

**BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

November 3, 2021

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (American Flag)

Council President McClelland 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 Larry Baughman, John McClelland, Bogan Goughler, Matthew Carlson and James Speth. Mayor Charles McDaniel was absent. Also, present were Borough Solicitor Brian Spaid, Chief Bob Wenner and Maintenance Foreman, Doug Freer.

V. DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDA

VI. COUNCIL CHANGES TO AGENDA

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (limited to 3 minutes each)

A. Alan Heller wanted to thank Mr. Sporer on doing a good job with the budget and for Council for not raising taxes.

VIII. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning Commission
1. No report.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Maintenance Foreman:

1. Doug Freer wanted to inform Council that the new 2021 Ford 550 was setting out for Council to look at.

B. Police Chief:

1. Chief Wenner said the ad is in the paper for the full – time officer position and will take applications until Nov. 19, 2021. He has also sent it to the Police Academy at Mercyhurst University. Mr. Baughman asked if there have been any applicants yet. Chief said they have received a few so far.

C. Administrator/Special Projects:

1. Mr. Sporer presented Council with a letter from residents on McLaughlin Lane thanking them for approving the work that was done on Keely Road. Mr. Sporer also gave Council the new proposed layout for the Front Street Playground. The playground will have two (2) separate areas for different age groups; one area will be for 2 – 5 yrs. olds and another for 5 – 12 yrs. olds. There will also be a bike rack installed and a musical instrument area. Mr. Sporer also said he anticipates hearing something back soon from PNC Bank in regards to the grant the Borough applied for, for the playground. Mr. Goughler stated the Reno Playground has been used constantly since it was redone last year. Mr. Baughman asked if the memorial fence will stay up. Mr. Sporer said it will remain there. There will be memorial benches installed as well. Mr. Speth asked if there was still a Playground Committee and if so, are they or should they be involved. Mr. Sporer said when he first came to the Borough, there was a Playground Committee and they had not completed the memorial fence and eventually disbursed. When they did, the committee brought the plaques for the memorial fence over to the Borough. Mr. Goughler said Reno does have a Playground Committee, consisting of volunteers from the community. Mr. McClelland said a committee may want to form after the renovations are completed. Mr. Carlson requested that Mr. Sporer make the newspaper aware of the planned upgrades.

a. Motion by James Speth, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to approve the proposed upgrade to the Front Street Playground, as presented by the Borough Manager. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Motion by Bogan Goughler, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to approve and advertise the 2022 Council meetings to be held at 7:00 PM on the 1st Wednesday of each month and Planning Commission meetings to be held at 6:00 PM on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. The Reorganization Meeting will be held on Monday, January 3, 2022, at 6:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Motion by Matthew Carlson, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to approve and advertise the proposed 2022 Budget and that it is available for public inspection and to advertise Ordinance No. 296 of 2021, which fixes expenditures for Fiscal Year 2022 at \$3,339,175.00 with a tax rate of 6.0 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.
- d. Motion by James Speth, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler to approve the advertisement of Ordinance No. 297 of 2021, which amends the sewer service charges for the Village of Sugarcreek set forth in Ordinance No. 249 of 2006. A roll call was taken. Mr. Goughler, Mr. Speth, Mr. Baughman and Mr. McClelland voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Carlson opposed the motion. Motion carried.
- e. Motion by Bogan Goughler, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to approve the advertisement of Ordinance No. 298 of 2021, which amends the sewer service charges for the Village of Rocky Grove set forth in Ordinance No. 259 of 2009. A roll call was taken. Mr. Speth, Mr. Goughler, Mr. Baughman and Mr. McClelland voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Carlson opposed the motion. Motion carried.

D. Zoning Officer:

- 1. Mr. Sporer said there has been a large number of permits coming in to the Borough for the year, especially new houses.

E. Solicitor:

- 1. No report.

X. COUNCIL REPORT

- A. James Speth asked what the status was on the property located at 191 St. Rt. 427. Mr. Sporer said the new owner has taken possession of the property. Mr. Sporer stated the new owner may want to rehab the house and not demolish it. Mr. Sporer told him a plan must be submitted to Council, prior to any such work being done.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2021 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Motion by James Speth, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman 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 7:20 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 8:09 pm.

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS CON'T.

- 1. Motion by Matthew Carlson, being duly seconded by James Speth to send notification to the City of Franklin regarding the recommended appointee to the General Authority Board. Motion carried unanimously.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

- 1. Council President John McClelland declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

John McClelland, Council President