

**MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office**  
**114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by President Hawk

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL: COUNCILWOMEN/COUNCILMEN FOX, SMITH, KUBA, NALESNIK, KATTNER, SHUBECK (ABSENT), PRESIDENT HAWK, MAYOR KATTNER & SOLICITOR YURCHAK**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Executive Session held at 5:00pm to discuss Personnel reasons and actions will be taken at the meeting.

5:30 Blue Print presentation by Justine Trucksess.

**MINUTES:** Councilwomen Fox made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting for October 23, 2024. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

**HEARING OF VISITORS: NONE**

**PLANNING COMMISSION & ZONING HEARING REPORT: NONE**

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Solicitor Yurchak said about the meeting being held at the Borough office on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am with Senator Argall. He mentioned that it is open to the public and also that PennDot would be attending and it is to discuss RT 93, the Broad Mountain. Solicitor Yurchak stated that he did send an email to the Railroad with regards to the Agreement and stated that the response was harsh and that he was only looking for an update. He will follow up with that. Solicitor Yurchak mentioned ACT 131, permitting a raise for the Council members. He stated that it would be going from \$1875.00 a year to \$3,145.00 for council members and the mayor would go from \$2,500.00 to \$4,190.00 per year. He mentioned that it was only for new council member and it was only at election time. He spoke about the letter that was sent to LCCC with regarding the land and that the attorney was on vacation and he has not heard anything as of yet. Councilwomen Fox made a motion to accept the Solicitor's Report. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT & CD REPORT:** Motion was made by Councilwomen Fox for accept the Treasurer's & CD Report. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Smith made a motion to accept all bills to be, ratified, deposits and expenditures. Councilwomen Fox seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Smith made a motion to accept all PO's from

October 24, 2024 to November 20, 2024. Councilwomen Fox seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

**TAX COLLECTOR REPORT:** October 2024

Real Estate \$1,083.38  
Occupation \$ 33.00  
Per Capita \$ 66.00  
TOTAL: \$ 1,182.37

Motion was made by Councilwomen Kuba to accept the Tax Collector Report. Councilwomen Fox seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** NONE

Council did welcome Bradley Hess as the new Chief of Police to the Borough of Nesquehoning.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY:** Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to approve the amendment of Sections 3.7 & Sections 4.2 of the Nesquehoning Police Civil Service Rules and Regulations. Councilwomen Fox seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Kuba stated that the applications for Full-Time Police would be extended until December 31, 2024. She said that Council was going to post in house for a Sergeant for the Police Department. You would need 5 year experience and that it is contingent on a Civil Service testing, which would be written, oral exam.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Kattner stated that the police department would need another vehicle. He said that they are doing a good job.

**POLICE REPORT:** Mayor Kattner read the police report and it stated as follows: Magistrate Dodson: Vehicle code, crime code and misc. \$2,239.41; Dog: \$36.29; Local Ordinance: \$ 8.52; Title 18- Payable to Municipality: \$250.67; Title 75- Motor Vehicles: \$1,868.93; Title 75, Parking Offenses: 75.00; Attorney General Reimbursement: \$1,260.53; Moving permits: \$40.00; Accident Report: \$ 30.00; Parking Tickets: \$ 125.00 for a Total of \$3,694.94. Traffic Citations Issued: 86; Code Complaints Resolved: 3 Total Calls for the Month: 120.

**Fire Department Report for October:** President stated that were 10 calls. 1 for a dwelling fire; 2 for Mutual Aid, West Penn and Lansford; 1 AFA; 2 MVA; 1 Pole Fire; and 3 Fire Police calls.

**HOUSING & CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:** President Hawk stated that our Zoning officer reported to 16 zoning permits and \$1,319.00 received. He also stated that the Code Enforcement made 30 contacts and 15.50 hours.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT:** John McArdle state that all three fire companies would like council to make a motion to continue to Burn Ban for additional month. Councilwomen Fox made the motion to continue the Burn Ban for another month. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. He also stated that he would like Council to make a motion to approve 4 Laurel Terrace and 35 Hemlock as new addresses. Councilmen Kattner made the motion to accept 4 Laurel Terrace as a new address in the Borough and 35 Hemlock Drive as a new address in the Borough. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

Motion was made by Councilmen Kattner to accept Police and Public Safety; Mayor's Report; Police report; Fire report; Zoning Report; Code Enforcement Report; and EMA Report. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

**STREETS:** Councilmen Nalesnik stated that the frontend loader was working good since coming back from the dealer after repairs. He also stated that the road department was going to start putting up the signs for the no parking because of snow and that they were going to follow hanging where they hung them last year. He also stated that the road equipment is all ready to go for the Winter and that there are plenty of supplies.

**SEWER:** Councilwomen Fox made a motion to accept the October 2024 Sewer/ Sanitation Adjustment Report. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Fox made a motion to award the bid to the lowest responsive bidder, reject all bids, table or forward bids to committee for the Lake Hauto Generator Project via PennBid. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Fox made a motion to award Minich in the amount of \$120,100.00 for the Lake Hauto Generator Project. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Fox also made the motion to approve Bob Pilla to attend a training session on December 4, 2024. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. She also wanted to thank Bob Pilla and the Road department for the work that they have done on the park and to improve the Borough.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:** Councilmen Kattner made a motion to authorize the cleaning of the furnaces for the Recreation Center and the Borough Building. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. He also stated that the maintenance was done on the Recreation generator by the Wire guys and that everything is okay with the system. He also said that the trees were taken down in the New Columbus Park.

**SANITATION & QUALITY OF LIFE:** Councilwomen Smith made a motion to accept the October tonnage report from Tamaqua Transfer in the amount of 167.48 tons. Councilwomen Fox seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Smith stated that she would like to set up a meeting with Larry Wittig from Tamaqua Transfer and speak with to him about the time that the pickup of garbage is to happen. She stated that there has been two occurrences where they were very late picking up

the garbage. She also stated that she would setting up a meeting with Quality of Life persons, to talk about the fees for the Rental Properties for 2025 and hopefully would have something for the December meeting.

**RECREATION:** Councilwomen Smith said that the Recreation Committee will be holding their Christmas Park on Sunday, December 8, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Rec Center. She said that the Department of Agriculture would be coming by to check the area where the live reindeer would be for the Christmas on the Hill Event. She also stated that there has been a great response from the community regarding the event, that all the trees were already sold.

**BUDGET/FINANCE:** Councilwomen Kuba made a motion to adopt the tentative proposed Budget for 2025 and with that no tax increase. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilmen Kattner made the motion to approve MRM as the new insurance company for the liability for the Borough and to remove PIRMA, at a significant savings. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

**PERSONNEL & PUBLIC SAFETY:** Councilwomen Fox made a motion to hire Andrew Ruch as the new crossing guard at \$10.00. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Fox made a motion to hire Marguerite Luque as the new cleaning person for the Borough Building at \$12.00 per hour. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Fox made a motion to amend the agenda to add. Councilwomen Kuba seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed. Councilwomen Fox then made a motion to hire Bejitulla Memheti as a part time police officer. She stated that an extensive background check was done and all cleared. She said she was going on the recommendation of Chief Hess and the former Chief Weaver. Councilwomen Smith seconded. All in favor of motion, motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**OLD BUSINESS:** Deb DeFranco, Secretary-Treasurer was asked to contact County to find out about the information to apply for the Blight monies that the County has received.

Motion was made by Councilmen Kattner and seconded by Councilwomen Smith to accept all Committee Reports.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilwomen Smith and Councilmen Kattner made motion to adjourn meeting at 6:45 PM

**DEBORAH DELFRANCO  
SECRETARY/TREASURER**