

BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 3, 2021

*NOTE: Council Meeting was held in the Borough Building Garage to accommodate with recommended COVID – 19 precautions.

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, James Speth, Matt Carlson and Mayor Charles McDaniel. Also present were Borough Solicitor Brian Spaid and Chief Bob Wenner.

V. DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDA

VI. COUNCIL CHANGES TO AGENDA

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

A. Charles Barrickman expressed concerns about garbage and junk in the yard at 208 Lamberton Street. Mr. Sporer said he will pass the concern on to Larry Moyer.

VIII. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

1. Mr. Sporer reported the Planning Commission met to discuss a new home going in on Keely Road and the subdivision required.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Maintenance Foreman:

1. Mr. Sporer said Paul Geer and Don McCool retired on Friday, Jan. 29, 2021 and Doug Freer and Leroy Foster started in their new positions on Monday Feb. 1, 2021.

B. Police Chief:

1. Chief Wenner wanted to thank Doug and Leroy and the rest of the Maintenance Department for the job they have been doing so far. Chief said all the officers will be available once again and he will have his shifts and hours covered. Mr. Speth questioned if the Police Department had enough and adequate vehicles in his fleet. Chief said all the cruisers have been updated and are working out very well.

C. Administrator/Special Projects

1. Mr. Sporer said he has been receiving the applications and lists from the fire departments in regards to the Act 172 tax credit. He said the lists are similar to the previous year, with the exception of possibly one (1) new member for R.G.V.F.D. Mr. Sporer said he will notify Council once all the applications are back and ready to be verified. He anticipates having the checks issued around May. Mr. Sporer also said he has received the request from Reno V.F.D. for their \$25,000 yearly allotment. They plan to use it to pay towards the loan on the firehall. The Borough also reimburses the fire departments \$2,000/each towards their vehicle insurance and the Borough has received Reno's receipt for it. Mr. Baughman asked if the fire departments change their mind on what they originally wanted to use the \$25,000 yearly allotment for, would they be able to. Mr. Sporer said they are, but they must notify the Borough and supply receipts for what the money was spent on. Mr. Speth questioned if the Borough knew how long the loan was for on the Reno V.F.D. firehall. Mr. Sporer said he does not have any of that information.

- A. Motion by Bogan Goughler, being seconded by Larry Baughman to approve the payments of the \$25,000 yearly allotment for 2021 and the \$2,000 reimbursement for vehicle insurance to the Reno V.F.D. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Zoning Officer:
 - 1. Mr. Sporer stated Mr. Moyer is beginning to get questions and things going for this Spring. He also said Mr. Moyer should have 2020 Zoning totals for Council by next month's meeting.
- E. Solicitor:
 - 1. No report.

X. COUNCIL REPORT

- A. Mr. Baughman wanted to commend the Maintenance Department for a great response during these snowy days.
- B. Mr. Speth asked if anyone has heard the status of the R.G.V.F.D.'s Firemen's Fair this summer. Mr. Baughman said it is currently undecided.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion by James Speth, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler 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 7:11 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 8:10 pm.

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS CON'T.

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Matthew Carlson to approve Police Officer Matthew Johnson for full – time status, effective the day after the signing of the Arbitration Award with the Police Department. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Matthew Carlson to approve the increase of Police Chief Bob Wenner's salary to \$62,500, which equals over a 4% increase, effective January 1, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Motion by Matthew Carlson, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

John McClelland, Council President