

## Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting of Koppel Borough Council for May 18, 2021

Council Attendance: Barbara Gioffre, Eugene Docchio, Frank Pisano, Sandy Florie, Jeff Dengler, Jim Loomis

Borough Solicitor: Joseph Budicak  
Mayor: Athena Pangikas-Miller

Borough Engineer: Brandon Fombelle

Borough Police Officer:

Also Present: Deborah Brewer, Tim Brewer, Martin Veitz, Chuck Bevington, Carol Shirilla, Jill Richner

Absent:

The meeting opened with a Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance by Barbara Gioffre

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A motion was made to accept the April 20, 2021 Minutes

Motion made by: Eugene Docchio

Motion seconded by: Jeff Dengler

Roll call –

\*\*\*The motion was approved by all present members of council.

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A motion was made to pay the borough General Fund bills

Motion made by: Sandy Florie

Motion seconded by: Jim Loomis

Roll call -

\*\*\*The motion was approved by all present members of council.

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A motion was made to pay the borough Fire Dept bills

Motion made by: Sandy Florie

Motion seconded by: Jim Loomis

Roll call –

\*\*\*The motion was approved by all present members of council.

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A motion was made **to make Justin Warren a full-time officer, without benefits and over-time only after a 40 hour week. A contract will be drawn up for his signature.**

Motion made by: Eugene Docchio

Motion seconded by: Jim Loomis

Roll call –

\*\*\*The motion was approved by all present members of council.

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A motion was made to **approve the Brake Retarder Ordinance and also the advertisement of the ordinance.**

Motion made by: Jim Loomis

Motion seconded by: Eugene Docchio

Roll call –

\*\*\*The motion was approved by all present members of council.

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A motion was made to **accept the resignation of Glenn Marshall, Jr. from his council seat.**

Motion made by: Sandy Florie

Motion seconded by: Frank Pisano

Roll call –

\*\*\*The motion was approved by all present members of council.

## **Presentation by Beaver County District Attorney, David J. Lozier**

David J. Lozier, District Attorney of Beaver County, presented information about increasing security by installing video cameras in various locations in several towns throughout the county. The cameras are located at intersections and capture a digital image of the license plate, identifies the vehicle and is stored in the cloud for use by the police. The intersection of SR 18 and SR 351 is a location that is being suggested for installation. The cost of installation is approximately \$13,000 to \$14,000. The Beaver County drug fund would contribute approximately \$10,000 when signing a 5-year contract. If agreed, the remainder of the cost would be shared by Big Beaver and Koppel. A shared yearly maintenance cost by both boroughs would be \$2,500 per year per police department. In addition, for every license reading camera, the cost of software for two cameras would be \$650 every other year and would be \$1,300 shared. When linked throughout Beaver County and including parts of Lawrence County, the installation of these high-definition cameras gives police instant access to digital files and would aid in crime prevention and the apprehension of perpetrators. Information is obtained by the officer from a smart phone or through the 911 center. An alert can be obtained by the officer within 13 seconds of the license plate going through the system. This information is also admissible in a court of law. A vendor demonstration is available, or can be demonstrated at the Beaver Police Department.

## **Fire Department Report**

The department is trying to continue with a fundraising raffle and plans to have a community event in October. Frank Pisano expressed appreciation and thanked the fire department for the use of the hall for several days for Tenaris Koppel Steel.

## **Engineer Report**

Brandon Fombelle reviewed a plan for the upcoming replacement project for this year on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue by the Pennsylvania American Water Company.

Brandon provided a scope and fee for the subdivision of Koppel Borough parcels.

## **Solicitor Report**

Joe Budicak, Koppel Solicitor, reviewed the Brake Retarder Ordinance. A motion was made to both adopt and advertise it.

A letter is to be sent to PSC Metals requesting that a plan be provided and that they acknowledge there is a problem with the frequency of explosions. These explosions are a public nuisance.

The solicitor will review the letter recently sent to the Beaver Falls School District to ask for a refund for taxes paid on exempted school/church properties and will follow up with a phone call to the school district.

## **Maintenance Report**

The bid for a roof on the salt shed with a metal structure tarp was \$6,000.

Mike Stabryla questioned the removal of a cement slab in the lot next to the rectory and cleaning up the grotto area that is overgrown with poison ivy. He was advised by council to remove the ivy and the cement slab after calling One Call for clearance in digging.

Council voted that Mike Stabryla, Maintenance Supervisor, repair the dump truck. The back of the bed needs to be cut out and a metal slab attached. Since the Borough doesn't have torches, it was suggested that he get information on the cost to rent one for the repair.

The beaver's area at the reservoir has been cleaned up and the area will be worked on through the summer. The memorial park is being made ready with grass cutting, mulch and placement of flags. It was decided that the flags can remain until the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Councilman Jeff Dengler asked about getting the curbs on the corners of each avenue painted. Jeff is willing to do some painting and the paint is on hand at the borough garage. The storage lot equipment has been moved to make room for cold patch, sand, gravel and millings so that the area behind the borough building looks neater in appearance.

### **Mayor's Report**

#### **PA Game Commission**

The Mayor through the Borough will be signing up for the Hunters Access by the PA Game Commission program. The public would be able to use the area for hunting, trapping and fishing and exempt the Borough of liability. The PA Game Commission will police the area. A discussion was had about limiting access by vehicle and allowing people to access on foot. Chuck Bevington, a former game warden, advised the Council of what the game commission could do for the betterment of the area. The commission will be asked to attend the next meeting to explain the program.

#### **Police Department**

Justin Warren, a new police officer for Koppel Borough, was made a full-time officer with no salary increase and no benefits. Overtime will be paid after 40 hours per week. A motion was made and approved by Council.

#### **Potter Baseball**

The Potter Tour with Jeff Potter will be coming to Koppel again this summer. He will also be hosting a Guinness Book of World Records event to be held at the Koppel Ballfield on Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at 7:00 PM. This is a Virtual World Record Playing Catch Event and will be live-streamed across the country. All registration fees benefit Cure Search, a nonprofit dedicated to pediatric cancer research. To sign up go to <http://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showRSVPSignUp/>. Registration: Adults \$10 and Kids \$5. People are welcome to attend even if they have not registered. Music and concessions will be provided.

#### **Memorial Day Service**

A memorial service will be held at 9 A.M. on Monday, May 31, 2021 at the Memorial Park. The fire department will provide and setup chairs for those attending. Electric will be provided by Carol Shirilla. Donuts will be served after the service. If the weather is not cooperative, the event will be moved to the Koppel Fire Department.

#### **Guests**

A question was asked if quads could ride on the Reservoir. Council does not permit quad riding on the reservoir property. A gate at the entrance of the property is locked to prevent vehicles from entering.

#### **Rectory**

Health Licensed Personnel has requested a lease revision at the rectory property. Council decided that the current lease should remain and tabled the discussion for a later date.

#### **Church/School and Rectory**

Bids were received to subdivide the properties and was tabled until further discussion and investigation.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.