three years and that was what they just had done. President Hawk stated that it was the certification.

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Councilman Jacobs stated how everyone should look over the budgets.

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

Councilwoman Porembo stated about the Workers Compensation list of providers and getting it updated. She stated about finding out the hours of the doctors and Express Care services. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated about adding a dentist to the list of providers as well.

Councilwoman Porembo stated to Councilman Jacobs about the part-time rates for the truck drivers and laborer. Councilman Jacobs stated that they should give a little more to someone who was driving a truck. President Hawk stated about giving \$2.00 more for a truck driver. He stated that they could go with \$12.00 for laborer, \$14.00 for truck driver without CDL and \$18.00 with CDL.

Councilwoman Porembo stated how they looked over the restricted/light duty policy and they thought that it looked good.

Councilman Sabol stated that he did not think that they needed a crossing guard for St. Theresa Celebration. He stated how the crossing guard hardly got out of his car.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilman Sabol seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

RoniSue Ahner
Secretary/Treasurer