

MINUTES – KOPPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
October 21, 2025 – 6:00 PM
Koppel Fire Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor – Athena Pangikas-Miller
President – Tom Sobona
Vice President – Jeff Dengler
Anna Marie Plavecsky
Susan Krawchuk
Rich Serge
Suzanne Broge

Joe Budicak – Solicitor

Police - Sergeant Squicquero

GUESTS PRESENT

Dave Plavecsky, Chuck Bevington, Jason Chalupiak, Rob Franconeri, Sammy Crangi, Clayton Pieri, Michael Peters, Bradley Chalupiak, Frank Pisano

GUEST COMMENTS

Frank Pisano commended council on the park. He said it looks beautiful and everything is really nice. He also mentioned a drain that is clogged up but is working with maintenance about it.

MOTIONS

- A motion was made to accept the October 21st Council 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 approve the payment of bills from the Fire Department even though bills were almost \$900 over. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to approve sale of the old street sweeper for \$2800 for scrap. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to approve contacting Richardson Inspection about a commercial business on Arthur Street. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to approve the repair of the steering cylinder on the backhoe (approx. \$1300). All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to recess and go into an executive session. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to return to council meeting from executive session. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to table vote on Police Chief until the November council meeting. Tabled by default.
- A motion was made to table the hiring of the Code Enforcement officer until next working meeting. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to approve the appointment of Jason Chalupiak to the vacant council seat (replacing Brett Plavecsky). Majority in favor.
- A motion was made to table the proposal from Chris Gerber (PSAB legal council). All in favor and all approved.

CODE ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

- No report

POLICE REPORT

- A police report was handed out
- There was an incident where a vendor did not get a solicitation permit from the borough and forced their way of a resident.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

- Nothing to report

SOLICITOR REPORT

- Still working with Richardson Inspection on the 3rd Avenue property.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- No report

MAINTENANCE REPORT

- Would recommend that there be no hunting at the reservoir this year. There is a crew installing poles and lines in the area for the new Mitsubishi plant. They will be there until the end of the year.
- The street sweeper can be sold for scrap at around \$2,800 if council agrees.
- The backhoe needs a front steering cylinder – approximate cost is \$1,300.
- Discussed the past use of another vendor for work on the police cars. Cost is \$130 for an oil change and Maintenance Supervisor Krawchyk can do the same thing for \$35. There was a lot of discussion about working on the police cars and the need for communication between the police department and maintenance.
- Discussed the concern for the warranty on the Durango if our maintenance works on it. It was determined as long as an accurate record of oil changes were kept, the warranty will be fine.
- Took the Ford police car to Koppel Auto for spark plugs, inspection, emissions test and the inspection on the 2014 GMC truck. Cost was \$300....it would have cost much more somewhere else.
- The Ford police car battery needs replaced – approximate cost is \$250.
- Discussed the safety recall on the Ford police car and why maintenance wasn't told about it.

ENGINEER REPORT

- No report

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- The work on Garden Alley is almost complete. They replaced the old pipe with 3 cistern bases and 15" perforated pipe. Columbia Gas was there to make sure digging wasn't near the gas lines. Our Engineer was also there to oversee the project.
- Chuck Bevington sent a template of a job description to council for the code enforcement job. Chuck will require up-to-date training for citation purposes. There are many details to still work out and discuss.
- Councilwoman Krawchyk offered to work on a permanent job description for the code enforcement job.
- There was a discussion about the fire department bills and how some of them are late or not getting to the borough for payment.
- Discussed the possibility of a "No Solicitation" ordinance due to solicitors not getting permits and behaving very aggressive when talking to people, especially the elderly. One resident was forced to give personal information. Our Solicitor said signs can be posted to control it.

- The vote for Police Chief was tabled until the November council meeting because there were only 4 council members and no mayor in attendance. If there happened to be a tie, the mayor breaks the tie.
- Councilwoman Krawchyk sent an online request to Richardson Inspection about 2 properties on Big Beaver Blvd. Will update everyone when Richardson responds.
- Councilman Dengler approached a business on Arthur Street about potential code violations. Richardson Inspection will be contacted.
- Rob Franconeri spoke about why he is interested in the vacant council seat.
- Jason Chalupiak also spoke about his interest in the vacant council seat.

Recess to Executive Session – 7:01 pm

Resume Meeting – 7:45 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 pm