

## MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office  
114 W. Catawissa Street, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

**ROLL CALL:** COUNCILMEN JACOBS, PAUL, RADOCHA, SABOL III; COUNCILWOMEN FOX, POREMBO; PRESIDENT HAWK; MAYOR KITCHKO; & SOLICITOR YURCHAK  
President Hawk called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.  
Councilman Sabol arrived late.

**MINUTES:** Approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 28, 2021 and the minutes from the Workshop/Committee Meeting held on May 12, 2021.

**Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Jacobs seconded to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 28, 2021 and the minutes from the Workshop/Committee Meeting held on May 12, 2021. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

### **HEARING OF VISITORS**

Thomas Burns – 203 Yard Street – asked Solicitor Yurchak if he had a chance to re-visit the Burning Ordinance. Solicitor Yurchak stated how it was the Public Safety Committee members who were going to re-visit the ordinance. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they reviewed the Burning Ordinance and they were not making any revisions to the ordinance at that time. Mr. Burns read from the Burning Ordinance. Mayor Kitchko asked Mr. Burns if he had obtained a lawyer and if the lawyer had sent his neighbor a letter. Mr. Burns asked Mayor Kitchko where he was getting his information. Mayor Kitchko stated that as the mayor, he works with the police. He asked Mr. Burns if he was in litigation with his neighbor over the burning. Mr. Burns stated “no, not at that moment”. Mayor Kitchko stated how they had reviewed the ordinance and how every fire was going to produce some kind of smoke. He stated how they were not able to explain nauseous or noxious smoke. Mr. Burns stated how they would have to explain it to his lawyer.

Mayor Kitchko stated to Mr. Burns that after their discussion in February, he told him that he was satisfied and that he would wait to see what happened. Mr. Burns stated how it was not settled. He stated how the mayor and the chief were scheming together. President Hawk stated to Mr. Burns that they were not going to allow those types of accusations against the mayor or the chief. He stated how the mayor and the chief work together and the mayor was in charge of the police force; so the mayor was going to be in contact and communications with the police/police chief and it was expected. President Hawk stated to Mr. Burns that they had indicated that they would review the ordinance. He stated that the Public Safety Committee had review the ordinance and they do not feel that there was any need to make changes to the Burning Ordinance. President Hawk stated that not all ordinances were favored by people in the Borough; some agreed with them and others did not. He stated how the ordinance was the ordinance and that was the way it was going to stand and if he felt that he needed to take additional actions, it was his prerogative.

Councilman Sabol asked Mr. Burns why his neighbors were not coming to the meeting with him. Mr. Burns stated how he had talked to them, but none of them would attend the meeting because they were scared of that guy. Councilman Sabol stated how his complaint would hold more credence if there were others standing with him telling Council how that guy was the problem. He stated to Mr. Burns that he should talk to his neighbors.

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Michael Malaska – 112 W. Diaz Avenue – asked if anyone knew where the stench in town was coming from. President Hawk stated how it was also in Jim Thorpe and Lehigh, not just in Nesquehoning. He stated how he had contacted Lehigh Anthracite and they assured him that it was not from them. Councilman Radocha asked if anyone had checked to see if they were seeding at the Solar Park. Councilman Sabol stated how they were all aware of the odor, but they just did not know where it was coming from. He stated how his first thought was the medical processing places. Councilman Sabol stated how he had also called the Railroad to see if they were spraying anything along the railroad tracks. President Hawk stated how they were also in touch with Emergency Management, Mark Nalesnik.

Cory Dzienis – 240 W. Railroad Street – stated that he wanted to see if there were any updates on the Large Vehicle Ordinance. President Hawk stated that to his knowledge, there were no updates on the ordinance. Mayor Kitchko stated about the Kovatch's lot and how it was primarily for the St. Luke's Medical Center on W. Railroad Street. He stated how the police had received some complaints about the parking during the little league game the other night. Mr. Dzienis stated how he had driven around several days after work and he had noticed over a dozen trucks and trailers sitting on the Borough streets. He stated how he had received a knock on his door telling him how they were going to be enforcing the ordinance, but he has noticed that others have not moved their large vehicles. Mr. Dzienis stated that it needed to be enforced for more than just the 200 block of W. Railroad Street.

Councilwoman Fox asked Mayor Kitchko if they were ticketing Large Vehicles all over town. Mayor Kitchko stated how they were when they were able to. He stated to Mr. Dzienis that if he would give him a list, they would check into them. Councilwoman Fox stated how the ordinance was made to be enforced all over town, not just for certain people, because of parking situations throughout the town. She stated that if one person was being ticketed, they should all be ticketed. Mr. Dzienis stated how there were numerous trucks, trailers, boat trailers, campers, etc. sitting on the streets all over town. He stated how he has seen them and if they were allowed to be parked on the streets, then he should be allowed to park on the streets. Mr. Dzienis asked if there was a time limit for how long they were allowed to be parked. Councilman Paul and Councilwoman Fox stated "yes". Mayor Kitchko stated how it was in the ordinance. Councilman Sabol asked Mr. Dzienis what kind of business he uses his truck for. Mr. Dzienis stated "construction". Councilman Sabol stated how he would not want to look at a trailer in front of his house every day. He asked Mr. Dzienis if he had checked into parking his trailer in a storage yard. Mr. Dzienis stated how he had called Nesquehoning Storage, but he would not be able to access it every day. Councilman Sabol stated how the ordinance was the ordinance and if they did not have the ordinance, they would have 50 trailers parked all over town.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

No report.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Greg Haas – Carbon Engineering – PA Solar Park – Lehigh Engineering parking request

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- Profanity prominently displayed on main street
- Amendment to Handicapped Parking Ordinance

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- **Adopt - Non-Uniform Pension Plan – Amendment Ordinance**

**Councilwoman Poremba moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to adopt the PMRS Plan Agreement Ordinance.**

Councilwoman Poremba asked if there was going to be an increased cost to the Borough if they would adopt the ordinance. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how it would not change anything for the Borough cost. She stated how they have been doing it for years through a Resolution, but now it would be an Ordinance.

**All voted yes. Motion passed.**

- **Approve - 2020 CDBG Cooperation Agreement – Carbon County/Borough of Nesquehoning**  
**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Poremba seconded to approve the 2020 CDBG Cooperation Agreement with Carbon County. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

- **Approve Deed – Paper Road (Almond St – E. Railroad to High Street)**  
**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilman Radocha seconded to approve the deed for the paper street (Almond Street between E. Railroad Street and E. High Street). All voted yes. Motion passed.**

- Denise Garcia – Interest in Purchase of Borough Empty Lot on East Columbus
- **Agreement of Sale/Deed – 121 E. Columbus Avenue**

**Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to approve the agreement of sale for \$8,000.00 and deed for 121 E. Columbus Avenue. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

Solicitor Yurchak stated about the appeal hearing for Mr. and Mrs. Susko for the property located at 5 E. Railroad Street. He stated how they would have to vote to approve the appeal or deny the appeal. President Hawk stated that if they deny the appeal, it would leave the suspension intact for the 6 months.

**Councilman Paul moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to deny Mr. & Mrs. Susko's appeal on the suspension of the rental license for 5 E. Railroad Street for 6 months.**

Councilwoman Poremba stated that in her opinion it was not a reflection on the Landlord. She stated how it was a reflection on the Council members, because they had adopted an ordinance that they feel was fair. Councilwoman Poremba stated how it was up to the Landlord to go through the rental agreement and understand their obligation. She stated how they need to hold every Landlord accountable to that ordinance.

**All voted yes. Motion passed.**

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Poremba seconded to accept Planning Commission Report, Engineer's Report and Solicitor's Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

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**JIM THORPE NEIGHBORHOOD BANK TREASURER'S REPORT**

**GENERAL FUND**

Balance 03.31.21	8,924.43
Receipts	109,041.17
Expenditures	76,312.76
Balance 04.30.21	41,652.84

**SANITATION FUND**

Balance 03.31.21	195,678.45
Receipts	99,126.47
Sewer	16,555.93
Expenditures	24,011.36
Balance 04.30.21	254,237.63

**SPORTS COMPLEX FUND**

Balance 03.31.21	58,838.85
Receipts	169.09
Expenditures	46.14
Balance 04.30.21	58,961.80

**COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

Balance 03.31.21	7,968.46
Receipts	0.65
Expenditure	0.00
Balance 04.30.21	7,969.11

**\*ROAD CONSTRUCTION**

Balance 03.31.21	15,311.78
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 04.30.21	15,311.78

**FIRE TRUCK FUND**

Balance 03.31.21	161,559.07
Receipts	881.35
Expenditures	3,885.50
Balance 04.30.21	158,554.92

**SEWER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE**

Balance 03.31.21	393,501.47
Receipts	71,003.70
Expenditures	49,689.94
Balance 04.30.21	414,815.23

**HIGHWAY FUND**

Balance 03.31.21	218,594.46
Receipt	17.97
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 04.30.21	218,612.43

**POLICE PENSION FUND**

Balance 03.31.21	2,496,923.16
Receipt	2,718.91
Expenditures	-11,633.36
Appreciation/Depreciation	-84,933.02
Balance 04.30.21	2,572,941.73

**\*NESQUEHONING LION CLUB**

Balance 03.31.21	10,632.68
Receipts	0.87
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 04.30.21	10,633.55

**HOME FUND**

Balance 03.31.21	23,566.46
Receipts	241.96
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 04.30.21	23,810.55

**GENERAL SEWER CONT FUND**

Balance 03.31.21	132,650.81
Receipts	150,023.23
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 04.30.21	282,674.04

**\*SOLAR PARK ESCROW ACCOUNT**

Balance 11.30.20	10,047.77
Receipts	2.42
Expenditures	0.00
Balance 02.28.21	10,050.19

**\*Savings Accounts Statements are on a Quarterly basis**

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**CD REPORT**

<b>FUND</b>	<b>CURRENT VALUE 04.30.2021</b>	<b>INTEREST 04.30.21</b>	<b>OPENING DATE</b>	<b>CURRENT RATE</b>	<b>RENEWAL DATE</b>	<b>BANK</b>
GEN. SEWER	\$416,548.67	\$ 212.16	08-28-17	0.60%	08-26-23	JTNB
SANITATION	\$ 22,743.60	\$ 10.28	06-29-17	0.55%	06-28-23	JTNB
CAPITAL PROJ	\$ 11,147.66	\$ 5.04	06-29-17	0.55%	06-28-23	JTNB
FIRE TRUCK	\$ 10,891.39	\$ 4.92	06-29-17	0.55%	06-28-23	JTNB
SEWER	\$355,972.32	\$ 423.74	02-14-20	1.45%	02-14-22	JTNB
SEWER	\$508,531.87	\$ 605.34	02-14-20	1.45%	02-14-22	JTNB

**Councilwoman Poremba moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report and the CD Report. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:**

**April 2021**

Real Estate	\$ 209,718.65
Occupational	\$ 4,057.20
Per Capita	\$ 4,282.40
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>218,068.25</b>

**EXEMPTIONS:** Heather Conklin - \$55.00 - Non-Resident

**APPLICATIONS:** Robert T. Lilly – Part-time police officer  
Allen B. Strohl – Part-time police officer

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. 04.26.21 PSAB Virtual Conference 2021
2. 04.26.21 PennDOT Moving Forward Winter 2020
3. 04.26.21 PennDOT LTAP – Technical Sheet #203 Winter 2020
4. 04.26.21 PSAB – APPI Energy
5. 04.30.21 PSMA – Mayor of The Year Committee
6. 05.07.21 ETA Insurance Group
7. 05.10.21 Nesquehoning Borough Water Authority – 2020 Annual Drinking Water Report
8. 05.12.21 Bradco Supply – Road Equipment & Supplies

**Councilwoman Poremba moved and Councilman Jacobs seconded to accept the Tax Collector's Report with the exemption and the application and to approve all communications and place them on file. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

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

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Poremba seconded to deposit all receipts, approve all bills to be ratified and pay all other bills. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. PUBLIC SAFETY:**

**ROSEMARY POREMBO, CHAIRWOMAN; LOUIS PAUL, CO-CHAIRMAN;  
DAVID HAWK**

- Fire Department Summary Report – April 2021

Councilwoman Poremba stated that there were 5 calls for the month of April 2021, which included Smoke investigation (1); AFA (1); EMS Assist (1); Wires Down (1) and Search (1). She stated how there were a total of 29 calls for the year.

Councilwoman Poremba stated how the Public Safety Committee needed to hold a meeting in June to discuss the Detective Position, staffing and the winter snow parking ordinance. Councilman Jacobs stated about extending the probationary period for the Detective Position, because it was ending on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Councilwoman Poremba moved and Councilman Jacobs seconded to extend the Detective Position probationary period until July 1, 2021. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

**❖ MAYOR'S REPORT/  
COG REPORT**

- Approval to post No-parking signs for Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> (St. Patrick Cemetery & VFW) from 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilman Radocha seconded to approve the posting of the no-parking signs for Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

- Resignation Letter – Kundan Dave

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to accept the resignation of Kundan Dave. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

**Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Jacobs seconded to obtain background checks on the two applications submitted for part-time police officers. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

- Minutes – April 2021 COG Meeting

Mayor Kitchko stated how the street sweeper was the topic of discussion at the meeting the other night. He stated how they had voted to allow the Borough one additional day at no charge. Mayor Kitchko stated about the flat tire on the street sweeper. President Hawk stated how they would pick a day when they would need it.

Mayor Kitchko stated that their guest speaker was Bill Gross from Fair Districts, which was an organization against Gerrymandering of the Legislators. He stated how there were two Bills going through the House and the Senate.

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Mayor Kitchko stated how the auction was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and would be held in the parking lot across from the Courthouse. He stated how the rain date was Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

President Hawk asked if they were anywhere closer with the transfers of the hand guns. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how Chief Smith was supposed to be getting her the serial numbers, but she had not received anything yet. Mayor Kitchko stated how he would talk to the chief. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that she believed that everyone was qualified with the new hand guns.

### ❖ POLICE REPORT

- Sebelin & Sebelin – 58 E Mill Street, Notice of violation

Solicitor Yurchak stated how he had talked to Attorney Sebelin and explained the efforts that the Borough has made to cooperate and accommodate the gentleman.

- April 2021 Police Report

(A copy was placed in the communications folder)

Mayor Kitchko stated that there was a total of \$3,955.39 fine money received for April 2021, which included 36 citations issued (22 traffic and 14 non-traffic-code), 365 total incidents reported and 1,754 miles driven or on patrol.

### ❖ CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

- May 5, 2021 Nesquehoning Police Civil Service meeting minutes

Mr. McArdle stated how they would like to have the Borough advertise in the paper and also through social media for full-time police officers. He stated about allowing 45 days to accept applications.

**Councilwoman Poremba moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to advertise for full-time police officers to populate the Borough's eligibility list under the recommendations of the Civil Service Commission with an application fee of \$25.00. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

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

- Gene Kennedy - Zoning Report April 2021

### ❖ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Mr. McArdle stated about the odor in town and how he and Mark Nalesnik had made their rounds, but they were not able to determine where it was coming from. President Hawk stated how he would check with the Solar Park in the morning. Mr. McArdle stated how it was throughout the town.

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Fox seconded to accept the Public Safety Committee Report, which includes the Mayor/COG Report, Police Report, Civil Service Report, Housing & Code Report and Emergency Management Report. All voted yes. Motion passed**

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**2. STREETS**

**MICHAEL RADOCHA, CHAIRMAN; LOUIS PAUL, CO-CHAIRMAN;  
FRANK JACOBS**

Councilman Radocha stated how they have finished sweeping the streets. He stated about them cutting grass and needing a new push lawn mower and week whacker. Councilman Radocha stated how the F550 needed some work, which was going to cost them a little more than what they were quoted. Councilman Radocha stated about Cemetery Road. Councilman Jacobs stated how they could not find any proof that the Borough took possession of that road. Solicitor Yurchak stated how that was part of the original highway (Route 209), but then it was vacated by the state. He stated how he would check into it.

Councilman Radocha stated how he had addressed Mr. Deganich's issue. President Hawk asked if they had looked at the sink hole down at paradise. Councilman Radocha stated how he had asked the Borough crew to take a look at it. Councilman Jacobs stated about getting the two trucks listed on Municibid. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they had to get them started so she could get pictures.

Councilman Jacobs stated how they had to get Willow Lane included in the No-Parking Ordinance. Councilman Sabol asked why they were looking to have the no parking on both sides of Willow Lane. Councilman Jacobs stated how it was much better with no parking on both sides. Councilman Radocha stated how there was not really many spots to actually park on Willow Lane to begin with. President Hawk stated how he did not think that there were any spaces on the south side of Willow Lane, because it was all garages. Councilman Radocha stated about the no-parking at K-jays. Councilman Sabol asked why they had a depressed curb for the entire parking lot. Councilman Radocha and Councilman Jacobs stated how that was the way it had always been. Councilman Sabol stated how they had people parking where they should not be parking and asked if it was going to be enforced.

Councilman Sabol stated how there were a few spots to park on the north side of Willow Lane. Councilman Paul stated how they had received some complaints about the residents not being able to back out of their garages when someone was parked on the north side of the street across from their garage. Councilman Sabol stated how they should allow minimal parking on the north side of the street. He stated how Elk Lighting should not have recessed curb for their entire parking lot. President Hawk stated that since the roadway has been re-done, he had a hard time believing that people were not able to back out of their garages. Councilman Paul stated how they should go down and take a look at Willow Lane. He stated how they had talked about it at the Workshop/Committee Meeting and did not want to keep discussing it again at that meeting. Councilman Jacobs stated how people were not allowed to park in front of a recessed curb whether it was painted or not. President Hawk stated how the police could be a little lenient when it came to parking on Willow Lane in front of Elk Lighting, which was an unused building.

Mayor Kitchko stated that if they were going to table it and take a look at it, one thing . . . Councilman Paul stated "I don't, I'm washing my hands of it". Councilman Sabol stated "you wash your hands Lou, good job, you wash your hands". Councilman Paul stated how he did not vote; he had gone along with the rest of Council on it. He stated how he did not make an opinion on it. Councilman Sabol stated "stand on your own two feet, shine your own light, wash your hands Caesar". Councilman Paul stated "come to the Workshop, we discussed it there; now they have a big discussion over it.



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Councilman Paul stated to Councilman Sabol how he was not at the workshop when they discussed it/thrashed it out and now they have to thrash it out again. Councilman Sabol stated “pardon me for missing a meeting. He stated to Councilman Paul how he had missed two in a row himself, pal. Councilman Paul stated “no I didn’t, I only missed one”. Councilman Sabol stated “F\*\*\* you, put that in the paper too, Amy”. He stated how he was sick of all of the bullshit around there. Mayor Kitchko stated that his comment would be . . . Councilman Paul stated “yeah, yeah, you are always right”. Councilman Sabol stated “what, what was that Louis”. President Hawk banged the gavel and stated how Mayor Kitchko was trying to speak. Councilman Paul stated “I’m not talking to you”. Mayor Kitchko stated about allowing parking on Willow Lane during snow removal, since they do not have much parking when they were trying to remove snow. He stated how the police would probably not issue any parking tickets in front of Elk Lighting, even if it was posted for no parking. Councilwoman Fox stated how Elk Lighting might be a good spot for the large vehicles to park. Mayor Kitchko stated how that might be a good street to allow parking when cleaning snow off of Rhume Street and Coal Street.

- **Curb Cut – Jennifer Brown – 359 W. Catawissa Street**

President Hawk stated how the property owner has to be the applicant for the curb cut. Councilwoman Poremba stated how she wanted 48” for the the curb cut for a walk-way to her gate for the back of her house. Councilman Jacobs stated how they have never issued a curb cut for a walk-way.

**Councilwoman Poremba moved and Councilman Jacobs seconded to deny the request for the curb cut at 359 W. Catawissa Street.**

Councilman Paul stated “I’m going; I’m not putting up with him”. Councilman Sabol stated “don’t put up with it, go home you pussy”. Councilwoman Fox stated to President Hawk that he needed to do something. Councilman Paul stated “screw you”. Councilman Sabol stated “yeah, come on”. President Hawk stated to Councilman Sabol to calm down. Councilman Sabol stated “. . . got on Council . . . [inaudible]”.

**All voted yes. Motion passed.**

Councilman Sabol stated how they had 4 – 5 weed whackers at the Borough garage. He asked if they were all junk. Councilman Sabol stated how he had one of them, because he lost his in the creek. He asked if they wanted it back, because no-one uses the damn things. Councilman Sabol asked about the daily work reports for the streets. He asked if the Personnel Committee had a meeting to discuss what they wanted from them in their hourly reports. Councilman Sabol stated that they did not want to see that they just cut grass, but where they cut grass. Councilman Jacobs stated how they had a meeting, but they did not talk about the work sheets. Councilman Sabol asked if any of them knew what the Borough crew did all month. He asked who else was on Streets. Councilman Sabol stated how it was Councilman Paul and he left, because he was a . . . He stated that if Councilman Paul can leave then he can leave too. Councilman Sabol stated “this was a joke already”.

President Hawk asked if they had received anything in writing about handing in their time sheets. Councilman Sabol stated how he wanted them written up. He stated how there was supposed to be a mandate. Councilman Sabol stated how the Personnel Committee was supposed to have a meeting last month about the time sheets. He asked if anyone knew what the Borough crew did for a month.

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Councilman Sabol then in an enraged state blew up, which included name calling and verbal abuse directed at all of Council and the press in front of the public audience before leaving the meeting.

**\*\*Councilman Sabol stated “I wanted to make a motion last month and no motion was needed. Yes it is, because if there was no motion needed, nothing gets done about it. Because, their excuse was that there was no action taken and an action means making a motion. But I was told that they don’t need a motion. God-dammit, how long am I on Council RoniSue and nothing has changed. I was in the hospital for half a day because my back was screwed up and I’m not saying that it was from working for the Borough, but it’s part of it. I go down there and donate tons of hours. Put that in your Times News too. F\*\*\*\*\* phony, this whole god-damn place is a phony, piece of shit. F\*\*\* yous all, put that down too. You all talk a good game, politics. F\*\*\*\*\* Lou is more worried about the Sweeney family, because Andy was f\*\*\*\*\* married to a Sweeney. And, god-forbid, lets hand out all of the millings to Sweeney . . .”\*\***

Councilwoman Fox stated about making sure he left. Councilman Radocha stated how it had to stop. Councilwoman Porembo asked if they should take a recess. Councilman Jacobs apologized to the audience. Councilman Radocha stated how he understood where he was coming from, but there was no reason to carry on, curse or blow up. Councilwoman Fox stated how it was inappropriate behavior. She stated how she would bring it up on how she has been trying to get all of the Council Members to sign the Borough’s handbook, which tells them how to properly conduct themselves in public.

### **3. SEWER MARY FOX, CHAIRWOMAN; FRANK JACOBS, CO- CHAIRMAN; MICHAEL RADOCHA**

- **April 2021 Sewer/Sanitation Adjustment Report**

**Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Jacobs seconded to approve the April 2021 Sewer/Sanitation adjustment report. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

- **Bob Pilla – Request to purchase old riding lawn mower**

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilman Radocha seconded to approve the request by Mr. Pilla to purchase the old riding mower from the sewer plant for \$200.00. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

Councilwoman Fox stated how Eastern Environmental was supposed to be at the plant on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> to start sandblasting the bottom of Unit #2. She stated that the coating was a Sherman Williams product. Councilman Radocha stated how they should be giving them a time limit. Councilman Jacobs stated about giving them 30 days to get it completed. Councilwoman Fox stated how they had to give them notice because Mr. Pilla would have to empty the tank. She stated that according to Mike Tirpak, the product they were using was moisture resistant.

### **4. BUILDINGS GEORGE SABOLIII, CHAIRMAN; MICHAEL RADOCHA; CO- CHAIRMAN; FRANK JACOBS**

No report.

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**5. SANITATION**      **LOUIS PAUL, CHAIRMAN; ROSEMARY POREMBO, CO-CHAIRWOMAN; MARY FOX**

• **Tamaqua Transfer & Recycling Inc. – April 2021 Tonnage Report**

Councilwoman Porembo stated how they had a productive meeting with Larry Wittig and that they had come to terms on four points. She stated how they did provide him with full payment for the recycling, which they held the last few months. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they should get the monthly tonnage reports for the recycling. She stated that they will be given a courtesy of where the monthly recyclables were being taken. Councilwoman Porembo stated how they were going to monitor the tonnage of the recyclables until the end of the year. She stated how they were also going to look at their contract to see where they were with tonnage for the year; how much garbage they were producing at the current rate and if it would go beyond that and what their increased cost would be.

Councilwoman Porembo stated how they wanted to make sure that the recycling services the Borough was paying for were the recycling services that they were receiving. She stated about the recycling going to a recycling center and not being included in the garbage. Solicitor Yurchak stated how Mr. Wittig was adamant that there was no co-mingling. He stated how the trucks that collect the recycling dump at his location and they can track the tonnage as it comes into the facility. He stated how they were not able to track it as it goes out, because it goes out in larger loads.

• **Complaint – Allen Street**

President Hawk stated how they had received a complaint about the garbage and recycling from a woman on Allen Street. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how the main complaint from the woman was about the rudeness of the garbage men. She stated how the woman did complain that her recycling was not picked up for several weeks, but they determined that she was confused on the pick-up dates. President Hawk stated about making sure that she had the correct information/schedule for the garbage and the recycling.

**6. RECREATION**      **GEORGE SABOL III, CHAIRMAN; MARY FOX, CO-CHAIRWOMAN; DAVID HAWK**

Councilwoman Fox stated how the Recreation Commission's meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. She stated how they were going to discuss a community yard sale and possibly rent table/spots at the Recreation Center.

**7. BUDGET/ FINANCE**      **ROSEMARY POREMBO, CHAIRWOMAN; FRANK JACOBS CO-CHAIRMAN; DAVID HAWK**

• **Summit Hill Borough Ordinance No. 03-2019 – Approving Tax Collection Procedures**

Councilwoman Porembo stated how she had talked to the Secretary from Summit Hill and received a copy of their ordinance for Portnoff collecting their delinquent taxes. She stated how Ms. Steber had very positive results with Portnoff. Councilwoman Porembo stated that within a few months, Summit Hill had collected half of their delinquent taxes. She stated how Ms. Steber Also told her that it was an easy transfer, because a lot of the work was done by Portnoff. Councilwoman Porembo stated about setting up a Budget/Finance Committee meeting with Kevin Borax from Portnoff to discuss everything with them.

## MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

Councilwoman Porembo stated how she had talked to Secretary/Treasurer Ahner and she has been using her personal vehicle for code work. She stated how she was requesting some kind of reimbursement for her gas. Councilwoman Porembo stated about allowing Secretary/Treasurer Ahner to use a Borough vehicle during the week when performing code work.

Councilman Jacobs stated about a police vehicle. Councilman Radocha asked Secretary/Treasurer Ahner what she would prefer. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how it did not make a difference. She stated how she was originally looking for \$20 - \$25 a month for her gas.

**Councilwoman Fox moved and Councilman Radocha seconded to pay Secretary/Treasurer Ahner \$25.00 a month, because of using her personal vehicle for code work. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

### **8. PERSONNEL/ SAFETY MARY FOX, CHAIRWOMAN; ROSEMARY POREMBO; CO-CHAIRWOMAN; FRANK JACOBS**

Councilwoman Fox stated about the handbooks and how all of the Council Members were supposed to sign that they had received them as well. She stated how it was in the handbook how they were supposed to conduct themselves in public, because they were also employees of the Borough.

- **Quote – Life & STD/LTD Insurances**

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Porembo seconded to switch insurance carriers to One America for their Life Insurance and STD/LTD insurance. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

President Hawk stated how they would be holding a brief Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss contract negotiations.

**Councilman Jacobs moved and Councilwoman Porembo seconded to accept all the Committee Reports. All voted yes. Motion passed.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Kitchko asked if they were going to continue the mandate wearing masks for the Borough meetings. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they had the same question with opening the Borough office on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilwoman Fox asked if the office workers had an issue with wearing or not wearing the masks. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated that from her understanding, it did not matter either way. Solicitor Yurchak stated how they were still requiring them at the courthouse. Mr. McArdle stated that since they had the barrier and people would still keep their distance, he would not see a problem. Secretary/Treasurer Ahner stated how they were going to try to stay to one person in the office at a time. Councilwoman Fox stated how people have gotten used to just dropping it into the drop box. Mr. McArdle did not see an issue with mandating wearing the masks for the meeting. President Hawk stated about posting the front door. Susan Bamford asked if they had to allow public access to the bathroom. Solicitor Yurchak stated that they did not have to allow the public to use the bathroom. President Hawk stated how it would also be the employees' decision to either wear a mask or not.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., Borough Office

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Borough Council Members entered into an Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. for possible litigation. The Council Members exited their Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilman Radocha moved and Councilman Jacobs seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**

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RoniSue Ahner  
Secretary/Treasurer