

**BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

December 7, 2011

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Council President Linda Turner opened the meeting at 7:00 pm, welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted there will be no hurtful or hateful speech allowed.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (American Flag)

Council President Turner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed.

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Present at the meeting were Council members Linda Turner, Mayor Charles Minnick, Robert Resinger, Larry Baughman, Howard Barger and Bogan Goughler. Also present was Chief Carlson, Dick Phillips and Solicitor Brian Spaid. Harold Bloomgren, Penny Peterson and Officer Deeter were not present.

V. DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDA

VI. COUNCIL CHANGES TO AGENDA

VII. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. John Dumbleton reported the Planning Commission did not meet.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

A. Engineer

1. No report

B. Maintenance Foreman:

1. Dick Phillips presented Council with a written report on the various jobs the Maintenance Department has been working on since the previous Council meeting.

2. Mr. Phillips stated they have received numerous calls on the grinder pumps in the 417 – area that have needed to be replaced. The company that manufactured the grinder pumps has been replacing them since there is a factory fault with the pumps. The back hoe has been repaired and is back in service.

3. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman and Bogan Goughler to approve Dick Phillips and Bill Martin to attend the PA Rural Water Annual Conference, March 27 – 30, 2012, at the Penn State Conference Center & Hotel, at a cost of \$240/person, hotel reimbursement, and wages. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Police Chief:

1. Chief Carlson reported the speed limit signs for Cherrytree & Keely Road have been put up and officers did not observe speeding on the days they patrolled out there. Chief also stated there will be night qualification on December 16, 2011. Crossing Guard Jeff Larson has resigned since he has obtained new employment.

2. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler to approve the hiring of Phil Close and Laura Fregon as substitute/temporary crossing guards. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Administrator/Special Projects:

1. Mr. Sporer reported there have been seventeen (17) laterals replaced, six (6) laterals to be replaced and two (2) laterals to be televised as of December 05, 2011.

2. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler to advertise and reschedule the regular January 4, 2012 Council Meeting to follow the Reorganization Meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2011, at 7:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler to advertise Ordinance No. 270 of 2011, which fixes expenditures for Fiscal Year 2012 at \$2,895,733.00 and the Real Estate Tax Rate for year 2012 at 5.0 mills and a tax rate of 0.55 cents on each front foot assessment for street lights in Rocky Grove and Reno. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Zoning Officer:

1. No report

F. CDBG Administrator:

1. No report

G. Solicitor:

1. Mr. Spaid stated he has prepared the resolution for the police pension stating the police department will contribute five percent (5%) to their pension, beginning January 1, 2012 and it will be ready for the next Council meeting. Mr. Spaid also stated he does not believe the Borough will be able to pass a Megan's Law Ordinance, but he is still researching.

IX. COUNCIL REPORT

- A. Robert Resinger questioned if there is a business which has begun the inspection process with Bureau Veritas (Borough's former inspectors), can they switch and use the Borough's new inspectors: CCI & Mike Grill? Chief Carlson stated he believes they cannot switch inspectors in mid – project, unless there is a lack of service, availability, etc. Chief also stated the business should contact himself or Mr. Sporer and they will contact Bureau Veritas. Mr. Spaid agreed. Mr. Resinger also thanked Dick Phillips and the Maintenance Department for coming out on a weekend to fix his grinder pump.

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (*limited to 3 minutes each*)

- A. Anthony Sloss expressed concerns over the lack of police coverage on the weekends. He stated he understands it is a budgetary issue and how can raises be handed out and hours be cut? Mr. Sporer stated it is not a budgetary issue; there are 204 hours budgeted and they are not being scheduled. Mayor Minnick stated it is not budgetary but another matter that will have to be discussed in executive session. Mr. Spaid stated if it is not a budgetary issue, but a personnel issue, it cannot be discussed in the public meeting. Mr. Sloss stated Franklin Police Department could not respond to a dog complaint over the weekend due to jurisdiction.
- B. Mike Garbacz thanked Mr. Sporer for placing the budget on the Borough's website. Mr. Garbacz questioned if the Borough receives any revenue from having the sewage treatment plant in Franklin? Mr. Sporer stated the Borough received revenues for sewage services and then have to pay Franklin a percentage towards the Borough's portion of the treatment plant. Mr. Garbacz also expressed concern over the Fire Departments' funding being cut. He stated it is getting difficult to maintain the fire departments and they need help. He also questioned if anything has been done with the old K – Mart building and the lot on Rt. 8 near Sheetz and the Parole building. Mr. Spaid stated the Borough must ensure there is fire protection provided by the Borough. He also recommended that the Council plan to meet with the Reno and Rocky Grove Fire Departments sometime next year.
- C. John Dumbleton asked Mr. Phillips if the fire hydrants in the 417 – area have been flushed? Mr. Phillips stated they are in the process of doing that and so far they are functioning correctly. Ms. Turner questioned if the Maintenance Department must notify the fire department? Mr. Phillips stated with just checking whether they function or not, they do not have to be notified. Mr. Dumbleton also stated there is a strong odor from someone burning off of Rocky Grove Avenue. Mayor Minnick stated it may be the gentleman that processes deer and deer hides.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion by Bogan Goughler, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2011 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- XIV. Motion by Bogan Goughler, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to approve the payment of bills/issuance of checks as presented by the Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

XV. CORRESPONDENCE

XVI. BOARD OF APPEALS

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council recessed at 7:35 pm for an executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege of information or confidentiality protected by the law and any action to follow. The meeting was reconvened at 8:12 pm.

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

Linda Turner, Council President