

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

ROLL CALL: COUNCILMEN/COUNCILWOMEN FOX, GUARDIANI, HEANEY, KUBA, NALESNIK, PAUL, PRESIDENT HAWK; MAYOR KATTNER & SOLICITOR YURCHAK

President Hawk called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Borough Council Members entered into an Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for personnel. The Council Members exited their Executive Session at 6:27 p.m.

HEARING OF VISITORS

George Sabol – 158 Padua Street – stated about how the Recreation Commission was supposed to give back 60% of their proceeds to the community since Governor Wolfe has lifted the restrictions from COVID. He stated how their checking account balance never really changed over the six years he was on Council. Councilwoman Kuba stated that they did meet with the Recreation Commission and they really did not have any income from bingo over the last two years. She stated that during the last few months, they were finally holding bingo, but only twice a month. Councilwoman Kuba stated that they still had some of their monthly bills that had to be paid and they also participated in drive-by events for Easter, Christmas, Halloween, etc. She stated how they have it on their agenda, to purchase equipment for the playgrounds. Mr. Sabol asked that when the Recreation Commission held their meetings, was the public allowed to attend those meetings. Councilwoman Kuba stated “yes”.

Mr. Sabol stated that he had asked that question two months ago and he did not see it in the minutes that were posted online. Secretary/ Treasurer Ahner stated that it should be in the minutes that were posted online. She stated that the July 2022 meeting minutes were not posted online, because they were not approved yet.

Mr. Sabol asked that when they had decided to rent the apartment again, if it was brought to a vote; if it was on the agenda. Several Council members replied “yes”.

Mr. Sabol asked if they had received the second half of the COVID funding. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated “no”.

Vernon Lawton – 108 E. Garibaldi Avenue – asked about the recycling that Councilwoman Guardiani had mentioned at the last meeting. He stated how they used to have bins on Locust Street, but they had been removed because of people throwing garbage in the bins. Mr. Lawton asked if they could set something up around the police station, where they would have lighting and cameras. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how she was new to Council and that recycling was something that she wanted to get back into town. She stated how it was a voluntary program and that people were throwing their garbage in with the recycling.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

- David Bodnar, Director Office of Planning & Development – FY2022- CDBG Application denied

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Councilman Nalesnik asked if it was an automatic re-submission or did the Borough have to do something. President Hawk stated how the Borough would have to re-submit the plans/application for E. Diaz Avenue.

- C.C. Planning & Development – Family Promise – Community Development Block Grant
- David Bodnar – Funding opportunity for wild land fire mitigation

Councilman Nalesnik asked Mr. McArdle if he had a chance to review the funding opportunity and if it was worthwhile for the Borough to apply. Mr. McArdle stated how it would require a study, whereas, they would take the western end of Diaz Avenue (tree line) and cut back the trees so they would have a fire line. He stated how there would be a cost incurred by the Borough to do that and the majority of that property belonged to the Water Authority. Mr. McArdle stated how they had looked into it several years ago for Lake Hauto.

- Request for Planning Commission Meeting and Zoning Hearing
 - Family Promise
 - 334 E. Catawissa Street

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they were trying to schedule the Planning Commission meeting for Tuesday, September 13th at 6:00 p.m.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

No report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- **Approve – Delinquent Taxes Validation Notice Fee Ordinance**

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Kuba seconded to adopt the Delinquent Taxes Validation Notice Fee Ordinance. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- **Advertise – Naming Streets within the Borough Limits Ordinance**

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Guardiani seconded to advertise for the Ordinance to name the blacktop roadway in front of the Railroad properties (previous KME properties) Iron Horse Way. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- **Advertise – Amending Water Hookup Ordinance**

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Guardiani seconded to advertise the Amendment to the Water Hookup Ordinance. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- Family Promise – CDBG Monies
- Mr. & Mrs. Smith – 160 Stock Street – Sewer Line Right Of Way
- Lake Hauto Club
- **Grievance Settlement**

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to accept the settle for the police grievance pending preparation of the written agreement. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Fox asked Solicitor Yurchak about the ordinance for the Air B & B. Solicitor Yurchak stated how he had not finished it yet. Councilwoman Fox stated how she had the opportunity to talk to a property owner in regards to the Air B & B, because her property was having a sewage problem. She stated how the property owner was telling her that she only does short term or month to month leases.

BOROUGH OF NESQUEHONING

Ordinance No. _____

ORDINANCE APPROVING VALIDATION NOTICE FEE TO BE ADDED AS A COLLECITON FEE TO THE AMOUNT COLLECTED AS PART OF UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES FOR DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Nesquehoning (the "Borough"), enacted Ordinance No. 2021-8 Approving Collection Procedures, Appointment of Solicitor, Interest Assessment, Credit Card and Debit Card Charges, and Fees and Costs to be Added to the Amount Collected as Part of Unpaid Real Estate Taxes for Delinquent Accounts on or about October 27, 2021 (the "Ordinance"); and

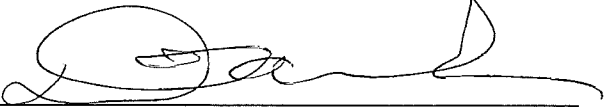
WHEREAS, the Borough seeks to add a Validation Notice fee to the Collection Fees listed in the fee schedule approved in the Ordinance.

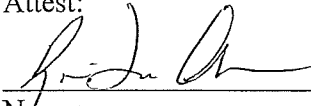
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED, ENACTED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NESQUEHONING AS FOLLOWS:

In addition to the Legal Fees and Collection Fees approved in the fee schedule set forth in Section 1 of the Ordinance, a validation notice fee of \$25.00 per notice shall be added to the Unpaid Taxes as a Collection Fee under Section 1(b) of the Ordinance.

DULY ORDAINED, ENACTED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NESQUEHONING THIS 24th DAY OF August, 2022.

BOROUGH OF NESQUEHONING

By: 
Name: _____
Title:

Attest:

Name: _____
Title:

[Seal]

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Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Kuba seconded to accept Planning Commission Report, Engineer's Report and Solicitor's Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.

JIM THORPE NEIGHBORHOOD BANK TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Balance 06.30.22	753,803.43
Receipts	70,523.63
Expenditures	118,630.61
Balance 07.31.22	705696.45

HIGHWAY FUND

Balance 06.30.22	243,332.46
Receipt	18.96
Expenditures	4,660.42
Balance 07.31.22	238,691.00

SANITATION FUND

Balance 06.30.22	171,178.04
Receipts	106,241.77
Sewer	48,593.35
Expenditures	308.00
Balance 07.31.22	228,532.88

POLICE PENSION FUND

Balance 06.30.22	2,313,743.48
Receipt	46,780.01
Expenditures	-31,213.85
Appreciation/Depreciation	192,869.00
Balance 07.31.22	2,522,178.64

SPORTS COMPLEX FUND

Balance 06.30.22	90,130.38
Receipts	1099.60
Expenditures	217.92
Balance 07.31.22	91,012.06

NESQUEHONING LION CLUB

Balance 05.31.22	10,202.77
Receipts	0.84
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 06.30.22	10,203.61

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Balance 06.30.22	8,952.84
Receipts	0.71
Expenditure	0.00
Balance 07.31.22	8953.55

HOME FUND

Balance 06.30.22	31,643.88
Receipts	2.51
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 07.31.22	31,646.39

***ROAD CONSTRUCTION**

Balance 06.30.22	235,464.74
Receipts	100,000.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 07.31.22	335,464.74

GENERAL SEWER CONT FUND

Balance 06.30.22	287,652.09
Receipts	22.85
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 07.31.22	287,674.94

FIRE TRUCK FUND

Balance 06.30.22	199,331.09
Receipts	5774.24
Expenditures	479.50
Balance 07.31.22	312,030.09

***SOLAR PARK ESCROW ACCOUNT**

Balance 02.28.22	10,060.31
Receipts	2.54
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 05.31.22	10,060.31

SEWER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE

Balance 06.30.22	744,786.46
Receipts	48,902.90
Expenditures	17,055.52
Balance 07.31.22	776,633.84

***Savings Accounts Statements are on a Quarterly basis**

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CD REPORT

FUND	CURRENT VALUE 07.31.22	INTEREST 07.31.22	OPENING DATE	CURRENT RATE	RENEWAL DATE	BANK
GEN. SEWER	\$419,682.01	\$ 206.86	08-28-17	0.60%	08-26-23	JTNB
SANITATION	\$ 22,900.71	\$ 10.69	06-29-17	0.55%	06-28-23	JTNB
CAPITAL PROJ	\$ 11,224.66	\$ 5.24	06-29-17	0.55%	06-28-23	JTNB
FIRE TRUCK	\$ 10,966.63	\$ 5.12	06-29-17	0.55%	06-28-23	JTNB
SEWER	\$361,574.36	\$ 260.84	03-03-22	0.85%	03-02-24	JTNB
SEWER	\$516,534.78	\$ 372.63	03-03-22	0.85%	03-02-24	JTNB

Councilwoman Heaney moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report and the CD Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:

July 2022

Real Estate	\$72,140.79
Occupational	\$ 1,680.00
Per Capita	\$ <u>1,170.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$74,990.79

EXEMPTIONS: Scott James Nothstein – \$33.00 – Social Security

APPLICATIONS: Kistler, Shawn – Police Officer
 Beckesy, Richard – Police Officer
 Smith, Kamryne – Borough office Cleaning Person

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 07.28.22 PennDOT & DEP – Commitment to Clean Transportation
- 08.01.22 PA Rural Water – Understanding the ISO fire suppression rating schedule
- 08.01.22 PA Rural Water – BNR The Basics & Beyond
- 08.02.22 Diversified Technology – Billing System update: DB22
- 08.02.22 PA Rural Water – Operation Of Wastewater Treatment Plants
- 08.02.22 BIA – DCNR Grants Workshop
- 08.02.22 PennDOT – Wolf Anti-Litter Campaign
- 08.04.22 PSAB Fall Leadership Conference
- 08.11.22 Paul Castline – Police your municipality through Ordinance Enforcement
- 08.11.22 PA Rural Water – ABC's of Identifying and Eliminating Inflow and Infiltration
- 08.12.22 Hometown Heroes Committee – Thank you, card for Donation

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Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Kuba seconded to accept the Tax Collector's Report with the exemption and to approve all communications/applications and place them on file. All voted yes. Motion passed.

PURCHASE ORDERS:					
7/21/2022	11047	big paint trays apartment	True Value	Nick	General
7/21/2022	11048	1 basket ball nets for New Columbus Park	True Value	Nick	SCF
7/21/2022	11049	patches	Emlems Enterprise	Weaver	Police
7/28/2022	11050	business cards	Vista print	Weaver	Police
7/29/2022	11051	3 basket ball nets for parks (2 Hauto & 1 New Columbus)	True Value	Nick	SCF
7/29/2022	11052	paint trays for apt	True Value	Nick	GF
8/2/2022	11053	paint rollers for streets	True Value	Andy	Highway
8/3/2022	11054	bleach & pine sol for police station		Mayor	Police
8/9/2022	11055	Code car fan blower	Kovatch	Mary	Police
8/9/2022	11056	paint rollers for streets	True Value	Andy	Highway
8/9/2022	11057	Municipal traffic citations	RR Donnelley	Corey	Police
8/9/2022	11058	7 badges (819.00) Smith & Woren	Galls	Mike	Police
8/10/2022	11059	hose adapter for street saw-sewer project	True Value	Nick	SOM
8/11/2022	11060	doors - for apartment	Lowe's	Nick	GF
8/12/2022	11061	Paint for apartment door	True Value	Nick	GF
8/15/2022	11062	2-shovels, 1 -rake for sewer project W. Columbus Ave.	True Value	Nick	SOM
8/15/2022	11063	batteries Sewer Project Columbus Ave	True Value	Nick	SOM
8/15/2022	11064	pipe fittings for sewer project	True Value	Nick	SOM
8/16/2022	11065	batteries Sewer Project Columbus Ave	True Value	Nick	SOM
8/17/2022	11066	2 Inlet & 2 Top Approved By Louie	Monarch	Andy	Highway
8/17/2022	11067	Flat top for sewer project west Columbus	Monarch	Bob	Sewer

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to approve all of the purchase orders. All voted yes. Motion passed.

BILLS TO BE RATIFIED, EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Paul seconded to deposit all receipts, approve all bills to be ratified and pay all other bills. All voted yes. Motion passed.

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BILLS TO BE RATIFIED, EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

Borough of Nesquehoning - General Fund

**Bills to be Ratified
As of August 23, 2022**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Amount
Jul 28 - Aug 23 '22						
Bill Pmt	07/29/2022	14773	Address Appraisals	653 Industrial Road	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (1,000.00)
Bill Pmt	07/29/2022	14774	CarpetKraft Inc.		200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (2,468.00)
Bill Pmt	07/29/2022	14775	Marouchoc's Auto Repair	Wipers, radial tire plug, Oil &	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (180.98)
Check	07/29/2022	EFT	Payroll Fund	07.29.2022 payroll	-SPLIT-	\$ (18,725.67)
Bill Pmt	08/01/2022	14776	U.S. Postal Service	Stamps-Certifieds	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (120.00)
Bill Pmt	08/02/2022	EFT	Fleet Services	Acct. 0496-00-343234-1 - J	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (564.10)
Bill Pmt	08/02/2022	EFT	Sunoco Wex Bank	Account# 0496-00-653100-(200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (896.15)
Check	08/03/2022	EFT	Fire Truck Fund	Portnoff - EFT deposit trans	301.400 · Real Estate Taxes - Delinq	\$ (231.93)
Check	08/03/2022	EFT	Sports Complex Fund #1	Portnoff - EFT deposit trans	301.400 · Real Estate Taxes - Delinq	\$ (43.87)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14777	American United Life Insurance Company		200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (328.55)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14778	Blue Ridge Communicati	Acct # 0272893-02 Aug 20	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (88.88)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14779	Nesquehoning Historical	Grant 2022/Sidewalks	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (14,600.00)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14780	New Holland Auto Group	2022 Ford Police Utility	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (17,937.50)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14781	Quality Parts Co., Inc.		200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (147.65)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14782	Starr Uniform Center	Handcuffs	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (198.00)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14783	SWIF	Policy # 06326470 Renewal	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (16,155.00)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14784	Windstream	Garage - 021866821 July	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (42.58)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	14785	New Holland Auto Group	2022 Ford Police Utility	200.00 · Accounts Payable	\$ (17,937.50)
Check	08/12/2022	EFT	Payroll Fund	08.12.2022 payroll	-SPLIT-	\$ (24,078.23)
						\$ (115,744.59)

Borough of Nesquehoning - SOM Fund

**Bills to be Ratified
As of August 23, 2022**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Amount
Jul 28 - Aug 23 '22						
Bill Pmt	07/29/2022	12064	CWM Laboratories		2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (1,724.00)
Bill Pmt	07/29/2022	12065	Martins Electrical Service	Dialer at Pumpstation -July	2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (90.00)
Bill Pmt	07/29/2022	12066	Water-Mechanics	Contract consultation July 2	2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (850.00)
Check	07/29/2022	EFT	Payroll Fund	07.29.2022 payroll	-SPLIT-	\$ (4,508.88)
Bill Pmt	08/01/2022	12067	United States Postal Serv	Stamps - Certifieds	2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (253.45)
Bill Pmt	08/02/2022	EFT	Sunoco Wex Bank	Closing Date July 23,2022	2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (304.67)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	12068	American United Life Insurance Company		2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (72.68)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	12069	Blue Ridge Communications		2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (221.85)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	12070	Verizon	Aug 22 - 570-669-6630 75	2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (47.97)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	12071	Windstream	Acct. #021866821 - pumpin	2000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (42.58)
Check	08/12/2022	EFT	Payroll Fund	08.12.2022 payroll	-SPLIT-	\$ (4,493.23)
						\$ (12,609.31)

Borough of Nesquehoning - Fire Truck Fund

**Bills to be Ratified
As of August 23, 2022**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Amount
Jul 28 - Aug 23 '22						
Bill Pmt	07/29/2022	1747	John P. McArdle	Reimbursement on postage f	20000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (15.70)
						\$ (15.70)

Borough of Nesquehoning - Sports Complex Fund

**Bills to be Ratified
As of August 23, 2022**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Amount
Jul 28 - Aug 23 '22						
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	1606	Nesquehoning VFW Auxil	Donation for Flags	20000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (500.00)
Bill Pmt	08/12/2022	1607	Susan Friendak	Johnson/Jacobs Playgrounc	20000 · Accounts Payable	\$ (565.00)
						\$ (1,065.00)

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BILLS TO BE RATIFIED, EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

Borough of Nesquehoning - General Fund

Monthly Expenditures

August 24, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 24, 2022					
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14786	Andrew Staehle		\$ (102.50)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14787	Arro Consulting, Inc.	2022 Road Projects	\$ (866.50)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14788	Assured Partners	Agency Fee	\$ (6,293.30)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14789	Barry Isett & Associates, Inc.	Professional Services - July 202	\$ (812.50)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14790	Billig-Helmes Insurance Associates	Renewal of Bond RSA	\$ (644.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14791	CarpetKraft Inc.		\$ (2,468.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14792	County of Carbon	Telecommunications/ August 20	\$ (627.94)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14793	Davidheiser's Inc.	Stop Watches tested	\$ (75.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14794	H & K GROUP, INC	Nesquehoning Borough 2022 R	\$ (116,568.34)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14795	H. A. Berkkheimer, Inc.		\$ (234.68)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14796	Johnson Controls Security Solutions	01300114708853	\$ (189.42)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14797	Kovatch Buick-Oldsmobile-Jeep, Inc		\$ (831.89)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14798	Lowe's	Stove for Apartment	\$ (711.55)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14799	PA Chiefs of Police Association	Entry Level Police Officer Exam	\$ (102.52)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14800	Palmerton Garage Doors, Inc.	Chain drive & remote	\$ (1,320.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14801	PenTeleData	Acct. # 143883 -Aug 2022	\$ (145.52)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14802	PPL		\$ (353.20)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14803	Robert T. Yurchak	Legal Services 07.20.2022 thr	\$ (935.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14804	RoniSue Ahner	Gas payment for use of Person	\$ (25.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14805	RR DONNELLEY, INC.	Municipal Traffic Citations	\$ (47.86)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14806	S & O Computers, LLC	September Managed Service 2	\$ (641.25)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14807	The Times News	Account # 10001104 Nesqueh	\$ (176.25)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14808	United Concordia		\$ (701.82)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	14809	Verizon Wireless	Acct. # 842021582-00001 - Aug	\$ (285.57)
August 24, 2022					<u>\$ (135,159.61)</u>

Borough of Nesquehoning - Highway Fund

Monthly Expenditures

August 24, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 24, 2022					
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	1541	PPL	LED Street. Lights	\$ (4,556.55)
August 24, 2022					<u>\$ (4,556.55)</u>

Borough of Nesquehoning - Fire Truck Fund

Monthly Expenditures

August 24, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 24, 2022					
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	1748	Department of Labor & Industry	Policy # 5998250 Installment 9	\$ (1,190.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	1749	John P. McArdle	Reimbursement on postage for c	\$ (8.45)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	1750	Robert T. Yurchak	Legal Services 07.20.2022 thru	\$ (286.00)
August 24, 2022					<u>\$ (1,484.45)</u>

Borough of Nesquehoning - Sewer Construction Fund

Monthly Expenditures

August 24, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 24, 2022					
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	1294	Arro Consulting, Inc.	Proj. #11233.08/ West Columbu	\$ (542.75)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	1295	Lehigh Asphalt	West Columbus Ave.	\$ (6,483.68)
August 24, 2022					<u>\$ (7,026.43)</u>

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Borough of Nesquehoning - SOM Fund

Monthly Expenditures

August 24, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 24, 2022					
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12072	Borough of Nesquehoning	Building Rent - August 2022	\$ (250.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12073	Environmental Service Corp.		\$ (8,515.39)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12074	Kresge Services	Central Air repair	\$ (179.95)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12075	PA One Call	Monthly Activity Fee	\$ (2.95)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12076	PenTeleData	Acct. # 143883 - August 2022	\$ (36.38)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12077	PPL		\$ (3,205.41)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12078	Robert T. Yurchak	Legal Services 07.20.2022 thru	\$ (22.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12079	United Concordia	Acct # 5364000940 - Septembe	\$ (191.10)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	12080	Verizon Wireless	Acct # 842021582 -August 2022	\$ (29.36)
August 24, 2022					<u><u>\$ (12,432.54)</u></u>

Borough of Nesquehoning - Sanitation Fund

Monthly Expenditures

August 24, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 24, 2022					
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	6232	SOM	July 2022 Sewer Payments	\$ (63,916.08)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	6233	Tamaqua Transfer & Recycling, Inc.	Aug 2022 - Acct# 531	\$ (35,870.12)
August 24, 2022					<u><u>\$ (99,786.20)</u></u>

Borough of Nesquehoning - Sports Complex Fund

Monthly Expenditures

August 24, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
August 24, 2022					
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	1608	Dimmick Memorial Library	Donation - 2022	\$ (2,000.00)
Bill Pmt -Check	08/24/2022	1609	PPL		\$ (138.53)
August 24, 2022					<u><u>\$ (2,138.53)</u></u>

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

BILLS TO BE RATIFIED, EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

Borough of Nesquehoning - General Fund

Deposit Detail

As of August 14, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Split</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jul 17 - Aug 14 '22				
Deposit	07/17/2022	Deposit	-SPLIT-	\$ 47,553.92
Deposit	07/18/2022	Deposit	310.210 · Earned Income Tax	\$ 1,513.83
Deposit	07/20/2022	Deposit	310.210 · Earned Income Tax	\$ 565.37
Deposit	07/22/2022	Deposit	-SPLIT-	\$ 1,555.24
Deposit	07/25/2022	Deposit	310.210 · Earned Income Tax	\$ 1,413.01
Deposit	07/27/2022	Deposit	310.210 · Earned Income Tax	\$ 2,091.76
Deposit	07/27/2022	Deposit	310.210 · Earned Income Tax	\$ 1,814.69
Deposit	07/27/2022	Deposit	310.512 · Local Service Tax	\$ 328.06
Deposit	07/27/2022	Deposit	301.400 · Real Estate Taxes - Delinquent	\$ 1,063.89
Deposit	07/29/2022	Deposit	310.512 · Local Service Tax	\$ 1,033.97
Deposit	07/29/2022	Deposit	-SPLIT-	\$ 2,573.06
Deposit	07/31/2022	Interest	340.100 · Interest Earnings	\$ 56.65
Deposit	08/03/2022	Deposit	310.210 · Earned Income Tax	\$ 1,201.73
Deposit	08/03/2022	Deposit	310.512 · Local Service Tax	\$ 1,665.22
Deposit	08/03/2022	Deposit	301.400 · Real Estate Taxes - Delinquent	\$ 1,043.33
Jul 17 - Aug 14 '22				<u><u>\$ 65,473.73</u></u>

Borough of Nesquehoning - Fire Truck Fund

Deposit Detail

As of August 14, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Split</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jul 17 - Aug 14 '22				
Deposit	07/27/2022	Deposit	301.400 · Delinquent Property - Fire	\$ 101.98
Deposit	07/29/2022	Interest	340.100 · Interest Earnings	\$ 24.54
Deposit	08/03/2022	Deposit	301.400 · Delinquent Property - Fire	\$ 100.01
Jul 17 - Aug 14 '22				<u><u>\$ 226.53</u></u>

Borough of Nesquehoning - Sports Complex Fund

Deposit Detail

As of August 14, 2022

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Split</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jul 17 - Aug 14 '22				
Deposit	07/27/2022	Deposit	301.400 · Delinquent Property - Recreatio	\$ 19.29
Deposit	07/29/2022	Interest	340.100 · Interest Income	\$ 7.18
Deposit	08/03/2022	Deposit	301.400 · Delinquent Property - Recreatio	\$ 18.92
Jul 17 - Aug 14 '22				<u><u>\$ 45.39</u></u>

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

BILLS TO BE RATIFIED, EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

Borough of Nesquehoning - Sanitation Fund

Deposit Detail

As of August 14, 2022

Type	Date	Memo	Split	Amount
Jul 17 - Aug 14 '22				
General Journal	07/18/2022	16395	-SPLIT-	\$ 8,667.00
General Journal	07/19/2022	16396	-SPLIT-	\$ 60.00
General Journal	07/19/2022	16400	-SPLIT-	\$ 2,175.00
General Journal	07/20/2022	16397	-SPLIT-	\$ 8,435.00
General Journal	07/20/2022	16398	120.001 · Accounts Receivable-Sewer	\$ 720.00
General Journal	07/20/2022	16401	-SPLIT-	\$ 1,626.00
General Journal	07/21/2022	16403	-SPLIT-	\$ 180.00
General Journal	07/21/2022	16405	-SPLIT-	\$ 1,888.00
General Journal	07/22/2022	16404	-SPLIT-	\$ 180.00
General Journal	07/22/2022	16406	120.000 · Accounts Receivable-Sanitation	\$ 63.00
General Journal	07/22/2022	16408	-SPLIT-	\$ 3,152.00
General Journal	07/24/2022	16407	-SPLIT-	\$ 60.00
General Journal	07/25/2022	16409	-SPLIT-	\$ 192.00
General Journal	07/25/2022	16410	-SPLIT-	\$ 14,186.00
General Journal	07/26/2022	16411	-SPLIT-	\$ 180.00
General Journal	07/26/2022	16412	-SPLIT-	\$ 3,772.00
General Journal	07/27/2022	16413	-SPLIT-	\$ 120.00
General Journal	07/27/2022	16414	-SPLIT-	\$ 2,957.00
General Journal	07/28/2022	16415	-SPLIT-	\$ 240.00
General Journal	07/28/2022	16417	-SPLIT-	\$ 8,760.40
Deposit	07/29/2022	Deposit 364.310 · Permits/Misc Charges		\$ 324.93
General Journal	07/29/2022	16416	-SPLIT-	\$ 432.00
General Journal	07/29/2022	16418	-SPLIT-	\$ 768.00
General Journal	07/29/2022	16420	-SPLIT-	\$ (60.00)
General Journal	07/29/2022	16421	-SPLIT-	\$ 312.00
General Journal	07/29/2022	16424	-SPLIT-	\$ 7,270.50
Deposit	07/29/2022	Interest 340.100 · Interest Earnings		\$ 14.42
General Journal	07/30/2022	16422	-SPLIT-	\$ 546.00
General Journal	07/31/2022	16423	-SPLIT-	\$ 666.00
General Journal	08/01/2022	16428	-SPLIT-	\$ 600.50
General Journal	08/01/2022	16429	-SPLIT-	\$ 6,170.00
General Journal	08/02/2022	16431	-SPLIT-	\$ 438.00
General Journal	08/02/2022	16433	-SPLIT-	\$ 3,324.00
General Journal	08/03/2022	16432	-SPLIT-	\$ 126.00
General Journal	08/03/2022	16435	-SPLIT-	\$ 3,175.37
General Journal	08/04/2022	16437	-SPLIT-	\$ 406.00
General Journal	08/04/2022	16438	-SPLIT-	\$ 2,923.00
General Journal	08/05/2022	16439	-SPLIT-	\$ 60.00
General Journal	08/05/2022	16441	-SPLIT-	\$ 1,624.50
General Journal	08/06/2022	16440	-SPLIT-	\$ 186.00
General Journal	08/08/2022	16442	-SPLIT-	\$ 318.00
General Journal	08/08/2022	16443	-SPLIT-	\$ 6,199.70
General Journal	08/09/2022	16444	-SPLIT-	\$ 126.00
General Journal	08/09/2022	16445	-SPLIT-	\$ 1,937.00
General Journal	08/10/2022	16447	-SPLIT-	\$ 258.00
General Journal	08/10/2022	16448	-SPLIT-	\$ 2,089.00
General Journal	08/11/2022	16449	-SPLIT-	\$ 438.00
General Journal	08/11/2022	16450	-SPLIT-	\$ 2,860.25
General Journal	08/12/2022	16451	-SPLIT-	\$ 312.00
General Journal	08/12/2022	16453	-SPLIT-	\$ 2,883.50
General Journal	08/13/2022	16452	-SPLIT-	\$ 120.00
				\$ 104,462.07
Jul 17 - Aug 14 '22				

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PUBLIC SAFETY:

**LOUIE PAUL, CHAIRMAN; LOIS KUBA, CO-CHAIRWOMAN;
DAVID HAWK**

- Fire Department Summary Report July 2022

President Hawk stated that there were 8 calls for the month of July 2022, which included 3 Motor vehicle accidents, 3 Automatic fire alarms, 1 Landing zone and 1 Brush fire. He stated that there were a total of 83 calls for 2022.

- **Hire Fredrick Lahovski Jr. – Full-time police officer**

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to hire Fredrick Lahovski, Jr. as a full-time police officer effective September 1, 2022 at \$29.50 per hour with a 6 months probation period contingent on the successful completion of his physical. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to add to the agenda the hiring of Daniel Long as a part-time police officer. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- **Hire Daniel Long as a part-time police officer**

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to hire Daniel Long as a part-time police officer at \$28.00 per hour. All voted yes. Motion passed.

❖ **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Kattner stated about the donations that they were getting for the police department.

Mayor Kattner stated how he was happy to see that the burnt out houses on Catawissa Street were being torn down. He stated that it was unfortunate that people had lost their homes, but they were a hazard since the fire and they needed to be torn down.

❖ **POLICE REPORT**

- July 2022 Police Report

Mayor Kattner read the breakdown of the police report which totaled \$1,569.33 of fine money that was received for July/August 2022 and there were 138 incidents reported for July 2022.

- **Handicap Application – Buccilli, 27 W. High**

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to approve the reinstatement of the handicap parking spot for Mr. Buccilli at 27 W. High Street. All voted yes. Motion passed.

❖ **CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

- **John Orsulak – Resignation Letter**

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Paul seconded to accept John Orsulak's resignation from the Civil Service Commission. All voted yes. Motion passed.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

- **Michael Lopata – Letter of Interest Civil Service**

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to appoint Michael Lopata to the Civil Service Commission. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- Chief Weaver & Officer Herring Civil Service Written Test Scores

❖ **HOUSING & CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT**

- Gene Kennedy – Zoning Report – July 2022
- Chip Stalega. BIA – NOV's issued for 247 E. Railroad, 34 E. Railroad and lot behind 427 E. Center.

❖ **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Mr. McArdle stated how he had met with Reading and Northern Railroad Real Estate over their concerns on Iron Horse Way. He stated how they were purposing numbers for the buildings, which they wanted to start from the far west side (pump test building) as building #1 and go towards the east (inspection building) as building #8. Mr. McArdle stated how he had explained to them that their property would go beyond where they wanted to start numbering and that they normally go in the other direction. He stated how they were not allowing for any growth, which they assured him that it would not be a problem. Mr. McArdle stated how the problem would be with the property that remained as the Kovatch Ford Service Building. He stated how those issues would have to be considered by Council.

Mr. McArdle Stated how there were lock boxes on two of the buildings, so they were going to have to let him know if they were going to keep the boxes. He stated how they have also utilized that area for Medivac, which the Railroad was going to address at their meeting and get back to him. Mr. McArdle stated how the Railroad was going to run railroad tracks into the buildings. He stated that one of his concerns was if they did not install crossings, the fire apparatus would not be able to access those buildings if need be. Mr. McArdle stated that the other concern with them running railroad tracks were the water lines, because there was a main water line that ran through that property. Councilwoman Fox stated how there was a main sewer line as well.

President Hawk stated how the Water Authority should probably mark their lines. He stated how he would ask Matt Johnson that when they were laying out their tracks, to try to minimize the crossing of those water lines. President Hawk stated how they have to understand that there was an easement for those water lines and if there was a problem with the line, they would have to dig it up. Councilwoman Fox asked if they had to go before the Planning commission if they were installing new railroad tracks. Solicitor Yurchak stated how it could be considered a land development depending on what they were planning to do.

- **ReDCo Group – Request inspection of Adult Training Facility**

Councilwoman Heaney moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to allow Mr. McArdle to inspect the ReDCo Training Facility on August 29th at 9:00 a.m. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- Avoidable Alarm for 121 West High on 01.9.22 & 07.25.22
- Avoidable Alarm 344 Industrial Road on 05.20.22 & 08.10.22
- EMC's – Proactive in Our Water Conservation

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

- EMC's – PA Flood Insurance Program

Mr. McArdle stated how he was looking for permission for the Nesquehoning Hose Company to attend a parade in Weatherly on August 27th, the dedication of the training center on September 11th and the VFW 911 ceremony at 5:00 p.m. on September 11th.

Councilwoman Kuba moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to allow the Nesquehoning Hose Company to attend the Weatherly parade on August 27th, the dedication of the training center and the VFW 911 ceremony on September 11th. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Mr. McArdle stated how he had received an unofficial report that the divers did the inspection on the dry hydrants at the lake and that everything was good. He stated that at the 3rd Beach, where there was a missing cap, they had piled rocks in front of it. Mr. McArdle stated how they were still waiting on the drivers to inspect the dry hydrants at the pond in the Estates.

Mr. McArdle stated how the Ladder truck was going to be scheduled for chassis and aerial service with Campbell Supply.

Councilwoman Guardiani moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to accept the Public Safety Committee Report, which includes the Mayor Report, Police Report, Civil Service Report, Housing & Code Report and Emergency Management Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.

2. STREETS

**LOUIE PAUL, CHAIRMAN; BRUCE NALESNIK, CO-CHAIRMAN;
FRAN HEANEY**

- **Ratify Advertise - Public Notice Of Invitation To Bid – 2011 Ford 550 Dump Truck**

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Kuba seconded to ratify the actions of advertising the 2011 Ford 550 Dump Truck for public bid. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- **Award/Reject Bids – 2011 Ford 550 Dump Truck**

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to award the bid to the highest bidder, Dick Stager (thefarm), in the amount of \$18,300.00, which did not include the plow and spreader. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- H&K Group – Notice Of Completion Nesquehoning Road Project 2022
- Charles Lopresto – Private driveway lines painted

Councilman Paul stated how that resident had off street parking in the back. He stated how there was a curb cut but there was no driveway, it was only grass. Councilman Paul stated how they were denying the request.

- Michael Sniscak – PennDOT's Approval of Driveway Permit

Councilman Paul stated how they were in the process of painting the corners and the curb cuts. He stated that they will then continue with painting the crosswalks, which were done at the School. Councilman Paul stated how they also have to paint all of the handicap parking spaces.

- Line Painting

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

- Diaz Avenue

Councilman Paul stated how they were in the process of milling Diaz Avenue. He stated how they had an issue of the inlets being too high, but the Water Authority workers along with the Borough crew got them lowered in order for the contractor to keep going.

- Columbus Avenue, inlets

Councilman Paul stated that while they were working on the sewer line, they came across two inlets that needed to be replaced.

3. SEWER

**MARY FOX, CHAIRWOMAN; BRUCE NALESNICK, CO-CHAIRMAN;
FRAN HEANEY**

- **July 2022 Sewer/Sanitation Adjustment Report**

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Kuba seconded to approve the July 2022 Sewer/Sanitation Adjustments. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- Kresge – Estimate for HVAC for Sewer Plant.
- Peter Radocha & Sons – Estimate for traditional heat pump set up for sewer plant.

Councilwoman Fox stated how they were going to review the quotes that they had received to make sure that they were comparing apples to apples. She stated how the quotes were for the HVAC system at the Sewer plant.

- Columbus Avenue Sewer Line Replacement

Councilwoman Fox stated how the sewer line replacement on W. Columbus Avenue was completed. She stated how they were going to get three quotes to install base course for the winter. Councilwoman Fox stated that they would be bidding out the paving of the street next year.

- Lake Hauto – Pump Station – Automatic dialer

Councilwoman Fox stated how she had talked with Leslie Martin (Martin's Electrical) about the pump station failure. She stated how they had to bypass the battery backup, because the pumps were not accepting the power when the power would come back on. Councilwoman Fox stated how the battery backup/callout needed to be replaced, but Martin's was not able to get the part until November. She stated how they could get a temporary replacement, which would cost \$900.00 plus installation cost. Councilwoman Fox stated that with bypassing the backup, it would not call Mr. Pilla out if there was a power outage.

Councilwoman Guardiani moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to purchase and install the temporary part. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Fox stated how she had talked to one of the property owners on Railroad Street and explained what all had to be done in regards to the sewer line, because there were 5 houses connected to one line and running to one property. She stated how she would have to make sure that she got a contractor scheduled to disconnect her line.

Councilwoman Fox stated that she received a request from Mr. Pilla to purchase a magnet to go on the crane on the sewer truck, which would lift the lids off for the inlets and the manholes. She stated that the cost of the magnet was \$634.95.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL
Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Kuba seconded to add Mr. Pilla's request to the agenda. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- **Mr. Pilla's request to purchase magnet for truck**

Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to approve Mr. Pilla's request to purchase the magnet for the sewer truck at a cost of \$634.95. All voted yes. Motion passed.

**4. BUILDINGS
& GROUNDS**

**BRUCE NALESNIK, CHAIRMAN; LOUIE PAUL, CO- CHAIRMAN;
ABBIE GUARDIANI**

- **Police Department**

Councilman Nalesnik stated that the insurance work at the police department was being completed. He stated how there were some additional items that were found. Councilman Nalesnik stated that as they were peeling away and doing repairs, trying to reattach the sign, became difficult since it was not sturdy behind the façade. He stated how he was working with the contractor on getting everything back together and sealed. Councilman Nalesnik stated how the whole police department may need to be addressed. Councilman Paul stated how he had stopped and talked to the contractor about placing a cantilever and eliminating the wall. He stated how he had asked the contractor to draw something up and handed out a simple drawing. Councilman Paul stated about having an overhang, removing the wall and have the cantilever, which they could install recess lighting (like the front of the Borough office). He stated that because of the water leaking in all of these years, the wall was rotting away. Councilman Paul stated how they could replace the roof at any time. He stated how he had patched that roof back in 2013. Councilman Paul stated that the longer they wait, the worse it will get. He stated about budgeting some money for 2023 to get something done in the Spring.

Councilman Nalesnik stated how the apartment was nearly completed and they would be having someone move in on Friday. He stated how the Borough workers have been spending their rainy days working on it.

**5. SANITATION &
QUALITY OF LIFE**

**ABBIE GUARDIANI, CHAIRWOMAN; LOIS KUBA, CO- CHAIR-
WOMAN; MARY FOX**

- **July 2022 Tamaqua Transfer Tonnage Report**

Councilwoman Guardiani stated that there was 145.93 tons of garbage for July 2022.

- **Electronic Recycling Day**

Councilwoman Guardiani stated that the electronic recycling event was scheduled for Tuesday, September 6th from 2 – 4 p.m. on Locust Street.

- **Sanitation Complaint**

Councilwoman Guardiani stated that she would not be addressing any sanitation complaints on Face Book/social media. She stated that there was a procedure that needed to be followed. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that they could file a paper complaint or call the Borough office.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

- **Family Promise – Requesting permission for 2 yard container from Waste Management. Councilwoman Guardiani moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded approve the request from Family Promise to use a Waste Management container rather than utilizing Borough garbage collection. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

❖ BLIGHT COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Guardiani stated how the Blight Committee held their first meeting. She stated that one of the first things that they had talked about was the definition of blight: property in disrepair and decrepitude due to neglect or age; deteriorated condition that impairs the quality of life. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that the Blight Committee should be ambassadors for the town. She stated that they were not there to make people angry; they were there to get people on board with the town and want to make their property nice. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that there were structures in town that needed to be taken care of immediately. She stated that if they want to have a nice town, they have to get everybody on board without excluding people. Councilwoman Guardiani stated about people taking pride in their property if their house was brand new or 100 years old. She stated about people cutting their weeds/grass and taking care of their properties, because that was where blight starts.

Councilwoman Guardiani stated how she and Councilman Paul had toured Nesquehoning and made a list of 10 properties, which she had colored pictures. She stated how they might be able to remediate some of the properties. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how she had asked Secretary/Treasurer Ahner to give an updated report every month on those 10 properties. She stated that she wanted everyone to understand that it was not a quick or easy process. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that she wanted to confirm that when she talks about property #1 or property #2, the properties were not in any specific order; just the order that they were noticed.

- 129 E. Center Street – Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how the Borough has been maintaining the grass at that property for the last several years, because from their recollection, the owner of the property lives in Brooklyn, NY. She stated that he will pay his taxes when the property shows up on the tax sale list. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they have cited him several times for the grass cutting, but if the citation was not answered within two years, it goes away. Councilwoman Guardiani asked how they recoup the money for the cost of the grass cutting. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that cost of the grass cutting, plus additional cost, were added to the citation for restitution. She stated that if he would take a hearing, they would go before the judge and if found guilty, they would get the restitution along with fines. She stated that if he pleads guilty, they would get the restitution. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that if they would place a lien on the property and the property would sell at a tax sale, they would recoup their funds; however, if the property would sell at a judicial sale or repository sale, they would not get anything back, because those properties were sold free and clear of all liens. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that the other issue with that particular structure was that it was a half of a double. She stated that she could not imagine living in the other half of that property. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how they have to look at their penalties as a Borough.

- 571 E. Center Street – Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how it was being maintained by Safeguard Properties, which was a preservation company. She stated how the property was listed for Sheriff Sale, which will be on October 12th. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that the bank will probably take control of the property. She stated that the water was off to the property. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how she has been in touch with Safeguard Properties and has sent them a list of code violations for the property with the pictures. She stated that she has pictures of the inside of that property as well.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that if the bank does take the property, they will probably put it for sale and it could be a nice property again.

- 1 E. High Street – Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that the structure that stands consist of three separate properties; 1, 3 and 5 E. High Street. She stated that 7 and 11 E. High Street were torn down by the property owner. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that hearings were scheduled with the two property owners (1 E. High Street & 3/5 E. High Street). Councilwoman Guardiani asked what that meant. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they were cited and went to court (magistrates). She stated that they appealed the decision from the Magistrate and they were now scheduled to appear in court at the County level. Councilwoman Guardiani asked if they were planning on restoring the properties. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that there was someone interested in purchasing the three properties in order to tear them down and build new.

- 137/139 W. Catawissa Street – Councilwoman Guardiani stated how they started tearing them down.

- 111 W. Catawissa Street – Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that she did not have anything on that property. She stated how they did an inspection with Mr. McArdle, Officer Blisard and several Council members. Councilwoman Guardiani asked if they could request an inspection for fire protection. Mr. McArdle stated about starting with their Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Sabol stated that he was told the owner did some work after they had been in there for the inspection.

- 227/229 E. Catawissa Street – Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that she did not have anything on that property. She stated that they were discussing the property in the office and she was told that there was a fire at that property years ago. Mr. McArdle stated that the fire was back in 1979. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that it looked like it was packed with stuff. Councilwoman Fox stated that they were storing construction material at that property. Councilwoman Guardiani stated about having the Code Enforcement Officer look into that property.

- 151 W. Columbus Avenue – Councilwoman Guardiani stated how it was a bit deceiving when they would first look at it. She stated that she wanted to address how people purchase properties within the Borough who cannot take care of one property let alone multiple properties. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that they were going to have to look at something as Council to address that issue. She stated that if they were buying multiple properties in town and receiving notices of violations, they needed to stop them from purchasing properties, which might have to be done by an ordinance. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how the County provides a bidders list of the individuals, who have registered for the Judicial Sale. She stated that it was not just the LLC that was listed but the owner of the LLC (person bidding). Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that if they were having an issue with any of the individuals on that list, the Borough could “black ball” that individual from purchasing any properties in the County. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how it was like banging their heads against the wall. She stated that if they have to black ball them one at a time, then that was what they would do. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that she wanted to make it known, that all of the properties on the list were owned and not rentals. She stated that the other thing that they needed to look at were the rental properties. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they did not have the inspection clause in their rental ordinance, because there were several questions: who was going to do the inspection, who was going to manage it and who was going to pay for the inspection. She stated that the rental license fee was only \$10.00 per unit. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that certain rental ordinances call for inspections on a new purchase, on a new tenant or just on a rotation every so many years. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how they were not going to find an inspector for \$10.00. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that the Borough was paying the Code Enforcement Officer from Barry Isett \$65.00 per hour. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how that was something that they needed to look into in the future.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

- 58 E. Mill Street – Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that there was a search warrant administered on that property; at the time it was Chief Smith, Officer Sabulsky, Officer Briener, Chief McArdle, Sean McArdle and herself. She stated that the property owner was cited and removed from the home by department of aging. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that the house was condemned because of the water and sewer. She stated that the property owner was a hoarder so without professional help; it was very hard to get him to throw items away. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that the owner was cited, took the hearing and was found guilty. She stated that he paid the restitution for the citation. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that another notice of violation has been sent to the property owner. Solicitor Yurchak stated that he thought that there was someone there the other day. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that she has been down to the property several times with the owner to let him in to get personal items and to clean up, but he never seemed to get very far. She stated how he was sent another NOV. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that if someone were to clean up the property, it would be a very nice home. She stated that the inside of that home was not damaged; it was just piled with stuff. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how it was a property that could be remediated and not torn down. Solicitor Yurchak stated how he had an offer to buy it, but he never acted on it.

- 217 W. Catawissa Street – Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how that property was cited several months ago, but she did not know what happened with the citation. She stated that the property owners live in Massachusetts. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that when they actually received the citation, they had called Frank Jacobs asking why they had gotten the citation. She stated that he had told them about the roof and that they should sell it, because he did not know why they were hanging on to it if they were living out of state. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that with the large holes in the roof, she could not imagine what the inside of the property looked like. Mr. McArdle stated how it was a half of a double.

- 31 W. Railroad Street-garage on High Street – Councilwoman Guardiani stated how it was the garage that was secured with a piece of rope. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that a notice of violation letter was sent along with a demolition permit. She stated that the NOV stated that it needed to be torn down. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that there was no rehabilitating that property.

- Issue with Skunk infestation

Councilwoman Guardiani stated that she had received a complaint from St. John's Church about a skunk infestation. She stated that she was not surprised because of the properties that surround the church. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how the church had to employ someone, a licensed trapper, to remove skunks, which they have trapped and removed and euthanized 20 skunks. She stated how they had to spend \$540.00 to have the skunks removed from the property. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how it was not the Borough's fault, but they were asking the Borough for help. She stated how there were blighted properties all around that church. Councilwoman Kuba asked if they had that problem all over town, would the Borough be intervening and hiring someone to trap the skunks. Councilwoman Guardiani asked if the Borough could help them financially. She stated that she felt like they would be opening a can of worms, but it was a lot of money for the church to have to spend. Councilwoman Fox stated how she agreed that they would be opening a can of worms. Solicitor Yurchak stated how they would be setting a precedence. Councilwoman Fox stated that when the Borough was replacing the main sewer line in town, there was a problem with rats.

Councilman Paul stated about the property at 151 W. Columbus Avenue and how the neighbors have attended several Council meetings complaining about that house. He stated how there was a house in New Columbus that Council took over several years ago and knocked both houses down. Councilman Paul stated how they have just recently sold that property for \$8,000.00.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

Councilman Paul stated how they were able to take down the house at 151 W. Columbus Avenue for \$8,000.00. He stated how the same person owns the church, a property on E. Mill Street and another property on W. Catawissa Street. Councilman Paul stated how he was zeroing in on him, because he was the worst and the worst in Lansford. He stated that if they take that property over and knock down the house, because they have the funding to do it. Councilman Paul stated how they could probably get \$14,000.00 - \$15,000.00 for that property when they would sell it. He stated that they could use that money to tear down another house. Councilman Paul stated that either people were going to start fixing up their properties or the Borough was going to take them over and tear them down. Councilwoman Fox stated that she did agree with Councilman Paul but she wanted to know the process of acquiring a property. Solicitor Yurchak stated how there were two types of condemnation: one where the property was not livable and the other was to take it for Borough purposes. He stated that they could condemn the property and take it over, but they had to offer the owner the value of the property. Councilwoman Guardiani stated that she did not want the Blight Committee to be in attack mode. Solicitor Yurchak stated that he would recommend that they approach those owners and ask if they would deed the property over to the Borough.

- Michael Halpern – Email Borough Forms Blight Panel
- **Letter of Interest Blight Committee – Susan Highland**
- **Letter of Interest Blight Committee – George Sabol**
- **Letter of Interest Blight Committee – Joe Pilla**
- **Letter of Interest Blight Committee – James Mikovich**

Councilwoman Guardiani moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to appoint Susan Highland and James Mikovich to the Blight Committee.

Councilwoman Guardiani stated that she wanted to select those individuals because they had never served on any committees in the past. She stated that she wanted to thank everybody for submitting their letters.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

6. RECREATION LOIS KUBA, CHAIRWOMAN; MARY FOX, CO-CHAIRWOMAN; DAVID HAWK

- **BIA – Johnson & Jacobs Park – Improvements Proposal**

Councilwoman Kuba stated that they met with the engineer from Barry Isett & Associates and they had submitted an engineer's cost estimate and schedule of events for the Johnson & Jacobs Park; design – September/October, presentation to Council – November, bids out in January, award in March with construction starting in April/May. She stated how they also discussed purchasing other equipment for the park like a bike rack.

Councilwoman Kuba moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to approve Barry Isett & Associates Park Improvements proposal. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Kuba stated that they met with the Recreation Commission and they were on board with adding improvements to the park. She stated that when they were up at the park the other week, it was very clean and very well kept. Councilwoman Kuba stated that their August Bingo has started and that they were holding their bingos on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

Councilwoman Kuba stated that the Community yard sale was held on August 13th & 14th. She stated that they had 40 houses that registered for the yard sale. Councilwoman Kuba stated that the Recreation Commission gave a \$250.00 donation for the banners for the veterans. She stated that their next meeting was scheduled for October 3rd. Councilwoman Kuba stated that they were going to start discussing the National Night Out for 2023.

Councilwoman Kuba stated that Senator Argall had called her to inform her that she would be getting a phone call from the Railroad concerning the picnic benches. She stated that the Borough would take whatever they would be willing to give them.

Councilwoman Guardiani stated how the New Columbus Park was really nice and they did not utilize it. Councilwoman Heaney stated that when she was growing up, the town had a bunch of festivals (Fire Companies) and that was how they got to know their neighbors. She stated that she could see the Borough holding music festivals, with small local bands, food trucks and their restaurants running specials. Councilwoman Heaney stated about reintroducing the town to the businesses and the residents. Councilwoman Guardiani stated how they need to get to the people to buy into their town. Councilman Nalesnik stated how they had talked about that before, but they have to get ample power. Councilwoman Kuba stated how the Recreation Commission would like to have Christmas trees in the park.

Councilwoman Fox stated that she had asked about the parking lot at the last meeting, but they had opted out of holding anything that year.

7. BUDGET/FINANCE FRAN HEANEY, CHAIRWOMAN; ABBIE GUARDIANI, CO-CHAIRWOMAN; DAVID HAWK

- Elliot Greenleaf – ARPA FUNDS
- PSAB – ARP Funding Update

8. PERSONNEL/ SAFETY MARY FOX, CHAIRWOMAN; BRUCE NALESNIK, CO-CHAIRMAN; FRAN HEANEY

- Peyton Burns – Resignation letter

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to accept Peyton Burns' resignation. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Fox stated that they would be getting with Mr. Pilla within the next month to go over insurance quotes.

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to accept all committee reports. All voted yes. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that the Nesquehoning Conservation Club will be looking for permission/resolution to file an application for the LSA Grant.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

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President Hawk stated how he had sent out an email in regards to the Federal Railroad Grant for infrastructure improvements to railroad crossings. He asked if they want to include that into an existing committee or did they have volunteers to form a committee to meet with the Railroad. Councilwoman Fox and Councilwoman Kuba stated that they would be willing to meet with them. President Hawk stated that he would get some dates to schedule a meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Heaney seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

RoniSue Ahner
Secretary/Treasurer