

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL
Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 6:00pm, Borough Office
114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18252

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Council President David Hawk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: COUNCILMEN/COUNCILWOMEN SMITH, KUBA, SHUBECK,
NALESNIK, KATTNER, PRESIDENT HAWK & SOLICITOR YURCHAK.
COUNCILWOMEN FOX ABSENT

President Hawk said that as everyone is probably aware we had to cancel the meeting last month and then we ran into scheduling problems to try and make up the meeting so we just deferred everything to tonight's meeting. Also, we will be having an executive session at the end of the meeting, we may or may not have to take action on it, we did want to have it prior to the meeting, but the Solicitor's is going to be late, we are going to have to wait until he is here in order to have the session, again that will be at the end of the meeting and when we do convene afterwards we may take action before we recess.

MINUTES: Councilwomen Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on May 22, 2024 and the minutes from the Workshop meeting held on June 12, 2024. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

HEARING OF VISITORS: Abbie Guardiani and Councilwomen Kuba took the podium. Abbie Guardiani said, Mr. Robert Peca passed away. A pillar, I need to take a tissue out of my pocket while I speak. He was a pillar of the Nesquehoning Community. He was one of the best men to live in this community. Mayor Kattner stood up to console Ms. Guardiani and she told him to sit down. The oldest member of this community. I don't cry easily, I cry because I am mad. And I cry for Councilwomen Kuba. This man is a pillar of this community and you all know it, be you all live here. He took care of the Lutheran Church, you could have placed a level across those hedges, there was not a weed that grew anywhere on that property. Ever, that grass was kept perfectly, beautifully, a LLC bought that dam property, the same person that owns 151 New Columbus, a piece of crap. When Mr. Peca died, this good soul of the community called me (she was pointing to Councilwomen Lois Kuba) and she said, we will never let Mr. Peca's casket pass that church, we will make his last journey, he will not make his last journey out of Nesquehoning, pass that church with the condition that it was in. She said to me, Abbie are you in, and I said my truck is loaded, it's packed. I was there at 6 am, Lois arrived shortly after that. The people that own that property or the man across the street, I don't even know they were and to be perfectly honest, I don't give a rats ass. I don't care. I walked up to him and shook his hand and I said, I am here because we are going to clean this place up, and he said Mam, I don't know if you could do this. I don't know if this is allowed, and I looked at him and said, sir, you just don't get it. I have no disrespect for you and please understand, I have no disrespect for you, but this

is not about you, this has nothing to do with you. This is for Mr. Peca, the oldest man, currently living in this community, and who gave nothing but everything to this community, everything, he and his wife and family. So we worked and yes we did, we worked for three and a half hours until we got to the tail end of the project, there was a little bit of hedges that had to go, and me being the jerk that I am, I could not get my regular chainsaw, which you all know me, I use, I couldn't get it started for the life of me, so I had a stupid ass battery operated chainsaw that I brought and tried to go through the last little bit of hedges, shame on me, shame on me and I looked at Lois and said as a member of council, were can we get a chainsaw? Lo, Lo, we are fifteen minutes from finishing this. We are fifteen minutes from finishing this and she said , I will get us one, meaning a chainsaw., and she called the borough workers, who came and stayed fifteen minutes, could they have been hurt? Absolutely, they were sticker bushes. Want to see my arm? So, in fifteen minutes, they went through, no that is a lie, I said to them give me the chainsaw, well guess what their piece of shit chainsaw didn't work, didn't even work. My husband and Mike, put the chainsaw back together and Mike because he is a gentleman, said you are not Abbie doing this and he went over and spent fifteen minutes of Borough time, forgives us, fifteen minutes of Borough time going through the last little bit of hedges. Did those guys, pickup that crap and put in their barrels and get rid of it for us, yes they did. Did a former Borough Councilmen come by as we were finishing, fifteen minutes from the end, a former councilmen, by the way , who didn't show up for the last six months that he was on this council. He blew us off and collect his check for the last six months that he was on Council and he had the nerve to contact Lois and say what a waste. What a waste of his taxpayer money he said and I am sure made calls. Were we wrong to use borough workers for fifteen minutes and you know what, we were. Councilwomen Lois Kuba said she is here to apologize. I am here to apologize. Abbie Guardiani intervened and said, were the borough workers ever used, go ahead I dare you, because I'll name you incidents, were borough workers were used, for more than fifteen minutes, so yes, Lois and I will apologize, but I will apologize because I asked her to find a chainsaw, because my little battery operator chainsaw got stuck. Anybody who had a problem with this, shame on you. Shame on you. Councilwomen Lois Kuba said that she received a phone call from another Councilmen and was told by other council members that, yes you were wrong. You shouldn't have used the saw. I was told that if the Peca family was worried about the property, they should have done, or you former church people should have cleaned the property. We did not feel that was necessary, we did it for Mr. Peca only. We were not out cleaning up the town, this was a one time thing. She said to David Hawk, David you went by and you said good job. President Hawk said yes, I did go by and said good job and it looks nice for a change. Councilwomen Kuba went on to say that was the only reason they did this. David, Lois and Abbie, we grew up with Barbara Peca, we know what that church meant to that family. Abbie Guardiani chimed in and said, it had nothing to do with that slum lord, on record, the slum lord who owns that property. It had nothing to do with him, nothing, so anyone who thinks their taxpayer money were wasted for fifteen minutes of borough time and again, I will warn you, borough workers have been used in the past for more than fifteen minutes chainsaw on hedges. I will warn you, cause I will give you examples, a current example of a borough worker being used. Councilwomen Kuba did state that they both received a letter from the Peca family, it

stated, " Words can not adequately express, our gratitude for you and Abbie did to honor my dad. The church meant the world to him and my mom. It made him so sad to see the condition that it was in. What you did was absolutely incredible and there was no better way to honor him, for his church to be restore to the way he kept it. We are all just flabbergasted at this gesture and can not thank you enough. It brought us to tears, but I was told tonight, I don't care about this letter, by one the Councilmen, are we that cold anymore, is this what we have become. We are to help each other, do something, if something like this is so wrong, that we would want to honor some body, yes, I apologize. I will pay for the time of the borough workers, for those fifteens minutes, come on is that how we beat each other up, I had a councilmen call me, I cried hysterically, I don't think I cried that hard since I got the phone call that my husband passed away, you know what I was told, sorry I upset you, I think you need a vacation. If we are going to work together, this is not the way to do it guys, this is not the way, we need to come together and our community comes first, first before anything around here. If we can not help our brother, we can't our former ancestors, we are in sad shape. Councilwomen Smith said that she can not speak for the rest of council and that she was away when Mr. Peca died, I did not know that any of this was going on until the other day and I as I said the other day, to me fifteen minutes of time, it's not an issue to me, I get it is an issue to some people, but, I kind of felt the same way. I do a lot of things not because I have to, but I want to, because you should, if you are able to do it, your right it is not eight hours, fifteen minutes, you apologized, you weren't thinking, you were doing something nice, I don't have an issue with that, apology accepted by me, as I said I can not speak for all of council, I'm not going to but. Abbie Guardiani said, I want you all to know that Councilwomen Kuba had no idea that I was coming tonight. She had absolutely no idea that I was coming tonight, but I will not hang her out to dry, I will never hang her our to dry. She busts her ass for this town. Councilwomen Kuba said that she loves this town and Abbie Guardiani said that we all do. She said that so do all of you and we all do, and as she just said, have a heart. There was a mistake made, I agree, we should have not asked borough workers, they could have brought the chainsaw and allowed me to use it. Councilwomen Kuba stated that she was told that was also wrong, they could not let them use the chainsaw. Abbie Guardiani went on to say, doesn't that speak for our borough workers, their heart, maybe not yours. I apologized to them over and over again, and by god damit, they better not have been written up and if they were, shame on you. Councilwomen Kuba and Abbie Guardiani thanked council for letting them speak. Councilmen Kattner thanked the ladies for everything they do for the community. Mayor Kattner also thanked the ladies for all they do. President Hawk asked if there was anyone else under hearing of visitors. Mr. Tim Maurer approached council and passed out a paper with names and addresses on Park Avenue. He said, I know you have probably already made up your mind about curbing, but this is food for thought before you vote. He said, I do not have the original letter, but when you receive correspondence from the borough stating that we were required to put curbing in, a few years ago, I don't have the original, I know at the last meeting, I believe you said that there was not an Ordinance stating that curbing was needed, I know that did receive official correspondence and I believe it was from RoniSue signed the letter or the attorney signed the letter, stating that curbing was required. It stated that the borough would put in the curbing and put a lien on your property, like I said you

probably already have your mind made up, but just a little thought. Eight homeowners had to put curbing in on Park Avenue, and now you are going to say that eight owners don't have to put curbing on Park Avenue, and I know that one of these guys said about how much traffic is used on that road, but a few years ago they had to put curbing on Mill Street and I believe Mr. Kattner and Mayor you were required to put curbing in. Councilmen Kattner did say that yes, we did have to put curbing in. Mr. Maurer said everyone had to put it in and now you are saying that we can't find any Ordinance on the books that you have to put curbing in, so if for some reason you guys vote and you guys are probably going to say that if we don't use this grant money, we are going to loose it, but if you pave the rest of Park Avenue, for those eight individuals there, I just want to know when we are going to be reimbursed for the eight people who already put curbing in. I believe it was last meeting, Lois, that I said I did not have the money when I had to first put the curbing in on my property and I said that I had to put it on my credit card and you Lois said, at least you were able to do that, that has not bearing on it. Councilwomen Kuba said it was not her who asked that. Mr. Maurer said that well someone said that and that has nothing to do with it whether I have the money or not, but there are eight people on Park Avenue that put it in and now we are going to say that either people on Park Avenue do not have to put it in, how is that fair. Like I said, I bought double lots and had to put curbing in. I saw that an inlet was already put in. How could you put an inlet in, when we don't know what the curbing is, so I guess you have already decided that we are not going to be doing the curbing, but all's I am saying is, I think that if you are going to use the excuse that your getting a grant, that we are going to loose the money, then I think you should reimburse us for the people who already put curbing in. Mayor Kattner said that he had to spend money and that he paid for himself and his neighbor and his neighbor paid him back, if he had to do it , then everyone else should have to do it. Mr. Maurer said that for many early Frank and Earle sat on Council and they did what was right for the whole borough, might not have agreed with them all the time, but they took the community to progress. I just don't want to see you guys go backwards. We still have a community that we are proud of. If you are going to pave the rest of Park Avenue with no curbing, then I would like my money back, because someone sent me a letter from the borough, whether RoniSue signed it or the Attorney signed it, I received a letter stating that I had to put curbing in. I didn't curbing in because I wanted to, I put it in because I got a letter. If it is not in the Ordinance, then lets up it in the Ordinance and follow it through and make everyone get curbing. Lets not take the community backwards, lets move forwards. Larry Wittig from Tamaqua Transfer, said are you going to act on the Garbage Contract tonight. He was told no and he then said he was going to leave and that he came to get beat up and the answer some questions, if we had any. Councilwomen Smith said that there need to be time for everyone to look at it, but we have not had a chance to speak and once we do, we will ask for you to come back.

PLANNING COMMISSION & ZONING HEARING REPORT: NONE

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: President Hawk stated that the solicitor was going to be late to tonight's meeting, so we will defer his til after he gets to meeting.

TREASURER'S & CD REPORT: Councilwomen Kuba made motion to accept the Treasurer's & CD Report. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

TAX COLLECTOR MONTHLY REPORT: President Hawk read the report, it stated: Real Estate: \$852,506.54; Occupation: \$6,395.50; Per Capita: \$6,036.80 for Total of \$864,937.80 for the month of May. For the month of June, Real Estate: \$16,016.16; Occupation: \$345.00; Per Capita: \$280.00 for a total of \$16,641.16.

EXONERATIONS: NONE

APPLICATIONS: President Hawk said that there were 5 applications for handicapped parking. Chief Weaver informed President Hawk that Thomas Gual application, that he was still working on. President Hawk said that the other four, Chief informs us that the other four have the police approval, so it would be up the council in awarding the handicapped parking approval for 65 West Catawissa; 21 East Catawissa; 124 West Railroad and 116 West Rhume Street. Mayor Kattner asked one question, he said that I know all of these houses and the only one I would say yes to is Mr. Kasander. Councilwomen Smith asked why he would say no to the others. Mayor Kattner responded by saying, if he looked at them and that he knew Mr. Kasander's house very well. Chief Weaver said that when I get these handicapped applications, I do not approve or deny them, I look at the application to make sure everything is filled out completely and attached to each application I do an incident report of all the information in it, from there I give it to Council. The Streets Committee is the ones who are to look at them and approve them or disapprove them, so again if they would like to look at them they are right here. Councilwomen Kuba said that the only question that I have, is when are we going to get to the point when we have three or four handicap in a row, on a one way street or wherever, because the one across the street will be a handicap space a regular space and then another handicap space, there is one at 71 West Catawissa, if we get to that point what are we going to do? When there is no parking now. Chief Weaver said that he checked the Ordinance and that there is no restriction on the number of handicapped parking spaces on a block. Councilwomen Smith said that there is not a reason to deny the applications. Councilwomen Kuba said, what are we going to do when we get to that point, as you can see we are getting more and more applications. As I can see is the neighbors seeing, hey, I have x,y,z of problems to, so I can get a spot also. Compared to prior years are we approving more and more of them? President Hawk did state that we are getting more applications for handicapped spaces than before. President Hawk asked if the Streets Committee reviewed the applications. All of Streets Committee said they had not seen any of the applications for handicapped spaces. Councilwomen Smith said that maybe we should table them until Street Committee looks into this. Councilwomen Smith made a motion to table to approval of the handicapped spaces until the Street Committee can go and take a look at them. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Hawk said that there were several pieces of communications and that no action needed to be taken. Councilwomen Smith made a motion to accept the Tax Collector Report; To hold the handicapped applications; and put communications on file. Councilwomen Shubeck. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilmen Kattner said that in the future the Streets Committee will get a chance to see the handicapped applications.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to approve the job description of Detective contingent upon the Solicitor's review. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to ratify the Aerial Testing in the amount of \$1,000.00. Councilmen Kattner seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to approve the purchase of the Data Pilot Systems in the amount of \$1,690.00. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to ratify the purchase of a 3rd cell phone and to add storage to all phones. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to approve Chief Weaver to attend a workshop class in October. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. President Hawk asked Chief Weaver what the class was and he said it is in Whitehall and it is the second portion, it is through the FBI. Councilwomen Kuba said that she would like to thank our fire department for the recent fire, being called out and showing up yesterday for the Go-Joe. I would like to say thank you to all three fire companies. The next thing, I would like to commend our whole community from the police, the mayor, to the girls in the office, to our council, to our public, everybody for making Go-Joe such a success yesterday. As a Borough we were able to come together and raise almost \$11,000.00. I think that was great for a small borough like ours. I know that St. Joseph's Center and Joe Schednecker and the whole WNEP team, everybody is so grateful and I want to make a note that we can all do it, if we all work tighter and we have one goal in mind, there is no grandstanding, everybody works together nobody can do it on their own. Our town is made up of many, many people, it's time everybody works together with all. We can not do it alone. I have to commend everyone who worked yesterday. When you look at the map and see Nesquehoning in bold letters, we did our job, and anyone who is going to watch the telethon over the weekend, know that we were apart of that. Thank you everyone.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Kattner said first off, the Chief you do a perfect job, which I do not expect anything less. Doing great. They did great yesterday with the Go-Joe. I would like to bring up that they are out there busting their backsides and I don't think may people actually believe it, it is not just coming a car wreck. They are out there everyday and people better start respecting them a little bit more, if they don't I want their names. They need to respect the police and fire department and they are not getting the respect they deserve.

President Hawk asked for a motion to amend the agenda to ratification of the crossing guards for Go-Joe 27. Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to ratify the cross guards

coming on for Go-Joe 27. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to ratify the authorization of President Hawk to approve crossing guards to come out for Go-Joe 27. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

POLICE REPORT: Report for May 2024: Magistrate Dobson: Vehicle code, crimes code & Misc. \$921.91; Local Ordinance: \$7.12; Title-18, Payable to Municipality: \$166.89; Title 75- Motor Vehicles; \$747.920; Clerk of Courts: \$8.71; Attorney General Reimbursement, \$753.33; Parking tickets: \$ 1,025.00; Moving Permits: \$110.00; Accident Reports: \$15.00 Code: \$ 130.00 Total of \$2,963.95. Traffic Citations Issued: 52; Code Complaints Resolved: 32; Total calls for the month: 175. Report for June 2024: Magistrate Dobson: Vehicle Code, crimes code & Misc. \$721.66; Local Ordinance: \$15.15; Title-18, Payable to Municipality: \$260.58; Title 75, Motor Vehicles: \$445.93; Clerk of Courts: \$145.41; Attorney General Reimbursement: \$5,672.81; Highway Safety: \$384.00; Parking tickets: \$800.00; Moving permits: \$250.00; Accident Reports: \$ 0.00, Total of \$7,973.88. Traffic Citations Issued: 55; Code Complaints Resolved: 32; Total Calls for the Month: 187. Councilmen Nalesik thanked the Police Department for the Code Enforcement report. There were 41 code enforcement contacts for the month of June.

FIRE DEPARTMENT SUMMARY REPORT: For the Month of May, there were 6 responses. One mutual aid (Lansford); one dwelling; one CO investigation; Two Automatic fire alarms; and one spill. For the Month of June, there were five mutual aid responses, 2 to West Penn; 1 Manahoy City; 1 Jim Thorpe; 1 Leighton; One Odor investigation and 1 vehicle fire response. As of end of June total responses were 55 for the year. Motion to ratify the Nesquehoning Hose Company attending the McAdoo Fireman's Parade on June 14th and also Walnutport on June 29th. Motion by Councilwomen Kuba and seconded by Councilwomen Kuba. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to authorize the Nesquehoning Fire Marshall to inspect the ReDCo Group, Lighthouse #2 Property. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

HOUSING & CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: Code report for May with a total of 7 contacts for code, total money received is \$1,093.00 for permits and in June, also 7 contacts and \$490.00 permit money received. Code report from Barry Isett for the month of May. Total hours spent 6.75 hrs and \$371.25 in fees. For the month of June was total of 16.25 hrs. and \$893.50 in fees.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT: John McArdle stated that as all are aware we had a major fire yesterday, and I had submitted to Council, a request that we do an emergency demolition due to the unsafe nature of the property. Today, I received from Chip Stalega, the order of notice however that there were two things that I needed to address. One was it listed a different Township, not the Borough of Nesquehoning and he gave thirty days to do this demolition. I'm requesting an emergency demolition, emergency as in needs to be done right away, it is a safety issue. On this property itself, there is a washer and dryer sitting on the second floor on one side of the building.

It is very unsafe. It is an ongoing investigation. I have learned as of this morning that there is a possibility that the homeowner does have insurance. We are trying to make the determination of who is the homeowner. The insurance investigator will be out tomorrow, so hopefully I will have some answers. I took it upon myself, to go and secure a price to demo the building from Radocha and Sons, but I think it needs to be done as soon as possible, and I think in the future, I think Council should appoint a committee and I would like to, this is the second time we have had to approve this. The last time we waited over 45 days, which you are saying that it is an emergency, but you are waiting 45 days and what could happen in those 45 days, so I think President you could appoint a committee or something to look into this and move forward, I think that would be very helpful. President Hawk said that after the last incident, I was under the assumption that anymore emergency demos would be, emergency demos and that we would not be giving the owner a time period to react. Councilwomen Smith said that she thought an emergency demo was taken care of today and President Hawk said he thought also, but John McArdle said that a 30 notice went out. John McArdle said that there is a possibility of the homeowner having insurance, but I think we should still enforce the immediate demolish, I made the investigator of that. He will be here tomorrow to access property. President Hawk said that when the Solicitor gets to the meeting we could possibly discuss this further and to see if we could, possibly re-issue what was issued. John McArdle said that if we could have a committee and move forward with this and get this possible ironed out, so it is not happening again. Motion was made by Councilwomen Kuba to approved Police & Public Safety, Mayor's Report, Police, Report, Housing & Code Report, EMA Report committee reports, seconded by Councilwomen Smith. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

STREETS: Councilmen Nalesnik made a motion to approve the repair of CAT 908 Loader in the amount of \$9,126.11 from Diesel Services, Inc. and \$600.00 for the transport from Radocha to and from Diesel Services for a total of \$9,726.11. Councilmen Kattner seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilmen Nalesnik stated prior to the last meeting, the Street Committee met to discuss curbing, on East Diaz, which is a grant project and Park Avenue, so after discussing it and by a two to one vote, they recommending to Council that we mandate curbing for East Diaz and Park Avenue paving. To clarify curbing is not a requirement in our Ordinances, it is at the Council discretion whether to mandate curbing or not for specific projects, so at this time, and if we do mandate curbing on those two projects, I do not see how we could actually do the paving project this year, we will need time to get the curbing survey done and the curbing installation done. At this time, I would like to make a motion to mandate curbing on East Diaz Avenue and Park Avenue. Councilwomen Kuba said that her problem with this was having the engineer, said that they would not come out and say in anyway shape or form, to mandate curbing and right now, I am not seeing any complaints of storm erosion, on East Diaz, I have not seen any problem with water going down, so I would like a rollcall on the decision. I mean I respect everybody, what they have totally, totally looked into it and have done a lot of research on it and with understanding what formal council did, on a street to street basis and this is why our Ordinance was in effect since 1965, that it would be a job to job discretion and I do respect Mr. Mower saying, that it was done with another Council and that it's not us now

and I hope all done their research and I would like a roll call. Mayor Kattner mentioned that he had to put curbing in and that he paid for himself and his neighbor and he feels that what is good for one is good for all. Councilwomen Kuba stated that she feels it is a job to job decision that we go with the expertise of the engineer. Councilmen Nalesnik said that if we are going to mandate this, as we proceed with this, that the borough not get cornered into paying for residents curbing that failed to put it in or refuse to put it in, because we are still owed monies from Willow Lane, lots of money, so I just asked that if we mandate it, we manage it the proper fashion this time. Councilwomen Kuba said that if we mandate it and we go to somebody and they say we are putting our curbing in, what do we do? President Hawk said that we have to make sure that we follow through. Councilwomen Kuba said that it will hold everything up. Councilwomen Smith said that we can't do a road project because people did not pay in the past, if the borough or the secretary-treasurer did not follow through on getting the money back or enforcing this, you can not sit here and say, well because we lost out on this, nobody is ever going to agree on curbing, I don't think and it is very rare that you are going to have an engineer ever say, and putting their stamp on and that curbing is required. Councilwomen Kuba asked what do we do if someone will not pay for their curbing and they are unable to. Councilwomen Smith stated that President Hawk is correct, that we would have to be on top of putting it in and enforcing the payment plan. Councilwomen Kuba stated that it would cost the borough more money if this is done legally. President Hawk responded and said yes. She stated that it would cost the taxpayer's more money. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that we could put a municipal lein on the house, but we may not see that money for 20 or 30 years to get a penny from it. Councilwomen Kuba stated that she is just looking at the big picture of where we are spending taxpayer's money. Councilwomen Kuba she was done. President Hawk for a roll call. Deb DelFranco, Secretary/Treasurer was asked to do a roll call. Councilwomen Smith-yes; Councilwomen Kuba-no; Councilmen Nalesnik-no; Councilmen Kattner-yes; Councilwomen Shubeck-yes; President Hawk-yes. Motion to mandate curbing passed. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that we had a paving project that we had out for bid combining the two roads Park Avenue and Pine Street, so based upon that they were gracious enough to extend the bid for us, based upon the vote that we just have. Councilman Nalesnik made a motion to reject the street paving bid for Pine Street and Park Avenue. Councilwomen Smith seconded the motion. All in favor of the motion, motion passed. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that this was a bid for both avenue and we could not just take a street out. Councilmen Nalesnik said based upon that I do not see paving East Diaz this year, so we have to see if the grant could possibly expended and I do not see that Park Avenue will be paved this year because of the curbing input and the engineering. Councilmen Nalesnik said he would like to do some resurfacing this year, and the utilize our Liquid Fuels money, for paving in town. Councilwomen Smith mentioned that we were having a special meeting on August 8th to discuss the garbage contract and maybe we could also discuss the street improvement. Mayor Kattner mentioned that he got a visit from PennDot and that they are going to be paving from 93 to the end of the flagpole. He stated that we have two bad inlets, one near the gas station and the other by Kovatch's. He also stated that the inlets that we thought were PennDot's are not, they are the Boroughs. He stated that PennDOT is going to be starting the paving within the next few weeks. Councilmen Nalesnik made a motion to

have ARRO engineering prepare the specifications and estimate for resurfacing the first two blocks of East Center street. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. He stated that he would like to do Pine Street and the first two blocks of East Center Street and have that bid put out at next meeting if possible. Councilmen Nalesnik made a motion to authorize Council President David Hawk to sign the Cooperation Agreement between Carbon County and Nesquehoning Borough for the CDBG Grant regarding East Diaz Street. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilmen Nalesnik said that we have been in discussion with the railroad about Allen Street Crossing which we feel is an unsafe environment. They are repaving down there and added electric. We have discussed with them about putting gates and lights down there and they made us an offer and we counteroffered at this point I think it is a good thing for the Borough and it is in two payments. Councilmen Nalesnik made a motion to approve the agreement with RBMN for the Allen Street Crossing signal update. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

SEWER: Motion to approve May/June 2024 sewer/sanitation adjustment report was made by Councilwomen Kuba, seconded by Councilwomen Shubeck. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilmen Nalesnik made a motion to ratify the sewer pipe encasement in the amount of \$20,038.00. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that there is an exposed line and that it needs to be encased. Councilwomen Shubeck made a motion to approve purchase of valve for the well at the Sewer Plant. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that the smoke testing was done and that we are going to work on the proper correspondence to the property owner of any issues we found. We also found some storm drain and we will work on that with sewer department.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Councilmen Kattner stated that there was and little electrical issue at the Recreation Center, the electrician came and he found several breakers that were worn out, some wires that were loose, so he put new breakers in and tightened things up. The electrical panel is starting to show ware on the bars that hold the breakers in, so that maybe something down the road we are going to have to look into replacing. There is a very large tree at New Columbus park and I did receive only one quote and I am working on another and maybe next month we could work on getting rid of that large tree. Councilmen Nalesnik said that if it gets to be an emergency, then the amounts that we have received are within the limits. Councilmen Nalesnik stated that they are starting to work on the Agenda the engineering company to start working on the Grant for New Columbus Park and also they are nearing completion on the Industrial Road Grant application, for newer council members we authorized engineering for possible Industrial Road Reconstruction project. It will be a sizable grant, so they are close to finalizing that grant and submitted. Councilwomen Smith asked what the cost would probably cost and Councilmen Nalesnik stated that it could be up to one million dollars.

SANITATION & QUALITY OF LIFE: Motion was made by Councilwomen Smith to approve the May Tamaqua Tonnage Report at 182.37. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Smith made a motion to approve the June Tamaqua Tonnage Report at 132.04. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

Councilwomen Smith stated that we only have one garbage bid. He just basically gave us from the contract last time, nothing else. He did not bid on the two cleanups per year, or the bulk. It is just going to be the straight contract as before, I think we are going to have to sit down and go through numbers to see if we are going to have to increase or keep the same.

BLIGHT COMMITTEE: Councilwomen Smith stated the only thing she had under the blight is the letter from Robert and he sent to the gentleman from Railroad street and he had signed the agreement that we had sent them through zoning, that he had a year to submit and complete the project. They have been up there a lot doing things, so that is a good start. Councilwomen Kuba stated that she spoke with Robert the other day about some of the properties, I asked him to look up a property to see who the ownership was. The Hallohan property. What he said was send them a letter and give them 30 days, if they do not do it our borough workers will do it. We as a borough do not want to start getting into the grass cutting business, but these properties are looking really bad.

RECREATION: Councilwomen Shubeck made a motion to accept the Recreation Commission Treasurers Report for April and May, 2024. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Shubeck mention that Samantha Zlock brough in her letter to remain on the Recreation Commission. Councilwomen Shubeck made a motion to accept the Samantha Zlock letter to remain on the Recreation Commission. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Smith made a motion to award LB/DB Construction the Johnson Memorial Park Improvement Project in the amount of \$162,854.00. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All favor of motion, motion passed. Councilmen Nalesnik asked if the amount of the construction is less than the grant could we use the left over monies for lighting, or some other piece of equipment. Will have answer at the next meeting. Councilwomen Shubeck mentioned that National Night Out will be Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 6:00 to 8:30 pm. We are getting our vendors, coming along nicely. Recreation Commission is also cancelling their meeting for August 5th because of National Night Out. Councilwomen Shubeck made a motion to authorize Council President David Hawk to sign the Cooperation Agreement between Nesquehoning Borough and the VFW Post 8088 with regards to the VFW DCED Grant. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

BUDGET & FINANCE: Councilwomen Kuba stated that as everyone could see there was a substantial amount of taxes that came in May and June, so we are ready to see some totals and we will have a pension meeting on August 8th with Mauch Chunk Trust for the police pension. We can also do a Sanitation Committee meeting at 3:00 pm. President Hawk mentioned about having the special meeting at 5:00 pm. So the pension meeting is at 4:00, sanitation meeting at 3, and special meeting at 5.

PERSONNEL/PUBLIC SAFETY: Councilmen Nalesnik asked for brief executive session.

Councilwomen made a motion to accept all committee reports. Councilmen Kattner seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Councilmen Nalesnik stated that the new computer system is working great and everything is up and running. He stated that those are being paid for by the covid relief funds. Councilwomen Shubeck mentioned about everyone being on ADP, payroll system. Chief Weaver stated that he believes all of his staff are registered. There are a few that still need to be registered and he stated that he would take of it.

President Hawk stated the council will be going into executive session at 7:50 pm.
Back into session at 8:26 PM

Councilwomen Shubeck made the motion to implement the Emergency Demo Award to Radocha in the amount of \$2,200.00. Councilmen Kattner seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

Councilwomen Smith made a motion to grant the Chief of Police a retention incentive. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

Councilwomen Smith made a motion to make detective appointment subject to description that FOP agrees to. Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilwomen made the motion to adjourn, and Councilwomen Shubeck seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

DEBORAH DELFRANCO
SECRETARY/TREASURER