

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL
Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 6:00 PM, Borough Office
114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: COUNCILWOMEN/COUNCILMEN FOX, KUBA, SHUBECK, NALESNIK, KATTNER, PRESIDENT HAWK; MAYOR KATTNER; SMITH ABSENT

PURPOSE: Committee/Workshop Meeting

Councilwomen Fox mentioned that before we start our workshop meeting, we have a member from Barry Isett and Associates here, and he is going to talk to us about our Johnson Park grant and where we are at. My name is Brian Smith with Barry Isetts and Associates and we have been working on plans and specs for renovation of Johnson Park. We put together a set of plans that we feel will fall within the budget. There are two grants that the Borough has through DCED and so the two grants combined will finance this grant, and so it has been adjusted, so we are looking to do the sidewalk out front and replace the wall at the lower end of the park and then provide a ramp to have access to the playground. Instead of working from the top we are starting at the bottom up. Councilwomen Fox mentioned that when they did the top, the bids came in outrageously high. Brian Smith mentioned how they re-scoped the project, based on the discussion that we had onsite and based on our estimate it should fall within the budget. We have the plans and everything including the plan package together, so it is our intention to have Council authorize us to bid at the next meeting, and we could put that out for bid on pennbid and then. Councilwomen Kuba asked what is the time frame to finish the job, that we only had until June 30, 2024 before the grant was to end. Brian Smith stated he spoke with Laurie Henry at DCED and that she would only need a letter from the Borough and I will coordinate that with Deb and get that over to them and they will give us an extension on the first grant, the second grant does not end until June of 2025. Brian Smith said that we received two grants total LSA and GCRG and we applied for a third and did not receive said grant. He did mention that some other grants are coming up and if we wanted to apply for them. Councilwomen Kuba stated that we have two grants with regards to the Johnson Park. Brian Smith said the total for the two grants is about \$280,000.00. Brian Smith stated that he will be bidding the job in May, at June meeting awarding project, then a sixty day construction period, that would probably July and August and hopefully September. Councilwomen Kuba asked if Brian Smith was 100% going to file for the extension for the rehab of Johnson Park if needed. He responded and said yes he would. He said that the extension would have to come from the Borough, but he would type it up and then coordinate with Deb as to when to file for it. Councilwomen Shubeck asked if there has ever been an extension on this project before and Brian Smith said that yes there has been an extension. She asked what are the chances that it will not be an extension for this project, Brian Smith said that he spoke with DCED and she would definitely do an extension if need be. Brian Smith said that they would be redoing the stairs, retaining wall and sidewalk and installing a handi-capped ramp for easy access to the park. Brian said he will coordinate with Deb as far as the grant paperwork.

STREETS: Councilmen Nalesnik reported that the road project that we approved at the last meeting which is Pine Street and 4-8th Avenue, ARRO engineering has submitted the submission to PennDot and we are waiting the approval which usually does not take long, so we could get their approval for the use of the Liquid Fuels funds. Our goal is to have bids due back by April 22nd, hopefully approving a successful bidder on April 24th, we are still waiting to hear about the CDBG funding for East Diaz avenue, we thought it has been approved, the funding has not been verified as of yet. The road department have been cold patching. They are getting their summer cutting equipment ready and getting ready to

go. We received the chainsaw. Thank you. The air compressor, I have pictures of it and we are going to put that on Facebook Marketplace. It does run, but runs and runs, so it does run, so it is not like it seizes up. Paul will put on Facebook Marketplace. We hopefully can get \$200-\$300 for it. It looks fine, it is heavy duty and we over bought. I am going to look into and Ingersall at Tractor supply. Now that winter is over, I would like to get onto the International 4x4 dump truck, and put onto Muncibid. Council previously approved the selling of the truck. The truck still runs, we used it two three times over the Winter, but if we keep using it, it will not see the light of day til December, it is running, but age is the biggest factor. It is fully functional, so hopefully some individual could see the value in it. Councilmen Kattner said that there is a lot of rot under the truck and that some work would have to be done. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that the registration is still good and the inspection is still good, and it is valuable to someone. We will get to working on that, if we could move on that, we could later on in the year discuss our alternatives for a one tone dump truck. Councilmen Nalesnik mentioned to bring everyone up to date on Industrial Road, pass the borough garage, going past Co-Gen, right around where it turns to the left, there is a stream that runs from through the Co-Gen, under the road, there is a sink hole there, we have been filling it in, there are two, looks like 30" galvanized pipes, we have the pipe, so I would like to move forward to do that repair. The one pipe is done, that is where to sinkhole is and the other pipe seems okay. Robert Pilla in the audience ahead of Sewer said the pipe was bought back in 2020 and that the job was never done. Councilmen Nalesnik mentioned he would like to work with ARRO Engineering on starting to mediate that. We will get ARRO to work with DEP, get an authorization to do the work, the good thing is that there are two pipes and we do not have to close off the road, we could do one at a time. With Council's permission, I would like to get a cost estimate on that. It is a good time to do it now, because if we do get the Industrial Road grant, it's done.

Councilwomen Kuba reported that she is hearing from people about the handicapped signs that we have authorized like 41 E Center Street. The signs are being putting right in front of the houses, exactly where the borough is told. The people are parking before and after and just leaving that space for people to come and park there. Councilwomen Fox asked if the people with the handicapped space are parking before and after the sign. Councilwomen Kuba said yes that is exactly what they are doing. We are really going to have to look at this. She said maybe once the sign is put up the, police need to maybe take a ride and see if the person is parking in that spot or someone else. She said maybe we need to, once the sign is out in place, send it to the police and if they have time, knock on the door and tell them they need to park in that spot and tell them that no other can park there. It was a personal sign just put up and they are not parking there. Councilwomen Fox said that didn't we change the handicapped thing that they could get a handicapped or a personalized one which would have their number on it.

Councilmen Nalesnik stated that when we approve the handicap, it has to be for that specific person. Councilwomen Fox asked if that was for their personal car. Councilwomen Kuba said that they are not using. We could not go after the physicians. The physicians are just giving it to the people. It's getting bad and we just don't have the space on the streets for that. President Hawk said that he is not sure what the police can do, it kind of depends on what the Ordinance says. Councilwomen Fox said that if there is car parked there and it is not theirs, and it is in their personal spot it can be towed. President Hawk said that we have to revise the Ordinance, in the Ordinance like a three strike rule, if they are not using the post that is being assigned to them, we could void the spot. Councilmen Nalesnik said we should get some more information and maybe reach out to these people and maybe tell them not to abuse this. Councilwomen Fox said the only thing the police can do is if another is parked there they can be ticketed. President Hawk said that if they are abusing the Ordinance, we could revoke the permit. Councilmen Nalesnik said that if someone else is parking in the spot, then the police can do something about that. Councilmen Nalesnik mentioned that at the next meeting, to advertise about the stop signs, so that we could approve it at the next meeting, maybe we could approve it at the next meeting. Adding two stop signs and the signs will be on School Street. He mentioned that the Street Sweeping is still on for May 6th -10th. Deb DelFranco, Secretar/Treasurer asked if the office could get a list of streets that they are going to do. Councilmen Nalesnik said road department will post the first streets that they are going

to do, the previous week and then they will post every other day. He said we could post it on the website. Councilwomen Shubeck asked if we have the manpower to move the cars that are not moved? Councilmen Nalesnik stated that we have police assistance, from what I hear they move last year. Councilmen Kattner stated that the road department did a very good job of cleaning up after the unfortunate fire. They did a very thorough job. He stated that he was approached by several people about our speaker at our last meeting, about the curbing, I am not going to say what is right and what is wrong or what should be done or what is going to be done, but maybe in future projects years beyond this, we take the engineers recommendations, because there are people who feel that what was done in the past, should be done now. Councilmen Nalesnik asked how many people. Councilmen Kattner's response was about a dozen. Councilmen Nalesnik asked if the people were from East Diaz and Councilmen Kattner said no, from all over the borough. Councilmen Kattner says he understands about the cost to the homeowners. Councilwomen Shubeck jumped in and said that she was approached by two homeowners and she said that when the street was done over, according to the Ordinance curbing had to be done, so it was. Councilmen Nalesnik said that it is a street by street basis and the background of East Diaz avenue was and Mr. Sabol was on Council at the time, that curbing was investigated on East Diaz and the homes on the Northside with driveways, was going to cut into their driveways excessively and the slope of their driveways, cut so bad into the driveways creating more problems, so it was decided at that time not to do curbing. Now we are going to prime the road, no-one called me at all, so we are going to crown the road nice, when you put curbing on that North side, the water is going to pool and it is going into people's yards, it's coming over the curbs, we don't know where, it's creating different flows. Councilwomen Fox said that she believes at the time the engineer looked at all of this. Councilmen Nalesnik said that if anyone says anything to you, they can add curbing up there anytime they want, so when they are saying to you why are you not doing curbing up there, the homeowners can put curbing up there anytime they want as long as it complies with the Borough. Everyone is entitled to do curbing up there. I am not pro curbing, I am not anti-curbing, if the project dictates it and the engineers dictate it and the street and traffic dictate, then fine we will do curbing. Up there it was discussed and investigated and my response is they could put curbing if they want. Councilwomen Fox said that those same plans were used for this grant that had been previously used by Carbon Engineering, who was very pro curbing. President Hawk stated that at the time Council did not want to force residents to get curbing because it was going to be a severe inconvenience with their property.

SEWER: Councilwomen Fox reported that they are still dealing with the railroad issues. She said that they have dealing with these issues for the past few months. We had a zoom call with George Dicarlantonio from the PUC and the railroad did not participate and did not want to participate, so we did not accomplish much, but he does have us scheduled for April 24th at 11:00 am. The meeting is going to start at the sewer plant for the access road to the sewer plant and then come up to the railroad station and then up to Tippetts Road. He made Tippetts road the last stop because the railroad has to participate because they are the ones that want the Tippetts Road signals, so he said we will start down there and work our way up. Bill McMullen from ARRO has applied to have us do the camera the lines, we want to do the camera of the lines before they start running trains over them, so we can prove that we do not have any breaks in our lines at this time and if we find that we have a break later on. Also Bob Pilla, Sewer Foreman has changed his mind, we did talk about doing the stainless steel piping on Unit 3, we are going to do unit 1 instead, because that one does not have to pump out one and put into three and pay for the cleaning. Maybe we will do three next year. The first one that was done is stainless and it is number 2, it took forever because the coating was bad. She asked Bob about the coating on 1 and he said some ware. She stated that Bob did have to take the generators over to the Lake because of a power outage, so he had the generators running over there and they only ran for about two hours. I have no idea where we are with the Lake, on the easements for the generators, so if we could get the generators over there, they will fit right in. Bob has one generator at the beach which he could hook

right up, but the other he has to run down to the plant and get the other generator up to Rhodadendrum so that takes time, hopefully the check valve at Schneider's works. Just dealing with this railroad is unbelievable. Councilwomen Fox asked Bob Pilla if he wanted to speak about the drone. Bob said, he feels it would be worthwhile because we have a lot of rural sewer main that we can not access, we can always watch on the drone to see what the railroad is doing, also to keep an eye on things. Surveillance of our main, aerial pictures are a better example. Councilwomen Fox asked where he got the aerial photos, said that someone is posting them and he is pulling them down. He said he could paint the covers and through the drone he will be able to see what is going on. Councilmen Kattner stated that the drone could be used for the police department in assistance if needed. He said there are definitely benefits to having it. Bob Pilla said that he got a price for \$600.00 and he had a friend of his check it out and he stated that it was a good price. That was through Amazon. President Hawk said that it would be beneficial for the Water Authority also. Mayor Kattner believes it definitely a good idea. Councilmen Kattner mentioned about putting it on the Agenda for the next meeting to vote on. Councilmen Nalesnik said that it was assigned in the budget. Bob Pilla said it would be good for buildings and for the grounds of the Borough. There are great benefits in getting one. Councilwomen Fox asked about the property on Oak Street, they were never hooked up to the sewer system and now they are having problems with sewage coming up. Bob Pilla said that he did receive a complaint. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that the line goes straight down the street. As far as we know that it should be not complicated to hook up. Mr. Campbell owns now, he has raised the issue because there is a debt on the house and people will be sitting right there next to the sewage. Councilwomen Fox asked about sending them a letter, Bob Pilla mentioned that maybe sending him there first as a contact and try to speak to them about it. It is between Antigua house and Fauzio house. The driveway is owned by Campbell. Councilwomen Fox said to have Bob Pilla go there and then have Shawn in the office write a letter to send to them, that they are going to be required to hook up to the sewer system. Councilmen Nalesnik said that the people up on 54 we gave them a choice, either fix it or hook up up front with a grinder pump. Do we want to extend the same offer to them? Councilwomen Fox said that according to our Ordinance they should have had to hook up before. They are within a 100 feet of the sewer and need to be hooked up. Need to send ARRO in there to find out if they fixed the issue.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: Councilmen Kattner reported that he reached out to John McArdle and let him know that the chimney place was awarded to fix the chimney liner at the recreation center. He said he spoke with him and that the vendor is going on vacation, but will contact me when he have everything scheduled. Councilmen Nalesnik reported on New Columbus park, that the survey is finally scheduled the week of April 22nd, once that is finished we should have initial plans for the park within two weeks once the survey is completed, I am hopeful come May/June we will have some plans, that Council can look at and if there are anything needed to be changed. There are grants out there for recreation that is why I started this. The rec center, we received some cost estimates, this is for internal and not to comment on the outside. Nothing really changed on the first sheet as part of the initial drawing, the purpose of this one is to get estimates of the work, which is the last page. You could see the list of the estimates which would be, the bathrooms being reworked up to ADA standards, which is expensive work. The new entry canopy outside, the elevated walkway and ramp because we need to ADA proof inside and out. New addition construction for the Borough office and conference room, bathroom, good size office space, storage room. The only think that was not in there the remodel of the kitchen in this estimate and the interior of the rec center, light fixtures, flooring. I have asked them for a revision of the figures, Bill McMullen chimed in and he thought some of the figures were a little excessive, he is pretty good with estimates, so this is preliminary, I expect that this will actually go up about \$200,000.00, but at least this gives us an idea of what the cost will be. Councilwomen Fox asked if there will be stages if they could go through, so if we were not able to get all of the grant. Councilmen Nalesnik said that those questions remain to be answered. Once we are decided on everything, they we are going to Senator Argall and Heffley and tell them that this is what Nesquehoning Borough needs. This is classified as an

emergency center for the town, school, Maple Shade, a voting center, it is multi used. Councilwomen Shubeck asked if all of the Borough would be moving into this space. Councilmen Nalesnik responded by saying if we can do this, we would sell the current building and put the monies towards the renovation of the rec center. We know that the current building we are in has served its purpose. Maybe we could do something with Kovatch for parking or events. Also in my discussion with Kovatch, he has the garage and that would be an excellent building for offices, borough garage and everything else and parking, so that building has potential. I asked him if he had a ballpark figure. Councilmen Nalesnik mentioned that we talked about a new computer system. I Cloud came in and did an estimate, I would like to read his email, in addition to the quotes here, we just have it, maybe we could do something at the next meeting but or we could discuss further, so the bottom line is that the current computers are very old and outdated, windows 2012 expired last year; also the router has expired, we are not getting critical updates, Deb's computer 9 years old; Sue's computer 6 years old; Shawn's computer is at least 6 years old. Current computers are running Windows 10 which is good until October next year, they recommend replacement of the current work stations. Our emails are unsecured, we should have a government email system, so they gave us two quotes, which is attached. Once quote: 4 work stations and stand alone server; second quote: combined the server into Deb's workstation to save on costs, but allowed for two screens at every desk, there is no maintenance contract, we are currently paying \$320.00 per month with S&O Computer that is \$3,600.00 per year. John did give us somewhat of a quote, very little detail compared to other. Less expensive, but he is building it himself. My recommendation would be the \$12,844.00 with I Cloud. Councilwomen Fox asked about I Cloud estimate, about the three computers one would be one workstation, my work station would double as server. Deb DelFranco said that she and the girls met with I Cloud and he showed what is wrong and what is needed to run efficiently. This situation does fall under Covid monies. Councilwomen Fox asked if a report needs to be done. Deb DelFranco said that a report needs to be done at the end of April, but nothing has been used to report. The monies need to be used by next December 2025. Councilmen Nalesnik asked council to look over and move forward. John at S & O Computers builds his own computers.

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilwomen Kuba reported that the Boot Drive was cancelled last week because of the fire in the borough and it is scheduled for the 14th. If anyone is interested please let me know. Will have some open shifts if interested. 9-5 Arrests, they have been really busy with a lot of thefts in town and I am surely that everyone is aware of the Bell theft from the historical society, I have Fox news calling me today. Very busy with a lot of stuff with that, with robberies, there is a success with an arrest for a previous theft at Fuel up. Brad Hess has been doing a lot of work on that, he will be working with and assisting with different agencies with regards to the Payroll mishap. Deb DelFranco mentioned that she spoke with the bank and it has to go through bank to bank. She mentioned that Jim Thorpe Bank has been reimbursed already and they has to initiate the case. Because of the incident on the weekend, I watched Officer Breiner, looking for camera from door to door, I talked to Chief Weaver and he was going to put to the public, that they are willing and that they have security on their property, that if we needed footage, they would be allowed to. She also reported Chief Weaver will send out a letter asking for permission to the footage if they have any and once they fill out the form, they will submit it back to the borough office and they will forward to Chief Weaver. We agreed at the last meeting that was with Mary Fox and David Hawk and myself to implement the Detective position of Officer Hess, he is really working, I saw on Sunday with the fire, and this one with the Historical Society, Officer Hess came out for three hours to assist Officer Breiner, so what he is asking to go directly to a full rate officer pay, and negotiate his MOU's at a later date, so that is what he is asking for to be Detective. I do see, more and more as I am involved in some cases, sadly our crime rate is going up. Councilwomen Fox asked what his current rate is, President Hawk suggested to email everyone. We would have to get a memorandum of understanding. Mayor Kattner stated that he is doing detective work only. President Hawk said that Chief Weaver agreed, if it would come down to a scheduling issue, where he would need coverage, Hess would revert back. Mayor Kattner stated that he believes stronger that Officer Hess does

need to get the payrate change and that he does not want to lose Hess. Councilmen Nalesnik said that the size of this town and the size of the police department, and now we need to replace a police officer because we have a detective. He said we have a fiscal responsibility. Mayor Kattner said that in simple words, do I question the safety of someone breaking into your house, we have to figure this out, public safety, the fire, you see what happened over the weekend. President Hawk mentioned that Chief Weave did say that no additional money is warranted, just the title. Councilmen Nalesnik said that when we asked we get no, like the 20 hours of code that we agreed to, that is not right. When we hired six and when we brought the chief on he agreed to do the detective work. I asked him and he said yes, I understand if it get to much, we have to have if clear through the contract and do things and then fall through the contract, that is all I am saying. Before we do anything we need to speak about the contract. Mayor Kattner responded that he deserves the change in pay, we have to do this, you see how the world is out there. Councilwomen Fox said that she has no issue with the police, but we have six full time officers and basically we can count on at least \$100,000.00 a piece that we are paying for salary, insurance benefits, I don't Paul to get discouraged by offering safety to money wise, we are fiscally responsible to the tax payor. Mayor Kattner said that the tax payers want security, I know we have a budget, but they want security. Councilwomen Fox said we have security. President Hawk said that he does not want to hold up the new Police contract, we could do a memorandum of understanding. Councilwomen Kuba said that the contract is ready to go. We have to go back and pay from January 1st. She said that the back money would be in a separate check. Deb DelFranco said it is never in a payroll check. We will have to decide on what to do. Councilmen Nalesnik asked if Hess had training, Mayor Kattner stated that he will check and he also said that Chief had him doing a lot of training. Councilwomen Kuba asked if the memorandum of understanding be put on the agenda. President Hawk said no, it needs further discussion. Councilwomen Kuba stated that it was brought up in the last committee meeting about the Chief's salary, compared to the other boroughs and townships. I have the salaries for the other boroughs. Councilmen Nalesnik stepped in and said about going into executive session.

Mayor Kattner reported that Officer Breiner in what he did, I was very disappointed about that we had no water up there to a point. Councilmen Kattner said that it was the balancing of the hydrants and it was not flowing, it is an abandoned hydrant and is not intended to be used for fires, after all was balanced out the water flowed properly. Mayor Kattner reported that we should have gone for the mini excavator and that it was a good deal and we should have gotten rid of the dump truck. Mr. Pill what would have been good about getting the mini excavator he asked. Bob Pilla said that a mini excavator would have been good for some work that was done in town. What the pipes are collapsing and a sinkhole is appearing it would be good to use an excavator. Councilmen Nalesnik said that it was pre-approved at an executive session and a PO was given, but I went on vacation and came back and we did not get it. We need to look further into this.

SANITATION & QUALITY OF LIFE: Councilwomen Fox stated that the garbage contract is up in September. She said we also need to meet and draw up some kind of plan with information from other townships on what their garbage contract is for. Also get ideas on a 3 and 5 year. We have large items once a month, Summitt Hill does a Spring and Fall clean up, all of those things need to be looked at. Get together with the engineer for the specs. Councilmen Nalesnik mentioned about the email for the demolition of the fire properties. We need to take the residence down. They have 60 days and neither one of the properties have insurance. Blight set up by the county. Councilwomen Shubeck will get estimates on the demolition costs.

RECREATION: Councilwomen Shubeck reported that she went with Sue Smith and attended the recreation meeting and it was okay. They like the idea of doing a Christmas Event at New Columbus Park with the trees. Their planning their National Night Out first Tuesday in August. We did say that we have not gotten Sam's renewal yet. Deb DelFranco said that we have not received anything. She asked if we

should post for 4 members and Council agreed. Councilwomen Shubeck said they talked about that the Recreation Commission is not happy about the print of the new building. Councilwoman Fox said that it is a Borough Building and not just Recreation. Councilwomen Shubeck said that she does not want to compromise the time and effort they have put in to the recreation commission. They did give me a copy of their treasurers report, but did not go over anything. They also gave a list of events that they are having this year. Deb DelFranco said that she would post on the website and at the borough building. Councilwomen Kuba said that she will be putting out flyers for benches. We are probably going to be doing about 20 of them. Some people have requested cemeteries. They will be put up at the park. All the checks will be forwarded to the borough and the amount will be \$250.00 per bench. The benches are more than I figured, but the amount this year is about right. Getting the wood soon and we have 9 orders so far. Banners and flags will go up after street sweeping and that is after May 11th. Councilwomen Shubeck said that they did give her the treasurer's report and a calendar of events. Councilwomen Fox said that maybe they could give the borough a notice of an event and it could be posted on the website. Councilwomen Kuba asked if ARRO could give us a quote to survey for a dog park at New Columbus Park.

BUDGET & FINANCE: Councilwomen Kuba reported that we are going to get with Deb and go over the budget.

PERSONNEL & SAFETY: Councilwomen Fox reported that they were to meet tomorrow night for the negotiations, it was cancelled because of the situation with Andy. When I spoke with Mark, he wanted to know when services are. There is no time and date yet. Deb DelFranco brought up that the office bathroom is continuously running and the tiles are lifting. They said to have Bob Pilla take a look at it.

Councilwomen Kuba is proposing to start and look into dissolving the water authority. My reasons are that we are a community, there has not been a major water project in 24 years, so that is one of things, but we have come to point were our guys work together, they all work together, if there is winter plows, they all plow, they will call bob out to plow, they are working together. It would be a big savings for the town and Authorities have a very important part of municipalities in the 70's And 80's when big project needed to be done, that was the reason why they needed authorizes. The whole work force would be five guys. Everyone being crossed trained even in the office, there would be one big office, Deb of course would have the responsibility of the job description for the Manager for the employees, trying to cross train them as much as she could, I know it will be extra work on Deb, we will need to look into compensation. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that we have payroll now that was given to ADP to free up Deb from those additional responsibilities. Councilwomen Kuba said that she has spoken with Robert and that he has done many of these and that it is doable. It does not take a lot of time. I think that we are at the point were we have people sitting on water authority that have to sit on council due to lack of response from the town, of people stepping up for these positions. Our zoning and planning sit empty and the same people that are in this organization and that organization. I think we are working harder instead of working smarter. Councilwomen Fox said she agrees. Councilwomen Kuba stated that everyone works good together. The employees as Deb sees, that both get along well, that when we move into a new building, it will not be water over there and borough over there. Councilmen Nalesnik said that there would be more efficiency with equipment, vehicles, manpower and more cost effective whether in taxes or water. Councilwomen Kuba said she thinks we should have a water committee just like planning and zoning. Councilwomen Fox said that we have a separate sewer budget and there would be the same it would just be water. Councilwomen Kuba said it was just brought up to us that the water authority wants to join the union, we have the union, so we would be giving them things that they want. We are going through the consortium now, it would just be one entity. There are so many things that could be taking off the plate and put onto one. Councilwomen Fox says she would like to see if we

could move forward on this. President Hawk said no reason not to look into it. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that maybe the time has come to make a move on it, been a little frustrated with it and disappointed with the water authority, we appoint the members which are appointed by council and there seems to be no accountability or reportability. I have never seen an annual report from the authority. Councilmen Kattner said that he sees the benefits and as the consortium and we did get together the other night and looked at the presentation and explained about it. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that there has been too many meetings about the consortium and how many meetings do you have to have. The consortium would have saved us and the water authority thousands of dollars if it was done before. Councilwomen Shubeck said that she had questions at the meeting the other night on the consortium, it was more legality and ethics, the meeting was very helpful for me. My question was to Joe Pilla, that you sit on the water authority board and this is part ETA was part of consortium, who is getting the commission. He said that he would not take the commission on this. He also said he would not vote on it either. Councilwomen Kuba said that David, Paul, Sue can't vote on dissolving the water authority. Councilwomen Fox said that she has tried to get people involved and asked them to join council, but they don't want to be involved. Solicitor Yurchak told Councilwomen Kuba that it would take about a year or so to dissolve. You would need to be in touch with the unions and the FOP, but I think it is something that we need to explore. I am asking to put a motion on the April 24th meeting agenda, to authorize Solicitor Yurchak to look into the dissolving of the Water Authority.

ADJOURNMENT: Council went into executive session at 8:45 p.m. Councilwomen Fox made motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwomen Kuba at 9:11 p.m.