

## **MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:00p.m., Borough Office  
114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

**ROLL CALL:** COUNCILMEN DiMICELI, HAWK, SNISCAK JR., STROMELO, ZABROSKI;  
COUNCILWOMAN WALCK; PRESIDENT DeMARCO; MAYOR WALCK; &  
SOLICITOR YURCHAK

**MINUTES:** Approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 25, 2009  
Councilman Sniscak, Jr. moved and Councilman Stromelo seconded to approve the minutes from the  
regular meeting held on February 25, 2009. All voted yes. Motion passed.

### **HEARING OF VISITORS**

Theresa Kissane – 56 W. Catawissa Street, & Irene Barron – 58 W. Catawissa Street – stated that they have been experiencing a sewer smell coming from their basements. Ms. Kissane stated that to her understanding, Alfred Sword, the previous owner, also had experienced the smell. She stated that he had complained about it several times. Ms. Kissane stated that she wanted to know if it was addressed, if it was resolved and what they could do to resolve their current situation.

Councilman Hawk stated how the plant operator had discussed it with him and the Borough Engineer. He stated that he had concluded that there was not a problem with the Borough's line anywhere but the lateral connections of the parties, who were experiencing the odor, did not have traps and vents outside, which would be required per code now. Councilman Hawk stated that the only thing the Engineer could conclude was that there was gas getting through either drains or other sewer piping in the houses because there were not sufficient outdoor traps or vents to prevent it. He stated that their plant operator did offer to help one of the home owners with blocking off the floor drains to see if it would help the situation at all. Councilman Hawk stated that there was nothing to be done with the Borough's lines. He stated that the best remedy would be for the property owners to have outside traps and vents installed to their connection lines.

Ms. Barron stated that she had talked to the residents across the street and they had the same smell. Councilman Stromelo asked when the smell started. Ms. Kissane stated how it had been happening since the system was installed in 1992. She stated that she has been experiencing it since she moved into the residence. She stated that she would usually only get the smell on the weekends. Ms. Kissane stated that when she would report it to the Borough, they would send someone to investigate it, but the smell was not there then. She stated that because she travels a lot with her husband, she only experiences it on the weekend when the pressure was being forced through the lines. Ms. Kissane stated how it comes and goes but sometimes it was worse than others. She stated about the health risks and problems associated with it. She stated how if it was a little thing of putting a balloon in the pipe, but she also gets flooding in the basement from the main street. She stated that if they close that, then her basement was left to flood, because that was where the overflow drained.

Councilman DiMiceli stated how they addressed it in other situations where the property owner had to install a sump-pump, which was illegal to run into the sewer. Councilman Hawk stated how floor drains should not be hooked into the system. He stated that if they were hooked in to the sewer system, it was that they pre-dated the upgrades. Ms. Barron stated how the Borough crew used to seal in front of the house but that they have not done it in the last 4 years. She stated how her main concern was the smell in the house. Ms. Barron stated that once they installed the Sewer Collection System in 1992, her mother had the smell.

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Frank Jacobs stated how they picked up the line that was already there. Ms. Barron stated how she talked to Mr. Tirpak and he told her to smell the floor drain when she had the smell, which she did, but there was no smell coming from the drain. She stated how the smell was more to the front of the house. Mr. Jacobs stated how their sewer line does not go out the front; it goes out the back to Mill Street. He stated how sewer from the houses on the south side of Catawissa Street goes into the sewer main located under the sidewalks on the south side of the street. Ms. Barron asked why the little circle was having the same smell, three from one side of the street and two from the other side of the street. She named several people who were not having the odor problem. Councilman DiMiceli stated that they might have traps. Mr. Jacobs stated that they do not go that way. He stated that they go west towards the corner of School Street and Mill Street. Councilman Stromelo stated that he has a trap and a vent and he was getting an odor for the last two weeks.

Councilman DiMiceli stated that he would go with the plant operator's suggestion about placing a balloon in the floor drain. He stated that if that did not help, they would have to put in a trap and a vent. He stated how that was not the Borough's responsibility. Ms. Barron stated how the one resident across the street has a trap and a vent but still has the same smell. Councilman DiMiceli stated that they might have to send the plant operator over to check his system. Ms. Kissane asked if the vents were an option. Councilman DiMiceli stated that they should have been installed when the project was done. He stated how a lot of the property owners chose not to do it. He stated that no one enforced it at that time. Councilman DiMiceli stated that since the property owner, who owned the property at that time chose not to install it; she was having the problem now. John McArdle stated how there were already lines in. He stated that if their line was already in and ran into the storm water system. President DeMarco stated that was how they diverted it. Mr. McArdle stated that they did not go onto the property to tie in the sewer line unless they were not connected prior to that. Councilman DiMiceli stated that even if they were connected they still had to reconnect with a trap. Mr. Jacobs stated that they could not force them to install the traps but they did suggest it to them.

Tom Mermon stated how he was on Council when the sewer system was started. He stated that they had all kinds of problems because they did not go with a separate sewer system like was at the end of Nesquehoning. He stated how they still have homes that were not connected to the sewer system. Mr. Mermon stated how it was not anyone's fault but there were several unknowns with the sewer system. He stated how people had problems now and he thought that it had to go back to Engineering. He stated that the Engineer really needed to check it out, either with dye tests. Ms. Barron stated that she was requesting a smoke test. Councilman Hawk stated how that would tell them if they had a leak or any un-trapped lines. Councilman DiMiceli stated how they would do a smoke test and if it goes into the house it would be the property owner's responsibility to put in a trap. President DeMarco told Councilman Hawk to get in touch with Davey Digilio to get a smoke test arranged for the residents. Mr. Jacobs stated how they took the storm drain off of that line so the line was not being flushed out. He stated how that was why they might be getting the smell now. Ms. Kissane stated about how she was concerned with the methane gas that could be in her home.

Michael Matalone – 129 E. Columbus Avenue – asked why the condemn sign was removed from the house on E. Garibaldi Avenue. He asked who authorized it when there were no repairs done. He also asked what was going to become of the houses on E. Columbus Avenue. Councilman DiMiceli stated how nobody authorized it. Mr. Matalone asked who took the sign off. Mayor Walck stated that Chief Smith condemned the house on Garibaldi Avenue. He stated how Bill Gardiner approached the Chief about why they condemned the property. He stated how the Nesquehoning Savings & Loan took over the property.

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Mayor Walck stated that the Savings & Loan, Bill Gardiner, then approached Rob Blisard, the code enforcement officer. He stated that he told Officer Blisard how the house was winterized and they were trying to sell the house. He stated that Mr. Gardiner told him how the water was shut off and it was hard for them to sell the home with the condemn sign on it. Mayor Walck stated that Mr. Gardiner asked Officer Blisard if they would take the condemn sign off so they could try and sell the property. He stated that Officer Blisard agreed to take the condemn sign off so the Savings & Loan could sell the property. Mayor Walck stated how that was who took the sign off and he had it in writing.

Mayor Walck read a letter received from Officer Blisard: Approximately January 19, 2009, I had received a call from RoniSue Ahner, the Nesquehoning Borough Secretary, in reference to 55 E. Garibaldi Avenue. Ahner advised me to contact Bill Gardiner to discuss the condemn sign on the above mentioned property. I made contact with Mr. Gardiner who questioned the condemn sign on the house. Mr. Gardiner advised me that the house was winterized and able to provide proof of this. Mr. Gardiner was concerned about the sign stating that the bank was currently trying to sell the home but it was hard to attract a buyer with the condemn sign visible on the home. In order to assist Mr. Gardiner, I removed the sign from the home with the agreement that I would be notified when the home was sold. To avoid any confusion, I was the one who removed the sign on or about January 19, 2009. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me about this incident. Thank You.  
Patrolman Robert Blisard.

Councilman DiMiceli stated that personally he did not think that the sign should have been taken down. He stated that he thought that Solicitor Yurchak should write a letter to the Jim Thorpe National Bank telling them how they have a property which they need to address. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how that property was due to be sold on Friday. She stated how they have already talked to Carl Faust and he did not see a problem with the person who was purchasing the property. She stated that Mr. Faust told her that if the buyer was going to live in the property how it was entirely up to a homeowner to live like a pig if he wants to live like a pig. Councilman DiMiceli stated that if the property deal does not go through on Friday, Solicitor Yurchak should write a letter to the Jim Thorpe National Bank. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that if he was going to be renting the property, it would fall under a whole different category and Mr. Faust would be in to inspect it. Mr. Matalone stated that he would like to see somebody live like a pig next to him. He stated that he would burn the house down. President DeMarco stated how they have a lot of codes that were in place.

Mr. Matalone stated that he has seen people going in and out of the house across the street that was condemned. He asked how they can go into a house when it was condemned. Councilman DiMiceli stated that he had talked to Solicitor Yurchak about the three properties on Columbus Avenue. He stated that they should have a deadline to tear it down or to do something. Councilman DiMiceli stated how the guy across the street just had the water turned on the other day. Councilman Hawk stated how there was somebody doing some kind of home inspection and they wanted the water on. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how it was so they could possibly get the furnace up and running. Mayor Walck stated how they turned the water on so they could fill the furnace up. He stated how that was still under the control of Mr. Faust. Councilman Hawk stated how the Water Authority Workers told him how the property was cleaned a lot since they were in to turn the water off. He stated how the electricity was back on, which was off. He stated how there was some progress being made on that property. Councilman DiMiceli stated how the property owners for the other two properties should be written letters. Mr. Matalone stated that if they would pull the 2 x 4's out from under the porch, the roof would fall.

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Councilwoman Walck asked Mr. Matalone if he could call the Borough Office when he would see someone going into the building. Councilman DiMiceli stated how no one goes into the houses next to Mr. Matalone. Mayor Walck stated that the way he understood, through the code enforcement officer, even though it was condemned (124 E. Columbus Avenue), they can go in during the day and do work but they cannot live in the home. Mr. Matalone stated how the inspector was supposed to be up to go through the house but he had not seen him. Councilwoman Walck asked Secretary/Treasurer Ahner if there was any report from Mr. Faust that he was in the house. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how Mr. Faust was in to inspect 124 E. Columbus Avenue that morning at 7:45 a.m. with Officer Blisard. She stated that Mr. Faust was in the office after they had performed the inspection. Mr. Matalone stated that he did not see him.

Solicitor Yurchak stated how the Borough already has a lien on the property next to Mr. Matalone for the curbing. Councilman DiMiceli stated how they should start getting prices for demolition. Solicitor Yurchak stated that he would have to go through a nuisance first. Mayor Walck stated how it was a nuisance but it was also a health hazard. He stated that the Chief was the one who condemned it. He stated about how the bank was supposed to be taking it over months ago. Councilman DiMiceli stated to Solicitor Yurchak to find out what bank and write a letter to get it torn down. He stated that they would place another lien on the property. Councilman Hawk stated that if the guy was making an effort at 124 E. Columbus Avenue, they should keep letting him try.

Louise Mele – 158 E. Columbus Avenue – asked who has the authority to condemn houses within the Borough. Councilman DiMiceli stated that any Police Officer, Officer Blisard (code enforcement officer) and in addition the Building Inspector, Carl Faust. Ms. Mele asked if there was any type of procedure to follow after it was condemned. Councilman DiMiceli stated “yes”. Ms. Mele stated that it had been how long since it had been condemned and nothing was being done. Councilman DiMiceli stated how they come in and do a little bit of work in the Summer time and it starts all over again. He stated how that was when the Chief received a report that there were people in the house. He stated how that was when he found the illegal immigrants. Ms. Mele asked how they can un-condemn a property when nothing was done to it. Councilman DiMiceli stated that he hoped it would get sold on Friday.

Ms Mele stated how they had mentioned a light in the New Columbus Park at least two years ago. She asked when it was going to come about. Councilman DiMiceli stated on how they had bought their own street lights and they have so many that they could put up.

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to install the necessary lights in the New Columbus Park.

Councilman DiMiceli stated how they should have the Recreation Committee come back to Council as to how many lights were needed. Councilman Stromelo stated how they had looked at adding a light down by the basketball court. President DeMarco stated about putting up their own lights and not having the other company involved with putting them up. Councilman DiMiceli stated how the lights down by the basketball courts used to have an on and off switch. Councilman Stromelo stated how they looked at that. He stated that they were deteriorating and rotting away and they decided to put in a whole new system. Councilman Stromelo stated that they would have to have a panel installed. Councilman Hawk stated about getting them on a meter.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

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Ted Dacey stated about a sign stating what time the park closed. President DeMarco stated how there used to be a sign up there. Councilman Stromelo stated that he thought the sign was still there and it closed at dusk. President DeMarco stated how it would then be up to the police to enforce it.

Mr. Dacey stated on how the road was starting to cave in at the intersection of W. Columbus Avenue and Pastori Avenue. President DeMarco stated that he would have Councilman Sniscak, Jr. take a look at it.

### **POLICE REPORT**

A copy was placed in the communications folder.

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

Officer Blisard's report was placed in the communications folder.

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Sniscak, Jr. seconded to accept the Police and Housing & Code Enforcement Reports. All voted yes. Motion passed.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Borough Council entered into an Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. for personnel reasons. The Council Members exited their Executive Session at 8:13 p.m.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

No report.

### **CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

No report.

### **PANTHER CREEK ADVISORY REPORT**

No report.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- 03.03.09 Ron Tirpak letter to DEP – 2008 Wasteload Management Annual Report
- 03.03.09 Carbon Engineering – Copy of Annual Report (2008 Wasteload Management)
- 03.02.09 Carbon Engineering – 2008 Sewer Charges/Rush Township

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- 03.07.09 Robert T. Yurchak – Speed limit change for eastern end of Nesquehoning  
Solicitor Yurchak stated that he had sent the letter but has not heard anything back yet.
- 03.10.09 Robert T. Yurchak – Police Office Renovation Project  
Solicitor Yurchak stated that they had received all the documents and the drawings and the check was released. President DeMarco stated that they will have to set up a meeting. He stated that they will get Ron Tirpak involved then in the project.

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**NESQUEHONING SAVINGS BANK TREASURER'S REPORT**

**GENERAL FUND**

Balance 01.31.09 92,976.94  
Receipts 54,522.19  
Expenditures 73,684.72  
Balance 02.28.09 73,814.41

**GENERAL SEWER CONSTRUCTION FUND**

Balance 01.31.09 8,758.26  
Receipts 5.04  
Expenditures .00  
Balance 02.28.09 8,763.30

**SPORTS COMPLEX FUND**

Balance 01.31.09 2,258.94  
Receipts .84  
Expenditures 911.99  
Balance 02.28.09 1,347.79

**SANITATION ESCROW**

Balance 09.30.08 9,952.00  
Receipts 8,733.53  
Expenditures .00  
Balance 12.31.08 18,685.53

**DEBT SERVICE**

Balance 01.31.09 1,129.41  
Receipts .65  
Expenditures .00  
Balance 02.28.09 1,130.06

**FIRE TRUCK FUND**

Balance 01.31.09 59,739.42  
Receipts 30.25  
Expenditures 11,097.40  
Balance 02.28.09 48,672.27

**CAPITAL PROJECT**

Balance 01.31.09 68,440.98  
Receipts 368.99  
Expenditures .00  
Balance 02.28.09 68,809.97

**SANITATION FUND**

Balance 01.31.09 168,845.06  
Receipts 94,266.80  
Sewer 15,660.41  
Expenditures 83,254.31  
Balance 02.28.09 164,197.14

**HIGHWAY FUND**

Balance 01.31.09 38,954.05  
Receipts 16.72  
Expenditures 11,010.36  
Balance 02.28.09 27,960.41

**PLANNING FUND**

Balance 09.30.08 8,439.66  
Receipts 21.24  
Expenditures .00  
Balance 12.31.08 8,460.90

**GENERAL SEWER FUND**

Balance 01.31.09 125,653.57  
Receipts 15,716.02  
Expenditures 67,414.68  
Balance 02.28.09 73,954.91

**SEWER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE**

Balance 01.31.09 55,125.79  
Receipts 56,685.91  
Expenditures 29,325.03  
Balance 02.28.09 82,486.67

**POLICE PENSION FUND**

Balance 01.31.09 413,514.58  
Receipts 2,411.42  
Expenditures 8,251.84  
Acct Depreciation 19,823.28  
Balance 02.28.09 387,850.88

**ACQUISITION & RENOVATION**

Balance 01.31.09 196,463.22  
Receipts 112.92  
Expenditures 1,745.00  
Balance 02.28.09 194,831.14

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**CD REPORT**

<b>FUND</b>	<b>CURRENT VALUE 02.27.09</b>	<b>INTEREST 02.27.09</b>	<b>OPENING DATE</b>	<b>CURRENT RATE</b>	<b>RENEWAL DATE</b>	<b>BANK</b>
PLANNING	\$ 14,841.25	\$ 34.80	05-08-05	4.05 %	08-15-09	NSB
GEN. SEWER	\$ 364,425.94	\$ 854.41	05-08-05	4.05 %	08-15-09	NSB
GEN. SEWER	\$ 11,316.81	\$ 25.56	12-03-08	3.44 %	06-03-10	NSB
DEBT SERVICE	\$ 13,126.94	\$ 30.78	05-08-05	4.05 %	08-15-09	NSB
DEBT SERVICE	\$ 100,488.06	\$ 333.98	06-02-05	3.92 %	06-02-10	NSB

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report and the CD Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

No report.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Walck stated that he had the pleasure of attending the Panther Valley Senior Center’s 35 year Anniversary Luncheon. He stated how it was a great event and that it was well attended.

Mayor Walck stated that he would like the Borough to follow suit with the County and adopt the “buy American Policy”.

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Sniscak, Jr. seconded to adopt the “Buy American Policy”. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Walck stated how the police were in need of a new digital camera. He stated how they had received a request stating that it would not exceed \$200.00.

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to adopt a resolution for Shawn McArdle for passing his Eagle Scout Award. All voted yes. Motion passed.

**TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT**

No Report.

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to accept all the reports. All voted yes. Motion passed.

**APPLICATION:**

- Heather M. Morales - Crossing Guard
- Margaret T. Cusanelli – Crossing Guard
- Grace Ann Kennedy – Crossing Guard\

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### COMMUNICATION:

1. 02.23.09 Municibid - Renewal
2. 02.27.09 DCED – Newsletter
3. 02.27.09 CC Dept of Solid Waste – Minutes from Advisory Committee Meeting
4. 02.27.09 Judy Borger – Economic Stimulus Package
5. 03.02.09 NEPA – 2009 NEPA Energy Assistance Program Workshops
6. 03.02.09 MorganRail, Inc. – Specializing in guide rail needs
7. 03.02.09 Center for Dirt & Gravel Roads – Workshop
8. 03.02.09 Keith R. McCall – Applications to DCNR for all project types
9. 03.03.09 Base Engineering Inc – Third Party Agency Building Code Official Services
10. 03.03.09 CC Rural Recycling Program – 2008 year end totals
11. 03.04.09 Base Engineering – Third Party Agency Building Code Official Services
12. 03.04.09 Nicholas Truck Sales – COSTARS Program Participant
13. 03.05.09 PRINT – Request to use the Borough in their information packet
14. 03.10.09 Hazleton Oil & Environmental – New Super Vacuum Truck
15. 03.11.09 PSAB – Natural gas exploration and drilling
16. 03.12.09 Judy Borger – Economic Stimulus Funding
17. 03.13.09 CTC Manufacturing – Safety Green T-Shirts
18. 03.13.09 PSAB – Borough Officials Training & Update
19. 03.13.09 PSAB – Successful Project Management
20. 03.13.09 EMC Insurance Companies – Newsletter
21. 03.15.09 Philip Valenti – New Pecora Hearings to Investigate Wall St.
22. 03.16.09 NEPA –LTAP – Training workshops, transportation, road maintenance and safety
23. 03.16.09 CC Office of Planning & Development – Meeting on Economic Stimulus Funding
24. 03.16.09 NEPA – Right-to-Know Law – Open Records Seminar
25. 03.16.09 PSAB – Training Update
26. 03.16.09 Mark Nalesnik – Training – Incident Command System (ICS), NIMS
27. 03.17.09 JTNB – Bounce protection
28. 03.17.09 US Dept. of Justice – COPS funding
29. 03.18.09 DCED – Basic training for municipal secretaries & administrators
30. 03.18.09 Trollinger Consulting Group – Municipal pension advisor
31. 03.18.09 NEPA – Municipal Technology Assistance Program (MTAP)
32. 03.19.09 Michael S. Greek –Zoning Hearing Board – 218 E. Center St – Bono
33. 03.19.09 Hazleton Oil & Environmental – Recycling
34. 03.19.09 COPS Office – COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP)
35. 03.19.09 Charles Lopresto – Curb Cut Request
36. 03.20.09 Cynthia S. Ray – Zoning Hearing Board (St. Francis of Assisi Church)
37. 03.23.09 Keith McCall – Home improvement contractors can register online
38. 03.23.09 DCED – Training Program – Natural Gas Drilling & Municipal Regulation
39. 03.23.09 Office Depot – New Price Structure
40. 03.23.09 PIRMA - Update

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Sniscak, Jr. seconded to approve all communications and accept the applications and place them on file. All voted yes. Motion passed.

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**BILLS TO BE RATIFIED, EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS**

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to deposit all receipts, approve all bills to be ratified and pay all other bills including the expenditures of the Home Program.

Mr. Mermon asked what the general fund check #7048 was all about. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they were required to separate the millage (fire, recreation and general). She stated how that was the fund they were using as their Recreation fund. She stated that there was not enough money in that fund to pay the bills for that month. She stated that they were only transferring money from the General Fund until the taxes came in. Mr. Mermon asked if it will be returned. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that it will be returned as they received tax money.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. STREETS**

**MICHAEL SNISCAK, JR. CHAIRMAN; DON DeMARCO, CO-CHAIRMAN; RICHARD ZABROSKI**

Councilman Sniscak, Jr. moved and Councilman DiMiceli seconded to approve a curb cut permit for Charles Lopresto at 113 E. Garibaldi Avenue. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilman Sniscak, Jr. proposed to make Messina Avenue – coming from Mussmano Avenue – one-way going North (up). There was a brief discussion about changing the street to make it a one-way going South (down) however because they did not want to do another Ordinance, it was dropped.

**2. SEWER**

**DAVID HAWK, CHAIRMAN; RICHARD ZABROSKI, CO-CHAIRMAN; FRANK DiMICELI**

Councilman Hawk stated how they needed to ratify a purchase made of a gear reducer for the unit down at the plant for \$14,863.00 plus shipping. He stated how he had talked to Mr. Tirpak and his advisement was that because of it being a specialty item, they had to go back to the original equipment manufacturer. He stated how they could not take the chance of buying something from a third party. Councilman Hawk stated that he had given Davey Digilio the approval to order it. He stated how the one on unit #2 failed and they took the one off of unit #3. He stated how their intention was to get unit #3 running this Summer.

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to approve the purchase of the required equipment.

Mr. Jacobs asked if there was a possibility to get the old one rebuilt for a spare. Councilman Hawk stated that they had given them a price on getting it rebuilt but it was not much less then buying a new one. He stated how that was why they decided to just buy a new one now and they can decide if they want to spend money on the old one later.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

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### **3. BUILDINGS**

**RICHARD ZABROSKI, CHAIRMAN; ROSE WALCK, CO-CHAIRMAN;  
DON DeMARCO**

No report.

### **4. POLICE PUBLIC SAFETY**

**MICHAEL SNISCAK, JR, CHAIRMAN; FRANK DiMICELI, CO-  
CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK**

Councilman DiMiceli stated how they may get a letter between then and the next council meeting from the F.O.P. requesting to negotiate the police contract, which was up that year. He stated about the Police & Public Safety Committee negotiating the contract. Solicitor Yurchak stated how they should wait until they get the letter.

Councilman Hawk stated how they received paperwork on the COPS Grant. He stated how last year they had considered the possibility of getting another officer. He stated that if they would have gotten a grant at that time, it would have been only a 50% grant but it did not materialize. Councilman Hawk stated how that year the way the budget was, they were not even able to do the 50%. He stated that the grant which was available now was a 100% funding for entry level salaries and benefits for 3 years. Mayor Walck stated how there was a stipulation in there on how they had to retain the officer for a year after the three years were up. Councilman Hawk stated how it would give them three years for the economy to get better and get them in a position to keep him on afterwards.

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to pursue the COPS Grant. All voted yes. Motion passed.

### **5. SANITATION**

**MARK STROMELO, CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK, CO-CHAIRMAN;  
FRANK DiMICELI**

Councilman Zabroski stated how several people had contacted him from the east end of town in regards to residents leaving open bags on the street. He stated how with the winds they have been having; it has been blowing things out of the bags or there were concerns of animals crawling into the bags. Councilman Zabroski asked if there was something they could do to enforce it to have the bags contained. President DeMarco stated about Carol Zickler putting something in the paper on how the garbage should be contained and they will be cited as per the ordinance if it was not contained.

Councilman DiMiceli stated how they got complaints about residents putting garbage out too early up on Ridge Street. President DeMarco stated how there was a limit of 24 hours. Mayor Walck stated how he had heard that it was getting better since they were picking up the garbage a little later on Thursday morning.

### **6. RECREATION**

**DAVID HAWK, CHAIRMAN; MARK STROMELO, CO-CHAIRMAN;  
DON DeMARCO**

Councilman Hawk stated how the Recreation Commission had an Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for the Nesquehoning children only on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Zabroski stated about lights in the Little League Field. He stated that after the work was done for an Eagle Scout Badge, there was a lot of vandalism. He stated about some kind of lighting so that when the police drive by they can tell if someone was in the field. He stated how they could put in regular flood lights so that they could even play a night or an evening game.

## **MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:00p.m., Borough Office

Councilman DiMiceli asked about the new service that was installed up at the field. Councilman Hawk stated how it was sized to support outdoor lights.

Councilman Zabroski stated about how they used to flood the basketball court for ice skating. He stated how he was asked why they did not do that anymore. He stated how they would like to see maybe next year if they could do it. Councilman Zabroski stated that when he was younger, they used to utilize it a lot. Councilman DiMiceli stated how he thought that the water laying in there would hurt the macadam.

Councilman Zabroski stated how he had talked to Ron Reis about the lady who wanted to donate some benches to be placed up at the soccer field. He stated how if they were to be placed along the fence line just as long as the PV Youth Soccer Club was not expected to take them down every year. Councilman Hawk stated that whatever would get put in there, they would have to be put in permanently.

### **7. BUDGET                      DAVID HAWK, CHAIRMAN; RICHARD ZABROSKI, CO-CHAIRMAN; DON DeMARCO**

No report.

### **8. PURCHASING                ROSE WALCK, CHAIRWOMAN; RICHARD ZABROSKI, CO- CHAIRMAN; FRANK Di MICELI**

Councilman DiMiceli stated how a ¾” impact wrench was purchased for the Borough garage. He stated that the Borough crew could change the wheels on the trucks if they would get a flat. Councilman Sniscak, Jr. stated how the whole thing came to a total of around \$550.00. Councilman DiMiceli stated how they would take 50% from Sanitation and 50% from Streets.

### **9. FIRE/AMBULANCE            FRANK DiMICELI, CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK, CO CHAIRMAN; PUBLIC SAFETY                      MICHAEL SNISCAK, JR**

- 03.13.09 John P. McArdle –Fire & Ambulance report for February

Councilman DiMiceli stated that he would like to read the report for February:

- 1 dwelling fire
- 1 brush fire
- 1 motor vehicle accidents
- 3 automatic fire alarms
- 1 CO detection
- 1 elevator rescue
- 1 mutual aid.

Councilman DiMiceli stated how the ambulance response for February was 42 and 784 miles. He stated how there were 33 EMS calls handled by KME employees during work and 43 calls handled by Nesquehoning Ambulance Corp. Volunteers for a total of 76 calls and 1,423 total miles traveled for 2009.

Councilman DiMiceli stated how he had talked to everyone on the Water Authority and the Fire/Ambulance Committee. He stated how the Water Authority had a project where they were going to be improving water lines and improving hydrants. Councilman DiMiceli stated that he was asking Council to go 50% with the Water Authority to install a hydrant, which was not in their project, on the corner of West Mill and Allen Streets. He stated how the biggest fire threat in town was the old factory next to the post office. Councilman DiMiceli stated that they all agreed how it was the logical thing to do because they would have the street all torn up.

## **MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:00p.m., Borough Office

Councilman DiMiceli moved and Councilman Sniscak, Jr. seconded to go 50% of the cost of the installation of a hydrant with the Nesquehoning Borough Authority at the corner of West Mill and Allen Streets when they do their water line project.

Councilman DiMiceli stated to Secretary/Treasurer Ahner about the letter containing how the hydrant should have New York Corporation threads on the 2 ½" connections. He stated how the cost total would be somewhere around \$2,500.00. Councilman Hawk stated how he thought that the hydrants were around \$2,000.00 but they would also need piping, valves, and include a 6" T in the line. Councilman Hawk stated how it would also be contingent on the approval of the Water Authority.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilman DiMiceli stated how Mr. McArdle had gotten some numbers together in regards to a stimulus package. He stated that he did not know if they would be able to swing it because they would be looking at a \$25,000.00 payment for 20 years for a 2002 Aerial Truck. Councilman Hawk asked when was the last time they had submitted a grant application for an Aerial Truck. Mr. McArdle stated how the last one was about two years ago. Councilman Hawk stated about how the gentleman from at the program had told him that if they would have the letter of denial from the last time they had submitted an application, if they could get it to him. Councilman DiMiceli stated that if they would get a grant it would be great because they would be paying 4.5% on the funding from the stimulus package on a 20 year loan plus they would have to get \$60,000 at 2% from PEMA. Councilman Hawk stated about getting the denial letters to the gentleman. Mayor Walck stated that he would like to make a suggestion about having Mr. McArdle talk to the gentleman directly since he had been the one applying for the grants over the last 6 years. Councilman DiMiceli stated that Mr. McArdle should just keep the Committee informed as to what was going on.

Mr. McArdle stated how there were a lot of people who attended the meeting who thought that the stimulus package was offering a lot more money. He stated how for that particular package, they were only offering 15% of the cost and the rest was a loan at 4.5%. Councilman Hawk stated that the gentleman, Tom Williams, wanted to look into it under different aspects. He stated that Mr. Williams said how he could not believe that if they were applying all those years and did not get a full grant. He stated that Mr. Williams wanted to look to see if there were avenues other than the stimulus package.

Councilman Hawk stated how the Water Authority was looking for ways to fund their part of the matching grant. He stated how they had looked into some state funding and basically, they do not qualify because their water rates were too low. He stated how they ran into the same problem with the sewer rates. Councilman Hawk stated that because their rates were so low, they could forget about any grants and the loan rates were not a bargain.

Councilman Sniscak, Jr. moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to accept all Committee Reports. All voted yes. Motion passed.

### **JR. RECREATION COMMISSION**

No report.

**MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:00p.m., Borough Office

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Jacobs asked about the rates for Sanitation for the businesses in Nesquehoning because some of the businesses were putting so much garbage out but they were paying the same rate that he was. Councilman Stromelo stated how they were going to look at the businesses but no letters were sent out yet. Councilman Hawk stated how they were going to encourage recycling. President DeMarco stated how the committee was still looking into it.

Mr. Jacobs stated that he wanted to remind them on how they had to have a mortgage set up for the Borough Garage by July. He stated how they will take the money owed right out of the General Fund if a mortgage was not set up. Councilman DiMiceli stated to Solicitor Yurchak to check with the local banks to see what mortgage rates they could get.

Councilman Stromelo asked if there was anything happening with the burned out house on Railroad Street. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how she was still working on the permits. She stated that at one point she was going to be tearing it down but now she was talking about rebuilding.

Mayor Walck asked Solicitor Yurchak to do a follow up letter to PennDOT concerning the speed limit on Route 209.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Sniscak, Jr. moved and Councilman DiMiceli seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

*RoniSue Ahner*

RoniSue Ahner  
Secretary-Treasurer