

BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 16, 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, Larry Baughman and Mayor Jeffrey MacKenzie. Council Member Robert Resinger was excused. 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. Dick and Elsa Gregory expressed concerns over a neighboring property at 117 Red Bridge Lane. Ms. Gregory said the property is in deplorable conditions, animals were removed by the Humane Society and the odor coming from the property is very strong. They also said the current condition of this house is bringing down the value of their property. Ms. Gregory presented Council with photos of the property and residence. Mr. Sporer asked Ms. Gregory if anyone has complained or brought this matter to anyone's attention at the Borough. Dennis Baker, renter of the Gregory property, said he had reported it previously to Bill Walker about two years ago. Mr. Sporer said there is a new Zoning Officer and he will notify him of the concerns.

VIII. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning Commission
1. No report.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Maintenance Foreman:
1. Mr. Goughler wanted to thank the tree cutting and trimming service for the work they are doing along Shaffer Run Road.

B. Police Chief:
1. Chief Carlson presented Council with written report. Chief also said the new cruiser was delivered on July 27, 2017. He also stated Aggressive Driving is still on – going. Chief updated Council on the status of the new school zone lights along Rt. 417/Rocky Grove Avenue. He said he received an extension letter from Bruce and Merrilees saying the project will be delayed approximately two weeks due to delays in receiving materials/supplies. The new anticipated completion date is now September 15, 2017. Chief said the electric is no longer connected to the old lights and therefore, officers will be in the school zone until the lights are operational. Chief also updated Council on the 2006 Yamaha Motorcycle that was out for bid. The highest bid was \$2,260.00. Chief said he has been in contact with the high bidder. Mr. Spaid questioned if “No Parking” signs are available for the new ordinance involving the amendment of parking along Front Street. Chief Carlson said Mr. Sporer will notify the Maintenance Department and new signs will be installed.

2. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to award the high bid of \$2,260.00 for the 2006 Yamaha motorcycle to Isam Nabat of Louisiana, paid in cash and picked up by August 31, 2017 at 3:00 PM or bid will be rejected and awarded to next highest bidder. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to adopt Ordinance No. 286 of 2017, which amends Section Five of Ordinances No. 143 and 151, making both the North and South sides of Front Street “no parking” for the entire length. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Administrator/Special Projects:
 1. Mr. Sporer updated Council on a letter the Borough received from the Franklin Public Library requesting a donation from the Borough.
 2. Motion by John McClelland, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to approve a donation in the amount of \$500.00 be made to the Franklin Public Library on behalf of Sugarcreek Borough. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Zoning Officer:
 1. No report.
- E. CDBG Administrator:
 1. No report.
- F. Solicitor:
 1. Mr. Spaid said he received a request from the Police Union to establish a Pension Review Board. Mr. Spaid said the Board would not be able to make any decisions in regards to the Police Pension, but act as an oversight board. The Police Union presented recommendations for members of the Review Board; Borough citizen Ray Swacha, retired Sugarcreek Borough Police Officer Frank Heller, current Borough Police Officer Lt. Darin Baker, Chief Administrative Officer for Pensions Joseph Sporer and a current Council Member. Mr. Spaid stated he can draft an ordinance establishing the Pension Review Board, but as he told Officer Highfield, the Council selects appointees on the Review Board. He recommends Council discuss the Review Board and who they would recommend to appoint. Mr. Spaid also said Mr. Baughman was able to gather information in regards to Act 172, the Tax Credit for Volunteer Firemen. He said he will meet with Mr. Sporer on September 19, 2017 to discuss this and it will be open to Council and the fire departments. Mr. Baughman recommended Mr. Spaid and Mr. Sporer meet and discuss and then bring the recommendation to Council.

X. COUNCIL REPORT

- A. Howard Barger said the end of Sugarcreek Drive at Rt. 322 needs to be mowed again. Mr. Sporer said he will notify the Maintenance Department.
- B. John McClelland said he was approach by the County and there are grant opportunities available to fund the installation the Rt. 8 sidewalk. He said the County would like to have himself, Mr. Baughman and Mr. Sporer meet with the Commissioners before the next Council meeting. Mr. Goughler said he is not in favor of the sidewalk, especially if it is at the expense of the Borough taxpayers. Mr. McClelland said this next meeting would be to gather additional information and he will notify them of the date and time of the meeting.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by John McClelland to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2017 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Motion by Howard Barger, being duly seconded by John McClelland 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

No Executive Session was held.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Motion by John McClelland, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

Bogan Goughler, Council President