

MINUTES – KOPPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

September 15, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Koppel Fire Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor – Athena Pangikas-Miller - Absent

President – Tom Sobona - Absent

Vice President – Anna Marie Plavecsky

Susan Krawchyk

Rich Serge

Suzanne Broge

Jason Chalupiak

Jeff Dengler

Nathan Morgan – Solicitor

Police - Chief Squicquero

GUESTS PRESENT

Chuck Bevington, Karen Zito, Patty Palamone, Joe Signore, Mike Stabryla, Marlynn Beham, Robert Guthrie

GUEST COMMENTS

- Karen Zito was questioning if there are ordinances for the exterior of homes in town and isn't anyone going around to check on the condition of some of these places. The code enforcer explained that he is just getting started and will eventually ticket the residents who are not taking care of the outside of their homes. However, there is a strict process that needs to be followed. Karen also asked why the police cars need to be running all the time, even when no officer is in the car. It was explained that the computer has to stay charged.

MOTIONS

- A motion was made to approve the August 18th council meeting minutes and September 1st working meeting minutes. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to apply for a grant for a Skid Steer instead of a Street Sweeper. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to restructure the church contract. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to terminate our contract with Richardson Inspection as our zoning officer and to put out an RFP for a new zoning officer. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to amend the agenda. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to make Steve Kusma a full-time police officer at the rate of \$25.00/hour. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to sell the extra porta-potty for \$400. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to sell the Borough fire truck for \$3,500. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to celebrate Halloween on October 31st with a parade from 5:30-6 pm and trick or treating from 6-8 pm. All in favor and all approved.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Did some patrolling this week. Had a lot of complaints about 2nd Ave so hung 16 door tags.
- Discussed a property on 4th Avenue with extremely high grass. Looking into property – details to follow.
- Still working with the solicitor on a particular property.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

- Completed a report sent via email.

POLICE REPORT

- A police report was handed out – 36 calls for the month.
- A new router was installed on police computers.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

- Working with Josh Konecheck from Tenaris as they are putting in a hydrant system in the mill.

SOLICITOR REPORT

- No report

MAYOR'S REPORT

- No report

MAINTENANCE REPORT

- A resident's window was broken while maintenance was cutting grass. The mower threw a stone. The incident was turned into the borough's insurance company.
- Working on filling potholes in town.
- Will start cleaning out basins as soon as grass cutting is under control.
- Discussed changing locks at maintenance building.

ENGINEER REPORT

- No report

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Councilman Dengler looked into Co-Stars as far as buying salt from a supplier. You have to submit a participant agreement on or before registration deadline. That period is now closed.
- Discussed getting a loan for Mount & Ida Streets and the Reservoir. Many options and variables were considered...more details to follow.
- Our code enforcer suggested we may try to reach out to Corp of Engineers to work on the Reservoir. They sometimes do community projects.
- Discussed ways to purchase a new dump truck...details to follow.
- Discussed a different way to style the sales agreement for the church by having the borough pay for the subdivision costs upfront and the church will reimburse that cost to the borough. This is due to the way the taxes are structured.
- PA American water was scheduled to install meter/turn on water for park.
- Discussed getting the large pine tree behind the borough building cut down.

Moved into an Executive Session at 7:49 pm and motion was approved by all not to reconvene.