

BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 6, 2017

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Council President Bogan Goughler 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 Goughler 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 Bogan Goughler, John McClelland, Larry Baughman, Robert Resinger, Howard Barger and Mayor Jeffrey MacKenzie. Also present were Chief Carlson and Borough Solicitor Brian Spaid.

V. DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDA

VI. COUNCIL CHANGES TO AGENDA

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

A. No Public Participation

VIII. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

1. No report.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Maintenance Foreman:

1. No report.

B. Police Chief:

1. Chief Carlson presented Council with a written report. Chief reported that Officer Johnson was the department's representative for the State Police's Shop – With – A – Hero program. Chief also presented Council with a letter the department received from Community Services of Venango County thanking the department for the Fill – A - Car donation event. Chief stated he was able to look at a concern brought to him in regards to the parking sign at Elm Street and Fox Street, which causes issues with seeing opposing traffic while at the stop sign. He recommended having the “no parking from here to corner” sign moved back near the edge of the property at 111 Elm Street. He will address the ordinance at a later date, after he has time to evaluate the ordinance and address any other sign issues. Brian Spaid suggested once Chief is ready to amend the ordinance, Chief is to give him how many feet the sign is being moved. Drayer Electric will be making the repairs to the damaged pedestrian pole at the Giant Eagle/K – Mart entrance on Rt. 8. Larry Baughman asked Chief Carlson to look at the parking at the intersection of Gilfillan Street and Fox Street, when he is reviewing the parking sign ordinance.

2. Motion by John McClelland, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to move the “no parking from here to corner” sign 192’ from the corner/intersection at Elm Street and Fox Street, as recommended by Police Chief. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Administrator/Special Projects:

1. Mr. Sporer updated Council on the Borough's MMO for the Police Pension Fund for 2018. The Borough's MMO will be \$30,650.00. Mr. Sporer also presented Council with PA Legislative Act 42 of 2017, which would allow the Borough to opt – out of allowing mini – casinos within the Borough. The Borough has the option to opt – out by the end of the year. Mr. Sporer also presented Council with a request from Katie Rial, Tax Collector, to appoint a Deputy Tax Collector as required by the State. Mr. Sporer also updated Council on the County Liquid

Fuels application that was submitted in October. The Borough requested \$50,000 to help aid in the paving of Palmer Avenue, in 2018. The application was granted for the above listed amount.

2. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to approve Resolution No. 7 of 2017, which states the Sugarcreek Borough Police Department will contribute five percent (5%) to their pension fund, beginning January 1, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.
 3. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by John McClelland to approve the advertisement of Ordinance No. 288 of 2017, which fixes expenditures for Fiscal Year 2018 at \$3,129,459 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.
 4. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to appoint Bonnie K. Sharrar as Deputy Tax Collector. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Zoning Officer:
1. No report.
- E. Solicitor:
1. Mr. Spaid updated Council on proposed Ordinance No. 287, V.F.D. tax credit and the changes suggested following the public hearing. Changes included allowing the members of the Ladies' Auxiliary to be eligible for the tax credit and having the credit available beginning in 2019. Mr. Spaid said he was asked what is to be done in the event that both owners/spouses are volunteers and eligible for the tax credit. Mr. Spaid said he researched this topic and both owners/spouses would be eligible for the twenty percent (20%) tax credit each. Mr. Spaid wanted to commend Council for taking action on such a proposed ordinance, even with some negative feedback from members of the departments. He said there are approximately 2,500 municipalities in the Commonwealth and of those, only about 65 municipalities have considered adopting or have adopted such an ordinance.

X. COUNCIL REPORT

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by John McClelland to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2017 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Robert Resinger 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

- A. Constable Craig Westover informed Council that he was recently appointed by Gov. Wolf and confirmed by the State Senate to serve on the Constable Training Board in Harrisburg for a three – year term. This is beneficial to the Borough because the Borough now has a constable at the State – level to address any questions or concerns. Mr. Westover said the State is currently training approximately 1,300 constables.

XVI. BOARD OF APPEALS

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council recessed at 7:17 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. Mayor Jeffrey MacKenzie left after Council recessed for Executive Session and did not rejoin Council following Executive Session. The meeting was reconvened at 7:37 pm.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

Bogan Goughler, Council President