

**BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

June 2, 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, 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. Dan Marvin, Reno V.F.D., wanted to inform the Public and Council about the 1st Annual Car Cruise to be held on Sunday, July 11, 2021, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM. It will be a fundraiser for the fire department. He was also requesting to have the section of Oak Street between 6th and 7th Street closed at 9:00 AM, until about 7:00 PM or so. Mr. Carlson questioned if the fire department has the barricades. Mr. Marvin said they would supply everything. Mr. McClelland asked if this would coincide with their monthly dinner. Mr. Marvin stated that they typically do not have a dinner in July and go up to the Rocky Grove Fireman's Fair instead. He said Reno V.F.D. will not be participating in the fair this year, due to manpower reasons but wanted to still do something. Mr. Baughman asked Chief Wenner if he sees any issues with the road closure. Chief said he does not anticipate any issues, but would like to go over the details with the fire department. Mayor McDaniel asked Chief if he would want to schedule an officer for that day for a presence. Chief said he could schedule someone for then. Mr. Marvin said there will be an in – service fire truck and ambulance in the event of an emergency.

1. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded Matt Carlson to approve the road closure request by the Reno V.F.D. for Sunday, July 11, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning Commission

1. No report.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Maintenance Foreman:

1. Mr. Sporer said the Maintenance Department is on their second week of chipping roads.

B. Police Chief:

1. Chief Wenner said himself and Officer Johnson will be attending trainings on the enactments on Police Reform and additional training on June 14 – 18, 2021, at Mercyhurst University. He said they will drive back and forth each day. Chief also said Officers Johnson and Wilson will be attending a class on medical marijuana and traffic stops, in State College, PA. He said the department has been encountering more drug DUI's and not just marijuana – related.

C. Administrator/Special Projects:

1. Mr. Sporer wanted to make the Public and Council aware of the upcoming CDBG Public Meeting, to be held on July 7, 2021, at 6:00 PM, in Council Chambers. He said the Borough is still limited on what the Borough's CDBG funds can be spent on; the Borough has been using the funds for housing rehab.

2. Mr. Sporer stated he has been receiving complaints and he has taken notice as well of the condition of the Rocky Grove Playground. He said he has applied for the same grant through the Samuel Justus Charitable Trust, at PNC Bank as the one used to rehab the Reno Playground. Mr. Sporer encouraged Council to go and look at the Reno Playground. He said he has also spoken with the same company, Snyder Recreation, that supplies and installs the equipment. He will meet with them to go over the playground layout, price estimate, etc. Mr. Sporer requested that Council begin to think about and consider writing letters to the numerous local organizations requesting donations for the playground. He believes it should cost around \$150,000 and the Borough may have to pay around \$75,000 of that. Mr. Sporer said he has looked at the requirements of the COVID – 19 Relief funds that are being sent to local governments and it appears this project will not be eligible. Mr. Carlson said the local Moose Club is good about giving to local organizations/causes. Mr. Speth asked if there is a need for public participation or a Playground Committee. Mr. Sporer said there has been talk about another playground committee or volunteers, but no follow through. He said Reno was very fortunate and had residents take the lead on the renovations. Mr. Baughman asked if there was a way the Maintenance Department could chain or somehow hold the garbage cans down. Mr. Sporer said they have been trying to come up with different ways to run a chain through the bottom and not just put a chain around the can and a pole.
 3. Mr. Sporer presented Council with a request from the Grace United Methodist Church on Front Street, to have a street light installed on the electrical pole located right off of Front Street and by their driveway. The church has contacted Penelec and Penelec advised the church that the Borough must make the request. He said there is no cost to install the light, but there is a monthly maintenance fee for the light. Mr. Sporer said he would recommend the Borough approve their request. Mr. Spaid said the church is not required to make a monthly or annual donation to cover costs associated with the light.
 - a. Motion by Matt Carlson, being duly seconded by Bogan Goughler to approve the request by Grace United Methodist Church to install a street light at the entrance end of their driveway. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Zoning Officer:
1. Mr. Sporer said Mr. Moyer has been sending out letters for high grass complaints and so far, those residents have been complying.
- E. Solicitor:
1. No report.

X. COUNCIL REPORT

- A. Mr. McClelland said if things continue to trend as they have been with the COVID – 19 guidelines, the Council meetings will go back to their pre – COVID format in July.
- B. Mayor McDaniel said he has been getting good reports from residents about the Police and Maintenance Departments.
- C. Mr. Speth asked about the status of the pillars at the entrance to the Mount Zion Cemetery. Mr. Sporer said he is still waiting on the contractor. Mr. Speth said he has seen Mr. Moyer out and about more lately. Mr. Sporer said he has been busy and there are more permits coming in.
- D. Mr. Baughman said there was a post on social media about the intersection of Front Street and Rt. 8. The post was about a metal post at the intersection and if a driver cuts the turn, they would be in danger of hitting it. Mr. Baughman asked if this would be a PennDOT issues. Mr. Carlson said PennDOT advised the Borough they would take it out years ago. Mr. Sporer said there are also issues with location of Penelec’s substation and the right – of – way.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by James Speth to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2021 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Motion by Bogan Goughler, 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 7:21 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 7:35 pm.

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS CON'T.

A. Motion by Matt Carlson, being duly seconded by James Speth to approve the second bid on the property located at 191 State Route 427 from Daryl Dziekciasz, in the amount of \$18,001.00, to be paid within 60 days of June 7, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

A. Council President John McClelland declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

John McClelland, Council President