

BOROUGH OF SUGARCREEK COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 4, 2013

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 hateful 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 in honor of William McDaniel, Borough Tax Collector who passed away August 23, 2013.

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Present at the meeting were Council members Bogan Goughler, Robert Resinger, Larry Baughman, Howard Barger, John McClelland and Mayor Charles Minnick. Also present were Chief Carlson, Bill Walker and Solicitor Brian Spaid. Dick Phillips and Barbara Manski were not present.

V. DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDA

VI. COUNCIL CHANGES TO AGENDA

VII. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. 1. No report.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

A. Maintenance Foreman:

1. Mr. Sporer stated the Maintenance Department has completed the paving on James Street and Weaver Street and there remains work to be done on Palmer Avenue. Mr. Sporer said the Borough has been receiving questions on when Fox Street could be paved. Mr. Sporer explained that there is CDBG money available and the project will have to wait until next year due to the paving season coming to an end.

B. Police Chief:

1. Mr. Sporer stated he has received numerous calls and letters from residents of Second Avenue expressing their concerns and opposition of making Second Avenue a one – way street, as proposed by PennDot. Mr. Baughman suggested that PennDot should look at changing or adjusting the intersection at the bottom of Second Avenue and Thirteenth Street. Mr. Sporer stated Chief Carlson will be in contact with PennDot.
2. Motion by John McClelland, being duly seconded by Larry Baughman to have Second Avenue remain a two – way street. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Administrator/Special Projects:

1. Mr. Sporer updated Council on the process of the new salt shed. Mr. Sporer said the bid was advertised in the paper on Wednesday and will run again on Saturday. Bids are due and to be opened on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 10:00 AM and will be awarded at that evenings Council meeting.
2. Mr. Baughman asked for an update on the recycling bins located outside the Borough building. Mr. Sporer said they are to be picked up within the next week.

D. Zoning Officer:

1. Mr. Walker stated the tree along Rt. 8 that some residents have been complaining about had partially broke off and fell across Rt. 8. He will pass along any updates as they come along. Mr. Walker also said he is continuing to follow up on high grass complaints and condemnations. Mr. Resinger asked if there has been any progress with the recycling plant that wanted to build behind Carter Lumber. Mr. Walker said he has not had any contact with them. Mr. Resinger also questioned the progress of the former Latchaw Plumbing building. Mr. Walker stated the owners have done little work to improve the structure and bring it up to code. Mr. Baughman expressed concern over the scaffoldings in the front of the building.

- E. CDBG Administrator:
 - 1. No report.
- F. Solicitor:
 - 1. Mr. Spaid stated he has reviewed the County Service Provider Agreement in regards to an agreement with the County and the Borough's Stormwater Management review process. He stated the agreement was acceptable and could be passed at the next Council meeting.
 - 2. Mr. Spaid also informed Council on the process Council needs to take to appoint a new tax collector. Mr. Spaid stated someone has to be appointed within thirty (30) days of Mr. McDaniel's death and that person must be a Borough resident of at least one (1) year and a registered voter. Mr. Spaid recommended that the Borough make certain that the appointee be able to be bonded as well. The appointment will be through the end of the year since this is an election year for that position. Mr. Sporer questioned if Mr. McDaniel's daughter, who is also the executor to his estate, could collect taxes. Mr. Spaid stated she may collect the taxes but she does not meet the qualifications to be appointed to the position. Mr. Goughler stated the Borough has received letters of interest.
 - 3. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by John McClelland to accept letters of interest until September 13, 2013 with interviews to be conducted on September 16 and 17, 2013 and times to be determined. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. COUNCIL REPORT

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

- A. Kevin Close stated he appreciated Council accepting the letters of interest and interviewing for the tax collector position and he got several answers from Mr. Spaid's discussion.
- B. Mike Garbacz stated the remaining portion of the tree that fell along Rt. 8 needs to come down before it happens again. Mr. Garbacz questioned why the Borough chose to purchase a Peterbilt truck instead of an International truck. Mr. McClelland said the Peterbilt has an aluminum bed and the slope of the hood makes it easier to see the road. Mr. Garbacz stated he would recommend that the Borough look into purchasing trucks from Federal Surplus companies.
- C. Bob Lewis wanted to thank the Maintenance Department for paving James Street. Mr. Lewis stated Coefield's Corners is a very dangerous intersection with people running the lights. Mr. Lewis also expressed concern over people running stop signs as well. Mr. Lewis also stated there are no crosswalks for students. Mr. Lewis asked if the Maintenance Department could look at the intersection of North Front Street and Fern Avenue because the pavement is broken up.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2013 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Motion by Larry Baughman, 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

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

XV. CORRESPONDENCE

XVI. BOARD OF APPEALS

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council recessed at 7:33 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 8:28 pm.

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS (Con't)

A. Motion by Robert Resinger, being duly seconded by Howard Barger to suspend Patrolman Jarrod Deeter for a total of ten (10) working days; five (5) days for violation of the department's use of cell phone policy and five (5) days for neglect of duties with regard to vehicle maintenance and time of suspension is to commence as determined by Chief of Police. Motion carried unanimously.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Joseph M. Sporer, Borough Manager

Bogan Goughler, Council President