

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 7:00p.m., Borough Office
114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

ROLL CALL: COUNCILMEN HAWK, ZABROSKI; COUNCILWOMEN FOX, WALCK;
PRESIDENT STROMELO; MAYOR WALCK; SOLICITOR YURCHAK; &
CHIEF SMITH

President Stromelo called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Councilman DiMiceli was absent due to illness

Councilman Sniscak, Jr. was absent

MINUTES: Approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 24, 2010
Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to approve the minutes from the
February 24, 2010 regular meeting. All voted yes. Motion passed.

HEARING OF VISITORS

John Barna – 32 E. Columbus Avenue – stated how all of them should have heard of him over the past weekend because of the PV School Board meeting. He stated how he cares about the people he lives with and had two questions for the Council Members. Mr. Barna stated how Mark Marek from “Air Your Opinion” said how his ticket was paid. He stated that Mr. Marek had contacted someone on Council and they told him that the ticket was paid. Mr. Barna asked who told Mr. Marek that news. President Stromelo stated that he did not know who it was. Mr. Barna stated that he was not there to condemn the police but he wanted to know who told him. Councilman Zabroski asked Mr. Barna if Mr. Marek told him that someone from Council gave him that information. Mr. Barna stated how Mr. Marek checked about his ticket and he said that the ticket was paid. He pulled the ticket out of his pocket and stated how it had been over four months. He stated how he had never paid the ticket and nothing had ever happened to him; never received a notice. Mr. Barna stated how he was concerned about the other people who live on his block. He stated about three other families who were not going to pay their tickets. Mr. Barna stated about how if the tickets would not get paid, they would go to the magistrate and the fines would go from \$25.00 to \$125.00. He stated how the Council Members should tell these people to come get their money.

Mr. Barna stated about taking him to court. He stated how he got the ticket in December but did not come to a Council meeting until January. He stated how he told everybody that if they wanted to, they could pay the tickets but he was willing to sacrifice \$125.00 because he felt they were right. Mr. Barna asked if they were going to give the money back to those people. President Stromelo stated how they were not going to give money back. President Stromelo stated to Mr. Barna how he had received his answer last month from Councilman Sniscak, Jr. He stated that if he had received a ticket then he must have been parked on the wrong side. President Stromelo stated that nobody will be getting their money back. He stated that if they got a ticket, they got a ticket. President Stromelo stated that if they were not followed up on then shame on them and they would address it. Chief Smith stated how there were a couple of tickets that were not filed. Mr. Barna stated about not being paid. Chief Smith stated how they were not paid. Mr. Barna asked about citations being issued. Chief Smith stated that citations were issued. Council-woman Walck asked Chief Smith how long they had to file the citations. Chief Smith stated how it states on the ticket about 72 hours but it was a lot of money. Councilwoman Walck asked about how long they had to file something if they were not paid. Chief Smith stated how they have up to a year. Mr. Barna read the ticket. Chief Smith stated how if someone was not able to afford the ticket, he was just supposed to cite them for \$125.00 before Christmas. He stated that if he was asked to give time to pay on it, he will give them time.

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Mayor Walck stated how he felt they had discussed it long enough, many times, at several meetings. He stated how it had been taken care of and that he felt how the issue should stop. Mr. Barna asked Solicitor Yurchak if he was wrong. Solicitor Yurchak stated how he had asked his question and did not know what else he was asking. He stated to Mr. Barna that they were telling him how they had up to a year to file a citation. Mr. Barna asked if he could still receive a citation. Solicitor Yurchak stated "yes".

Tom Merman – 512 E. Center Street – stated that he wanted to know how taxpayers were charged for the sewage in town, pertaining to residents and businesses. Councilman Hawk stated that both the residents and businesses were billed assessed on the EDU's and if they go over on water usage for the number of EDU's they were paying for; then they were charged a surcharge. Mr. Merman stated how the Water Authority was a separate entity. He stated how there were some houses in town who were on wells and were not metered and some who were metered. He asked why all wells were not metered if it goes by consumption of water. Mr. Merman asked how they were supposed to know how much to charge for sewage because it worked together.

Sam Kitchko – 111 Park Avenue – stated how he was there representing the Nesquehoning Conservation Club. He stated about the letter that was submitted concerning placing benches. Mr. Kitchko stated how since they had written the letter; they had been having a hard time finding the composite material that will work for the benches. He stated how they will be constructed of two concrete sides with slats. He stated that they would use pressure treated lumber and if they see how there was no vandalism, they would use cedar.

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilman Hawk seconded to allow the Nesquehoning Conservation Club to install park benches on the South side of Locust Street, which would be constructed with either pressure treated lumber or cedar. All voted yes. Motion passed.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Smith gave the Police Report for the month of March as follows:

\$1,148.49 fine money received from Magistrate Kosciolek; \$143.75 fine money received from Magistrate for Sanitation Fines/Bills; \$0.00 received in Carbon County Collections; \$7.47 received in DUI reimbursements; \$0.00 received in Motor Vehicle reimbursements; \$0.00 received from Carbon County Restitution; \$0.00 received from Attorney General for overtime reimbursement; \$0.00 received in State Fines; \$520.00 received in parking tickets; \$240.00 received in moving permits; \$90.00 received in accident reports; 325 total officer contacts/follow-ups; 49 citations [7 non-traffic & 42 traffic]; 26 incidents reported for the month; arrests were attached to the second sheet; 0 search warrant; 0 consent searches; 6 traffic accidents (4 reportable – 2 non-reportable); 21 court appearances and the mileage total was 5,441 (1,349 – 2008 Crown Vic; 2,070 – 2008 Chevy Impala; 19 - 2003 Crown Vic; 360 - 2005 Expedition; 1,643 – 2009 Ford Crown Vic).

HOUSING & CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Chief Smith thanked Mayor Walck for providing beverages for the last drug raid they hosted. He stated that he wanted to thank Chief McArdle for the assistance of the Nesquehoning Ambulance. Mayor Walck stated how he wanted to thank Chief Smith, Officer Wuttke and all the officers who were involved with operation "Golden Dope". He stated how a lot of people criticize the Police Department wanting to know what they were doing. He stated that when they were done, they broke up a ring of over one million dollars of burglaries and heroin. He stated how they had worked on it for over a year.

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Mayor Walck stated how the Nesquehoning Police did a great job along with the Attorney General's office and any other police departments who were involved. He stated how it was well organized and well planned.

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to accept the Police Report and the Housing & Code Office's Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (if needed)

Borough Council entered into an Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. for personnel matters. The Council members exited their Executive Session at 8:07 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Councilwoman Fox stated how they had all received a copy of the Planning Commissions' Meeting minutes. She stated that the meeting was for SM 1 Solar and Green Energy. Councilwoman Fox stated how SM 1 Solar was going to be located on the bank behind Redners and Kovatch's and it was going to power Kovatch Corporation on the South side of Route 54. She stated how Green Energy was going to be located on the coal bank, the reclaimed bank. Councilwoman Fox stated how they were both looking for a special use permit from the Zoning Hearing Board, which both were approved the through zoning.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

No report.

PANTHER CREEK ADVISORY REPORT

No report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- 03.30.10 Ron Tirpak letter to Dennis Slayton – Material Submittals
- 03.31.10 NM Solar 1 Solar Park Land Development – SALDO Ordinance
- 04.01.10 Ron Tirpak letter to S&K Construction – Police Office Renovation

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Vehicle Weight Limit Ordinance (Park Avenue)

Councilwoman Walck moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to adopt the Vehicle Weight Limit Ordinance for Park Avenue.

John McArdle asked what the restrictions were as far as weight and if there was an exemption for emergency vehicles. Solicitor Yurchak stated how it was an eight thousand pound weight limit and there was an exemption for emergency vehicles.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

- 03.25.10 Human Relations Commission letter to Atty. Yurchak – Spectrum Services

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- 03.25.10 Robert T. Yurchak letter to Richardson Todd Eagen, Esq.
- 03.26.10 Robert T. Yurchak letter to Carbon County Commissioners – Prison Water Meter
- 03.26.10 Robert T. Yurchak letter to Dept. of Public Welfare – Estate of Joseph Stoffa
- 03.29.10 Robert T. Yurchak letter to CC Tax Assessment Office – KOZ map designation
- 04.11.10 Exonerate all Borough property taxes – Sparich
- 04.15.10 CC Tax Claim Bureau – Forgiving tax years

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to exonerate the past Borough taxes on the Sparich property, 121 E. Columbus Avenue. All voted yes. Motion passed.

- 04.19.10 Robert T. Yurchak letter to CC Emergency Management – Floodplain map
- 04.19.10 Robert T. Yurchak letter to Carbon Engineering – Floodplain map

Solicitor Yurchak stated he wanted to make Council aware that he had tracked down the KOZ map and the floodplain map. He stated how he had made Keystone aware of it and when he would get it off to them, it should almost be ready to be finalized.

Solicitor Yurchak stated that he wanted to suggest for Council's consideration how they should pull out the CDL policy and update it. He stated how there were references in there to Borough Manager, which was no longer valid.

Councilwoman Walck moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to accept all reports to that point (Planning Report through Solicitor's Report). All voted yes. Motion passed.

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JIM THORPE NATIONAL BANK TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Balance 02.28.10 69,093.70
Receipts 87,857.26
Expenditures 114,199.94
Balance 03.31.10 42,751.02

GENERAL SEWER CONSTRUCTION FUND

Balance 02.28.10 10,277.51
Receipts 4.36
Expenditures .00
Balance 03.31.10 10,281.87

SPORTS COMPLEX FUND

Balance 02.28.10 1,425.86
Receipts .17
Expenditures 1,309.98
Balance 03.31.10 116.05

SANITATION ESCROW

Balance 02.28.10 71,867.98
Receipts 5,822.39
Expenditures .00
Balance 03.31.10 77,690.37

DEBT SERVICE

Balance 02.28.10 1,926.75
Receipts .82
Expenditures .00
Balance 03.31.10 1,927.57

FIRE TRUCK FUND

Balance 02.28.10 77,636.88
Receipts 32.93
Expenditures 1,444.00
Balance 03.31.10 76,225.81

CAPITAL PROJECT

Balance 02.28.10 90,342.95
Receipts 228.79
Expenditures .00
Balance 03.31.10 90,571.74

SANITATION FUND

Balance 02.28.10 165,387.12
Receipts 94,761.12
Sewer 47,136.48
Expenditures 73,814.06
Balance 03.31.10 139,197.70

HIGHWAY FUND

Balance 02.28.10 83,148.72
Receipts 70,712.05
Expenditures 17,559.35
Balance 03.31.10 136,301.42

PLANNING FUND

Balance 02.28.10 10,927.68
Receipts 3.25
Expenditures .00
Balance 03.31.10 10,930.93

GENERAL SEWER FUND

Balance 02.28.10 88,178.97
Receipts 47,953.87
Expenditures 67,710.93
Balance 03.31.10 68,421.91

SEWER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE

Balance 02.28.10 30,448.71
Receipts 37,455.01
Expenditures 35,096.77
Balance 03.31.10 32,806.95

POLICE PENSION FUND

Balance 02.28.10 509,533.61
Receipts 2,379.63
Expenditures 8,075.59
Acct Appreciation 16,826.55
Balance 03.31.10 520,664.20

ACQUISITION & RENOVATION

Balance 02.28.10 117,301.06
Receipts 47.36
Expenditure 29,838.92
Balance 03.31.10 87,509.50

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CD REPORT

FUND	CURRENT VALUE 03.31.10	INTEREST 03.31.10	OPENING DATE	CURRENT RATE	RENEWAL DATE	BANK
PLANNING	\$ 15,287.67	\$ 32.39	08-17-09	2.50 %	08-17-12	JTNB
GEN. SEWER	\$ 360,119.07	\$ 763.02	08-20-09	2.50 %	08-20-12	JTNB
GEN. SEWER	\$ 11,747.12	\$ 34.27	12-03-08	3.44 %	06-03-10	JTNB
DEBT SERVICE	\$ 13,521.80	\$ 28.65	08-17-09	2.50 %	08-20-12	JTNB
DEBT SERVICE	\$ 105,146.85	\$ 349.47	06-02-05	3.92 %	06-02-10	JTNB
DEBT SERVICE	\$ 18,263.20	\$ 33.13	06-22-09	2.14%	06-22-11	JTNB
SANITATION	\$ 20,217.22	\$ 36.68	06-22-09	2.14%	06-22-11	JTNB
CAPITAL PROJ	\$ 9,909.35	\$ 17.98	06-22-09	2.14%	06-22-11	JTNB
GEN. SEWER	\$ 77,187.55	\$ 140.04	06-22-09	2.14%	06-22-11	JTNB
FIRE TRUCK	\$ 9,681.60	\$ 17.56	06-22-09	2.14%	06-22-11	JTNB

Councilman Hawk moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report and the CD Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Walck stated how he would like Council's permission to have a PennDOT form filled out and submitted to get four of the pedestrian crossing cones. He stated about placing one at the intersection of the Nesquehoning Post Office and one at the intersection of Lengyel's.

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to approve the submission of the paperwork to require the cones. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Walck stated that as a reminder, Post 8008 on Saturday, May 1st at 6:00 p.m. was Loyalty Day. He stated how the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the VFW puts on a nice ceremony for Loyalty Day.

Mayor Walck stated how on Monday, May 31st was the Memorial Day Parade.

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to allow the Mayor to call out the Crossing Guards and extra police to help secure the streets. All voted yes. Motion passed.

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Mayor Walck stated how he would like Council to advertise for a part-time code enforcement officer.

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Hawk seconded to advertise for a part-time Code Enforcement Officer.

Councilman Zabroski asked if it was going to be an officer or a clerical. President Stromelo stated how it would be a person who could look through the Borough for any issues. Mayor Walck stated how it would not be a police officer. He stated how they will look for any violations of the code and write them up. Councilwoman Fox asked if the Code Enforcement Officer could issue a citation. Solicitor Yurchak stated that they would, based on the code violation only. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner asked if they would handle the Landlord/Tenant Ordinance also. President Stromelo stated how it would be possible. Councilwoman Fox asked who handled it now. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how she was supposed to but they have not gotten very far. Councilman Zabroski stated how the enforcement would be handled by the police but the administration would be handled by the Code Enforcement Officer.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Walck stated that the next crime watch meeting was Tuesday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Walck stated that on Tuesday, June 1st, there will be a tabletop exercise on hazardous material; registration from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and actual exercise starts at 6:30 p.m. He stated how it was a training exercise and would be held down at the Nesquehoning Hose Company. Mr. McArdle stated how it gives a bit of realism to what could happen within the Borough. He stated how all of Council would have an active part if anything would happen.

Mayor Walck stated how he had received a letter from Congressman Kanjorski which he had turned over to Secretary/Treasurer Ahner. He stated how there were some USDA Rural Department Development Grants available. He stated how she was working with Senator Specter’s office and Congressman Kanjorski’s office on them. Mayor Walck stated how he had also received information from Kanjorski’s office for residents of Pennsylvania to get rebates if they choose to use Energy Star related residential water heaters, furnaces or boilers. He stated how there was a number to call and a website.

TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT

1 April 2010 – 20 April 2010

Real Estate	\$85,134.36
Occupation	1,352.40
Per Capita	<u>1,773.80</u>
TOTAL	\$88,260.56

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to accept the Emergency Management Report, Mayor’s Report and Tax Collector’s Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

1. 03.18.10 Michael S. Greek – Zoning Hearing Board – Green Energy Capital Partners
2. 03.25.10 USG – Specialty contractor for underground infrastructure inspection
3. 03.29.10 Unique Paving Materials – Stockpiles in our area
4. 03.29.10 Lord Abbett – Class B shares discontinued
5. 03.30.10 PSAB – Course in Zoning Administration
6. 03.30.10 Court of Common Pleas – Scheduling Order
7. 03.30.10 PublicWorks – Benefits survey

8. 03.31.10 Curtis J. Bailey – Robert Koval withdrawal of variance, request for refund

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how Robert Koval had withdrawn his request for a Zoning Hearing, which was scheduled for the 31st of March. She stated how he had withdrawn his request at the last minute and did pay the fees prior to the hearing. She stated that he was requesting a refund for the money for the hearing. Secretary-Treasurer Ahner stated how there were expenses that the Borough paid Attorney Greek in regards to the hearing.

Councilman Hawk moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to refund the money for the hearing less any tangible expenses incurred. All voted yes. Motion passed.

9. 03.31.10 PSAB – Confined Space Training
10. 04.01.10 PSAB – Update
11. 04.05.10 Liquid Fence Co – Removal of waste water

12. 04.06.10 Drissell & Arner – Parking request

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that they received a request to change the parking from the east side of School Street between High Street and Railroad Street to the west side because of recent vandalism.

Councilwoman Fox stated how it was discussed at the last meeting because the next block has parking on the west side. President Stromelo stated how the parking zigzags all the way down the street. He stated how they would have to draw up a new ordinance. Councilwoman Fox asked what kind of cost they were talking about. Solicitor Yurchak stated about having to draft it and advertise it. Councilwoman Fox stated how it was not just moving signs. President Stromelo stated that the Street Committee addressed it last week and they did not feel it was worth the money.

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to deny the request to change the parking on School Street due to the cost factor. All voted yes. Motion passed.

13. 04.06.10 Keystone Collections Group – Act 32 Consultation
14. 04.06.10 PA One Call – Pipeline Safety Bulletin
15. 04.06.10 84 Lumber – COSTARS vendor
16. 04.06.10 SJThomas Co. – EZIQC job order contractor using the COSTARS program
17. 04.07.10 EMC Insurance Companies – Chemical Hazard Communications
18. 04.09.10 PIRMA – Update
19. 04.12.10 Steve Shannon Auto Warehouse – Automotive supplies
20. 04.12.10 DCED – Notice of project closeout – Need an audit by an independent CPA
21. 04.12.10 Ford – Press release

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22. 04.12.10 MapleShade Meadows – Car show

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that MapleShade Meadows would like to inform everybody that they will be holding a Car Show on Saturday, July 17th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. She stated how it was going to be held in conjunction with the Jukebox Cruisers Car Club. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they will be closing Locust Street down from their parking lot down and it would not interfere with any local businesses.

Councilman Hawk moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to allow MapleShade to conduct their Car Show and to block off Locust Street with room for emergency vehicles. All voted yes. Motion passed.

23. 04.12.10 Liquid Fence – Removal of waste water
24. 04.12.10 PSAB – WEBINARS
25. 04.13.10 Dept. of Public Welfare – Stoffa Estate
26. 04.14.10 The Warnaco Group – Notice of annual meeting
27. 04.14.10 Dixon Sealer & Supply – Discount Catalog
28. 04.15.10 Nesquehoning Conservation Club – Permission to place park benches
29. 04.15.10 NEPA – Integrating transportation & land use into comprehensive plans
30. 04.15.10 Emergency Services Training – Coordinated by Carbon County EMA
31. 04.16.10 PSAB – Training
32. 04.19.10 The General Assembly of PA – Act 32 Class Action
33. 04.19.10 F.C.Scott Co. – Equipment and services
34. 04.19.10 PA One Call – 2010 PA Safety Days Registration
35. 04.20.10 Michael S. Greek – 190 acres North of 54 West
36. 04.22.10 Keystate Publishers – Code of Ordinances
37. 04.22.10 Liberty Oil Co – Automatic Delivery, Budget Program, Prepay Program
38. 04.23.10 DCED – U.S. Census – 2010

Councilwoman Walck moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to approve all communications and place them on file. All voted yes. Motion passed.

BILLS TO BE RATIFIED, EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to deposit all receipts, approve all bills to be ratified and pay all other bills. (Councilman Hawk not voting on his own reimbursement) All voted yes. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. STREETS

MARK STROMELO CHAIRMAN; MICHAEL SNISCAK, JR. CO-CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK

- **Hire a Supervisor**

President Stromelo stated how the Street Committee met with input from other departments and they were now at a point where they were going to advertise for a Borough Supervisor in charge of the Borough employees.

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to advertise for a Borough Supervisor.

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Mr. Merman asked if they had any idea as far as money. He asked if they had studied it because he had not heard any reports. Councilman Zabroski stated how they have studied it and they felt as a Council and as the Street Committee that it was . . . Mr. Merman asked if they had any reports there for the public. He stated that he wanted to know in dollars and cents. President Stromelo stated that since Mr. Degiglio was terminated years ago, they had kept the funding in there. He stated that the Street Committee decided that it was time to have a supervisor in place. He stated that they were going to advertise for applications and then they will look at it from there. Larry Fox asked who the supervisor was going to be in charge of, what departments. President Stromelo stated "all departments". Mr. Merman asked if it was going to be a working supervisor or just a supervisor. President Stromelo stated how it would be a working supervisor. Mr. Merman asked if he would be a union man. President Stromelo stated "no".

All voted yes. Motion passed.

- **Purchase Riding Mower**

President Stromelo stated how it had been brought to his attention that both the riding mower was on its last leg and parts were no longer accessible and the push mower was also on its last leg.

Councilwoman Walck moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to purchase a new riding mower and a new push mower.

Solicitor Yurchak asked if it would be under \$4,000. President Stromelo stated that he would get quotes.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

President Stromelo stated how the street sweeping will continue. He stated that they were posting the streets. Carol Zickler stated that they have to get the hills.

- **Purchase New Dump Truck**

President Stromelo stated how they have been running into mechanical failure with some of the Borough equipment. He stated how their ages were showing. President Stromelo stated how he would recommend that they purchase a new dump truck through a COSTARS program from Kovatch Mobile Equipment (KME). He stated how there was a grant through USDA for a portion of the funding and the rest would be a loan. He stated that what would not be covered would come out of Liquid Fuels for a five year Hot Lease. President Stromelo stated how he had an older quote of \$67,425.65. He stated that it would have an aluminum body to save on the weight. Ted Dacey asked what size dump truck. President Stromelo stated how it was a 2011, F-550, which was the same size as the small one they have now. He stated how they had just put another transmission in that one over the winter, which probably brings a total of five for that vehicle. President Stromelo stated how it was all through the COSTARS program with a five year Hot Lease. He stated about paying for it with a grant and Liquid Fuels.

Councilman Hawk moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to purchase a new dump truck through the COSTARS program in the amount of \$67,425.65

Mr. Fox asked if they were going to transfer the spreader off of the old truck. President Stromelo stated how they were going to keep the old truck because they would not get anything for it. Mr. Fox asked if it came with a spreader. President Stromelo stated that it was the spreader and a western plow.

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Frank Jacobs asked what the difference was between that 550 and the one they have, with the transmission. President Stromelo stated how the old one's transmission was not very efficient and they burn up due to overheating. He stated how the new one was 100% of an improvement. Mr. Jacobs stated about putting 3-4 ton of power on the truck and if they should think about going bigger. President Stromelo stated how it was better with that size because of most of the Borough streets. He stated how the large truck will have to be replaced soon as well. Mr. Fox stated about not having four-wheel drive on the 750 and investing in getting that equipped with four-wheel drive. He stated how they really need that for the hills in town. He stated that if they do not have chains on; with a half inch of snow, they do not get up the hills. President Stromelo stated how it would probably cost \$20,000 to \$30,000 to up-fit that truck with four wheel drive.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

President Stromelo stated how the other thing they had looked into was the road conditions, which were deteriorating rapidly. He stated how the Street Committee met and had come up with an aggressive approach. President Stromelo stated how Engineer Ron Tirpak had reviewed the whole town. He stated that they feel that they need to start somewhere. President Stromelo stated how they feel that they should get some kind of a loan to get started. He stated how the quote they had received was about \$5,000,000 to do water lines, curbing, sewer lines and reconstruction of some roads and overlays of others. He stated how they were not going to be able to do it all. President Stromelo stated about getting quotes on a loan for \$1,500,000 for a ten year period. He stated how they want to get started on it. President Stromelo stated that the hill from the stoplight up to New Columbus was a major expense. He stated that Park Avenue was a major expense also and it was almost \$1,000,000 just for that road. President Stromelo stated how the Street Committee's recommendation was to look into borrowing and see what kind of rates there were. He stated that they were looking into loans with some of the local banks. President Stromelo stated how it was time to get the roads in shape.

2. SEWER

**MICHAEL SNISCAK JR CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK CO-CHAIRMAN;
MARY FOX**

Councilwoman Fox stated how they met with Ron Tirpak in regards to getting Unit #3 up and running in order to shut down Unit #2 so it can be cleaned. She stated that, according to Mr. Tirpak, if it was bid out it would cost approximately \$20,000 and if they would do it in house with the Borough workers and Sewer workers it would cost approximately \$5,000. Councilwoman Fox stated how she was also told that there was a water leak down at the plant because they have low water pressure. She stated that David Digilio told her that he could pinpoint where it was at. Councilwoman Fox stated that between the biofilters and the lift stations, they were going to do plant maintenance during the month of May and start the work on Unit #3 in June. She stated how it would probably take 4-6 weeks to do it and they will need manpower. Councilwoman Fox stated how they would clean the other tank in the fall.

Councilman Hawk moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to offer a full-time Utility position to Robert Pilla at an hourly rate of \$15.00/hour to start for a six month probationary period with benefits effective upon acceptance, next pay period.

Councilman Hawk stated that he would be used in any department within the Borough where the extra manpower was needed and it was a salary, non-union position. Mr. Fox asked if it was a temporary position. President Stromelo stated that it would be until his probation was up.

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All voted yes except Councilwoman Walck because of being related. Motion passed.

President Stromelo stated that with all the work that needs to be done, the Sewer Committee could get together along with Mr. Jacobs for his input and knowledge.

3. BUILDINGS MICHAEL SNISCAK, JR. CHAIRMAN; ROSE WALCK, CO-CHAIRMAN; MARY FOX

Councilwoman Walck stated how the Police Station was coming along even though they had a few setbacks. She stated that they were hoping to be able to move in, in another 2-3 weeks. Councilwoman Walck stated how Ron Tirpak had been overseeing the project.

- **Award bid for demolition of Sparich Property at 121-127 E. Columbus Avenue**

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they had received two bids; Robert Crusick Demolition at a bid price of \$18,500 and Peter J. Radocha & Sons, Inc. at a bid price of \$11,343.

Councilwoman Walck moved and Councilman Hawk seconded to award the bid to Peter J Radocha & Sons, Inc. at a bid price of \$11,343. All voted yes. Motion passed.

President Stromelo stated that he did not know if they were doing anything with the siding next to the Police Station. Mayor Walck stated how he had talked to the contractor last week and they were patching the cracks in the cinder blocks. He stated that he had told him that it was going to be repainted, the Little League side. President Stromelo stated how he was talking about the west side of the building. He stated how the peak, where the roof trusses were, it was aluminum siding and it was really dirty. He stated about cleaning it or getting it painted. President Stromelo stated how the aluminum was coming off the eaves on the east side of the building. He stated how that was going to have to be repaired and painted.

4. POLICE DAVID HAWK CHAIRMAN; MARK STROMELO CO- PUBLIC SAFETY CHAIRMAN; RICHARD ZABROSKI

- **Award bid for paving the Parking Lot at the new Police station**

President Stromelo stated how they had a bid to reconstruct the parking lot at the police station. He stated about the runoff from the Little League field. He stated how they had advertised for bids to reconstruct the west side along the main entrance around to the back, re-grade, and pave and then from the back door of the police station, around the east side, they were doing an overcoat.

Councilman Hawk moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to ratify the actions of President Stromelo to advertise for bids for the paving. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilman Zabroski asked if the bids included the hill to the Little League field. President Stromelo stated that it was included.

Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how there were four bids submitted: B. F. Brown & Company, Bethlehem - \$40,027.50; Slusser Brothers, W. Hazleton - \$42,716.00; Livengood Excavators, Inc., Walnutport - \$37,925.35; and Hazleton Site Contractors, Hazleton - \$34,031.15. She stated how Ron Tirpak had reviewed everything and everything was good.

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Councilwoman Walck moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to accept Hazleton Site Contractors' bid at the bid price of \$34,031.15.

Mr. Jacobs stated about the runoff and all the water coming from Kovatch property. President Stromelo stated how he was there with Ron Tirpak and they were re-grading it away from the building and down into the storm drain. Mr. Jacobs stated how there was talk previously about a roof for the police cars. He stated that if they were going to do that, they should get the post in before they do the blacktop. President Stromelo stated how they have to talk to Ron Tirpak; not sure they were able to do it.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilman Hawk moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to award an increase in pay to their part-time officers of \$1.00 per hour. Any newly hired part time officer will start at \$14.00 per hour for a period of six months, and then increase to \$14.50 per hour for six months, finally, increase to \$15.00 per hour; effective next pay period. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Walck stated how they had a gentleman who was still in the Academy but was interested in doing ride-alongs with the police officers.

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to allow Thomas J. Kurtz to participate in ride-alongs with the Nesquehoning Police. All voted yes. Motion passed.

5. SANITATION MARK STROMELO CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK, CO-CHAIRMAN; RICHARD ZABROSKI

- **03.29.10 Ruth Wildoner – Request for garbage pickup**

Councilwoman Walck moved and Councilman Zabroski seconded to allow the extra garbage pickup for Meed's Church on the 4th Thursday of the month. All voted yes. Motion passed.

President Stromelo stated how the Sanitation Department was probably committed to being in the garbage business for another five years. He stated that it was working very well but were still in contract negotiations. President Stromelo stated that they have had a few breakdowns in recent weeks. He stated how some were their fault and some were not. President Stromelo stated that he was sorry for any inconvenience while the truck was down over the last two weeks. He stated that the Sanitation Committee had come to an agreement on how it was time that they get another truck. President Stromelo stated that he would like a motion to advertise for bids for a smaller unit to the Borough's desired specifications. He stated how the current truck would be paid off that year and how it would be another five-year project.

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilman Hawk seconded to advertise for a smaller sanitation (garbage) truck.

Mr. Merman asked if anyone had figured out the cost of everything; employees, truck, fuel, etc. President Stromelo and Councilman Hawk stated "yes". Mr. Merman asked if they could read them off at a meeting. President Stromelo stated how they could once the contract negotiations were done.

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Mr. Merman stated about looking out for the taxpayers of the Borough. President Stromelo stated how they were basically keeping the cost down for the taxpayers. He stated how it was a service and how they were not being taxed for it. He stated how it was working out well and they were saving money. Mr. Merman asked if they had included the retirement in on it. President Stromelo stated "yes" and how they were providing jobs for people in town. He stated that if they would have contracted it out, they would have who knows who from who knows where. He stated how they had it under control. Councilman Zabroski stated that the Sanitation Department was self sufficient. He stated how the fee that was collected for the sanitation was paying for the sanitation expenses.

Mr. Jacobs stated how he had seen the figures when the bids came in compared to the expenses which was a \$20,000 difference. He stated that now they were taking on another expenditure for a truck. He asked how they factored that in on how it was a savings. Mr. Jacobs asked if they were saying how it was a savings because of the \$20 per month they were paying or could they be paying \$15 a month and get service from a contractor. President Stromelo stated that when they started, they had to have an investment. He stated that they could not go in and get a free truck. He stated to Mr. Jacobs how they argued about going to Hegins rather than going to Tamaqua. President Stromelo stated how it was \$52,000 a year difference. He stated how he could buy a lot of tires and a lot of fuel for \$52,000. Mr. Jacobs stated that if they keep having breakdowns at \$10,000 a shot, it was going to add up pretty fast. He stated how he did not see a difference with the \$317,000 figure he had seen versus the \$297,000 bid that came in for three years. President Stromelo stated that if they would look on the agenda, they could see that the Sanitation Escrow had a nice figure in it along with the Sanitation Fund. He stated how it never did before. Mr. Jacobs asked if that was because they were paying too much money. President Stromelo stated how they may eventually lower it. Mr. Jacobs stated how he still did not see how it was a cost savings factor especially when there were people working 20 hours a week and getting paid for 40. He stated how they were now talking about hiring more people. He asked how that was a cost savings factor to the people in that municipality. President Stromelo stated that it would be. Mr. Jacobs stated how they have been in it 4-5 years. President Stromelo stated how it was not 5 years. He stated how the truck was going to be paid off that year and it was not 5 years yet. Mr. Jacobs stated how they were now going into another expenditure. President Stromelo stated how it was a lesser amount of a vehicle.

Mr. Merman asked if they had ever thought of lowering the cost per month. He stated how he could tell them when it was lowered once and who had lowered it. Mr. Merman stated how when there was money there, everybody gets ideas as to what to do with it. President Stromelo stated that when they feel there was a comfortable amount, there may be a possibility to lower the monthly amount. He stated how there was never any kind of a cushion if something went wrong. He stated how there was at one time; but the money got spent on everything else. Mr. Fox asked President Stromelo if they could tell the taxpayers how the same thing was not going to happen again. President Stromelo stated how it will not happen while they were still on council. Councilman Hawk stated that with the Council and the Secretary/Treasurer they have, they could guarantee that it would not happen. Mr. Fox stated how that had been the habit in the past. Mr. Jacobs stated about the quarter of a million dollars that was put in various accounts when JTNB took over NSB. Mr. Merman stated how they got over \$250,000. Councilman Zabroski stated how they could not answer for past Borough Councils and what they did with the money. He stated that they were talking about the money that was in the Sanitation and reinvesting it in Sanitation. He stated how in a year or so they may be able to lower the cost of the sanitation.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

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9. FIRE/AMBULANCE RICHARD ZABROSKI CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK, CO-CHAIRMAN; ROSE WALCK **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Councilman Zabroski stated how he needed a motion because the ambulance license was up.

Councilwoman Walck moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to accept that the Nesquehoning Ambulance Corp was the primary BLS (Basic Life Support) and Leighton Ambulance Corp was the primary ALS (Advanced Life Support) first response.

All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilman Zabroski stated how he wanted to remind everyone of the Narrowband required upgrades. Mayor Walck stated how they had the police radios checked and they were okay.

President Stromelo stated how he had received some information from Chief McArdle who was their fire investigator. He stated how there were some issues that arose from the State, NEPA. Mr. McArdle stated how it was with the UCC code. He stated how there were three points that had to be covered; 1) was an exemption for him being designated as Fire Marshall; 2) he was not a sworn official and 3) that he was not going to seek out anything but the truth. President Stromelo stated that he was passing it on to Councilman Zabroski and Solicitor Yurchak. Mr. McArdle stated that the UCC code had to be researched for the exemption, proper permits filled and there was something drawn up.

- **Nesquehoning Hose Co Summary Report for March**
- **Nesquehoning Ambulance Corp Summary Report for March**

Councilman Zabroski read the reports for March:

- 3 automatic fire alarms
- 3 motor vehicle accidents
- 1 landing zone
- 1 CO
- 1 foam task force
- 1 mutual aid (Lansford)

Councilman Zabroski stated how the ambulance response for March was 33 calls and 571 miles. He stated how there were 12 EMS calls handled by KME employees during work for a total of 31 for the year.

10. LIGHTING/ELECTRICAL MARY FOX CHAIRMAN; RICHARD ZABROSKI, CO-CHAIRMAN; ROSE WALCK

Councilwoman Fox stated how Tim Moran was supposed to be there that evening. She stated how they have conversation documents. Solicitor Yurchak stated how he had talked to him that afternoon. Councilwoman Fox stated how he had told her that a lot of the municipalities they were working with have been held up. She stated how some of the poles did not meet the National Electric Safety Code; so they had to bring them up to code. Councilwoman Fox stated how they had discussed the Christmas lights and how he had some options. She stated how they were going to get money back because they were receiving a grant for the stoplight. President Stromelo stated how they thought it had taken effect last year.

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

JR. RECREATION COMMISSION

Mayor Walck stated that he wanted to thank everyone who purchased the Easter ham tickets. He stated that they raised and turned over \$305.00 to the cancer telethon in honor of Jamie Tatusko.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Zabroski moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to approve the subdivision of the Fritzinger's property pending the Planning Commission approval. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilman Hawk moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to approve the subdivision of the Farole's property pending the Planning Commission approval. All voted yes. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Jacobs asked if they were going to restrict truck traffic and the flow of traffic on the parking lot at the new police station. President Stromelo stated how they were probably going to post some signs.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilwoman Walck seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

RoniSue Ahner

RoniSue Ahner
Secretary/Treasurer