

**BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

August 4, 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, Matt Carlson and Mayor Charles McDaniel. Council member James Speth was excused. 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. 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 Wenner requested the Borough issue a \$300.00 annual donation to the Venango County Coon and Fox Club for the use of the facility during qualifications by the Police Department.

a. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by John McClelland to approve the \$300.00 annual donation to the Venango County Coon and Fox Club. A roll call was taken. Mr. Goughler abstained, Mr. Carlson opposed the motion and Mr. McClelland and Mr. Baughman voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

C. Administrator/Special Projects:

1. Mr. Sporer updated Council on the status of the repairs for Keely Road between Rt. 417 and Cherrytree Road. He said there have been multiple vendors look at the road and they have all recommended laying a flexible base down. The base is still in good condition. Mr. Sporer said the repairs have to be done this year and funds are available. He does not anticipate the project costing over \$100,000. The Borough is accepting bids for the work and will need to schedule a Special Meeting on Aug. 17, 2021, at 10:00 AM to open and award the bids so work can begin as soon as possible before the weather begins to change.

a. Motion by Bogan Goughler, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to schedule and hold a Special Council Meeting on Tues., Aug. 17, 2021, at 10:00 AM, in Council Chambers. The purpose of the meeting is to open and award the bid for the Keely Road project. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Mr. Sporer stated the Borough had received the first installment of the COVID – 19 Relief Funds, in the amount of \$256,648.91. The funds can be used for playgrounds, parks, water and sewer. Equipment may not be purchased with it. Mr. Sporer said the money must be spent by the end of 2022. He believes the Borough will receive the same amount for the second installment in 2022 and also have two (2) years to spend that money.

3. Mr. Sporer wanted to remind the public of the Borough's sewer lateral ordinance. He said there has been a number of properties selling and/or transferring that the laterals are not being inspected and/or repaired.
4. Mr. Sporer also wanted to remind the public of the Borough's burning ordinance. There has been a number of burning complaints within the Villages of Reno, Rocky Grove and Sugarcreek. Burning is permitted on Tues., Thurs. and Sat. from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM, with the exception for the months of April, May, September and October when burning may be done everyday from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM. Mr. Baughman asked Mr. Sporer to read from the ordinance which department is responsible for the enforcement of the ordinance. According to the ordinance, the Borough's Zoning Officer and Police Department are responsible for the enforcement. The ordinance also goes on to say that burning shall cease at the order of the Borough Zoning Officer, Borough Police Department, Rocky Grove V.F.D. Fire Chief, and Reno V.F.D. Fire Chief. Chief Wenner said he has worked previously with the local fire department in regards to burning complaints and issues. Mr. Baughman questioned if this ordinance applied to businesses within the areas listed in the ordinance. Mr. Sporer said it applies to all who are within the restricted areas listed in the ordinance.

D. Zoning Officer:

1. Mr. Sporer presented Council with a request from the Zoning Officer to fill a vacancy on the Borough Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Moyer has recommended the Council approve Dave Urey to fill the vacancy.
  - a. Motion by Matthew Carlson, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to approve the appointment of Dave Urey to the Borough Zoning Hearing Board. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Solicitor:

1. Mr. Spaid wanted to discuss an issue that he has dealt with for the City of Franklin and has heard it brought up previously in the Borough. He said there has been issues with firework complaints. Mr. Spaid said the Borough cannot pass a law restricting fireworks. The only area the Borough could restrict is when "display fireworks" are set off by professional pyrotechnics. Mr. Spaid emphasized to the City of Franklin Council that if the Police Department is called and a complaint is filed, those making the complaint must be prepared to follow through with the complaint, which may include having to go to court. He also said he does not see any restrictions coming on "residential fireworks" at the State level based on the tax revenue that such fireworks generate for the State. Mr. Carlson said that the Police do not typically see the people setting off fireworks and people will then need to go to court.

**X. COUNCIL REPORT**

- A. Mr. McClelland wanted to compliment Caleb Moyer on the painting that he has done around the building this summer. He is very pleased with the work that was done.

**XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, being duly seconded by Matthew Carlson to approve the minutes of the July 7, 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**

No Executive Session was held.

**XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Council President John McClelland declared the meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

John McClelland, Council President