

**BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

April 5, 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, Howard Barger, John McClelland, Robert Resinger, Larry Baughman and Mayor Jeffrey MacKenzie. Also present were Borough Solicitor Brian Spaid and Chief Carlson.

V. DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDA

VI. COUNCIL CHANGES TO AGENDA

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

A. Council Member John McClelland and Mayor Jeffrey MacKenzie presented Community Services of Venango County with Resolution No. 4 of 2017, which recognizes Community Services for their 50 years of service to the Community. Mary Jeanne Gavin and Joyce Wetjen accepted on behalf of Community Services of Venango County.

VIII. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning Commission
1. No report.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Maintenance Foreman:
1. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to advertise for bids on road maintenance materials and equipment, including but not limited to antiskid, aggregates and pipe. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Police Chief:
1. Chief Carlson presented Council with a written report. Chief said he has received a request from the Fatherhood Initiative to hold the Annual Soapbox Derby on Saturday, July 22, 2017, 6:00 AM – 3:00 PM and for use of Rt. 417. Chief also stated he received a letter from Michael and Joyce Hughes, Trustees for the EV and JL Peters Charitable Trust stating the Police Department would be receiving \$29,298.00; \$20,000.00 to go towards the purchase of a new police cruise and \$9,298.00 for the purchase of night vision equipment. Chief said he would want to replace the Chevy Impala and the Ford Explorer once the K – 9 was out of service. Mayor MacKenzie said he spoke with Lt. Ashbaugh and the expected service life of the K – 9 dog is currently months; the K – 9 is 12 years old. Mayor Mackenzie also said the veterinarian suggested the K – 9 should be retired due to the limitations and overall health. Chief Carlson said the K – 9 is limited in what he can and cannot do; he is currently used for tracking and drug detection. Chief suggested not replacing the K – 9 since several other departments and agencies have K – 9 units. Chief also stated once this vehicle is purchased, the department will not need another vehicle for several years. Mr. Sporer recommended not purchasing a vehicle until the K – 9 is out of service, not replaced and there is something presented to the Council, in writing, from the Police Bargaining Unit stating such. Chief stated this vehicle would not be used as a K – 9 Unit.
2. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by John McClelland to approve the request by The Fatherhood Initiative to hold the Soap Box Derby along Rt.

417, on Saturday, July 22, 2017, from 6:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion by John McClelland, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to authorize the Chief of Police to solicit bids for the purchase of a new police cruise. No vote was taken.

- a. John McClelland stated the K – 9 would not be riding in the new vehicle. Mr. Resinger said he would not oppose the purchase of a new vehicle, but not until the K – 9 is taken out of service. Mr. McClelland said he would amend his vote to state such. Mr. Sporer said the department would still have the same number of vehicles. Chief said the Impala would be removed immediately and the Explorer once the dog is retired. Mr. Baughman suggested speaking with Lt. Ashbaugh and get a concrete estimation/date of service after the K – 9 goes for his annual check – up in May and table the motion for purchase until then. Mayor Mackenzie said he did not believe the K – 9 was an issue and does not affect the purchase of a new vehicle. Mr. Baughman stated if the motion is tabled, the money is not going away; the Borough will still have it. Mr. McClelland stated the Police have a job to do and the K – 9 is irrelevant to the conversation; it is an animal. Mr. Baughman stated it is disrespectful to believe the K – 9 is irrelevant to the conversation and stating in a motion that it cannot ride in a cruiser; the K – 9 is an officer. Mayor MacKenzie stated K – 9 vehicles have to be outfitted with special fans for the protection of the K – 9.

4. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Robert Resinger to table the motion to authorize the Chief of Police to solicit bids for the purchase of a new police cruiser. A roll call was taken. Mr. Barger, Mr. Goughler, Mr. Resinger and Mr. Baughman voted in favor of the motion. Mr. McClelland opposed the motion. Motion carried.

- a. Mr. Baughman told Chief Carlson his personal vote is not in opposition to the purchase of a new vehicle; but he cannot speak for the other Council Members who also voted to table the motion. Chief stated he does not understand Mr. Baughman's reasoning behind his motion and would like to speak with him one – on – one.

5. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by John McClelland to authorize Chief Carlson to solicit bids for the purchase of night vision equipment; using \$9,298.00 from the EV and JL Peters Charitable Trust funds given to the Police Department. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Chief Carlson also informed Council of a new computer system that the local judges are requesting the local police departments install in their cruisers. The department would need to install laptops, printers and scanners in the cruisers in order to issue citations and tickets and then that information is then sent directly to the judges' offices. Chief stated the department could get scanners at no cost. This system, TREK, is currently being used by the State Police and Emlenton Borough. He stated he will keep Council informed as the information comes in.

C. Administrator/Special Projects:

1. Mr. Sporer reminded Council and the public of the Spring Clean – Up Day on Saturday, April 22, 2017, from 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM.
2. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to appoint Richard Winkler, Esq., as special counsel to the UCC Board of Appeals at the hourly rate of \$165.00. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Zoning Officer:

1. No report.

E. CDBG Administrator:

1. No report.

F. Solicitor:

1. Mr. Spaid updated Council on the status of updating the ordinances and resolutions relating to the Pension funds and their administrators.

X. COUNCIL REPORT

- A. Mayor MacKenzie wanted to commend the Maintenance Department on cleaning the streets and sweeping up the antiskid.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Motion by Robert Resinger, 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

- A. Mr. Goughler stated the Council held a public hearing in regards to the contract negotiations for the Borough's cable franchise agreement. The hearing was held at 6:30 PM, prior to the Council meeting.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

XV. CORRESPONDENCE

XVI. BOARD OF APPEALS

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council recessed at 7:26 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 7:48 pm.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by John McClelland to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

Bogan Goughler, Council President