

Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting of Koppel Borough Council for September 15, 2020

Council Attendance: Eugene Docchio, Glenn Marshall Jr., Frank Pisano, Barbara Gioffre, Sandy Florie
Athena Pangikas-Miller, Michael Sabino

Borough Solicitor: Joseph Budicak
Mayor: Tom Vannoy

Borough Engineer

Borough Police Officers: Hans Spencer & Donald Lusby

Also Present: Carol Shirilla, Ken Orrico, Tracy Ierino, Jeffrey Dengler

Absent:

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

A motion was made to **accept the August 18, 2020 Minutes**

Motion made by: Athena Pangikas-Miller

Motion seconded by: Sandy Florie

Roll call –

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

A motion was made to **pay the borough General Fund bills.**

Motion made by: Glenn Marshall, Jr.

Motion seconded by: Athena Pangikas-Miller

Roll call -

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

A motion was made to **pay the borough Fire Dept bills.**

Motion made by: Sandy Florie

Motion seconded by: Michael Sabino

Roll call –

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

A motion was made to **appoint Tony Clerici to serve as an Alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board**

Motion made by: Glenn Marshall, Jr.

Motion seconded by: Sandy Florie

Roll call –

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

A motion was made to **approve the purchase of Washout Block for the Salt Storage for \$2,300**

Motion made by: Glenn Marshall, Jr.

Motion seconded by: Eugene Docchio

Roll call –

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

A motion was made to **purchase a new computer and Quick Books software. It was approved for \$2,000.**

Motion made by: Frank Pisano

Motion seconded by: Sandy Florie

Roll call –

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

Police Report

Koppel Police Officers expressed an interest in community involvement and have spoken with residents to get their input of what they would like to see happen in the borough. A report was provided showing the needs of the department and a discussion then ensued by the council, police and guests. The cost is a concern and how the items suggested would be paid for as the current budget does not support the purchase. It was suggested that grants should be applied for and possibly some fundraisers. The regionalization of the police department was also discussed and the possibility of contracting with other communities to provide them with police protection. Mayor Tom Vannoy agreed to research these possibilities but pointed out that it would mean more wear and tear on the police vehicles and would also reduce the time police were in the borough.

Police Office Don Lusby expressed an interest in being the community outreach person. He has been talking to many residents and presented a proposal of many suggested activities that residents would like to see take place in the future.

Engineers Report

Brandon Fombelle was not present for the meeting but his report was submitted and described the 1st Avenue storm water runoff issues. He is also overseeing the PA American Water sewer and water replacement on 3rd Avenue from Arthur to Richard Street and on Richard Street from Cedar Alley to 2nd Avenue. Work is also being done on the Mount Street entrance from 5th Avenue to 6th Avenue and the road surface is being replaced with cement by Mahoning Builders.

Solicitors Report

There was no activity to report.

Zoning Report

Owen Pella has continued to monitor the McGuire Home on 2nd Avenue and its progress. Owen has scheduled inspections and provided occupancy permits for three properties, those being 3701 3rd, 4415 4th, and 3517 3rd. He has started to process non-compliance for 6603 6th Avenue again.

Maintenance Report

Ken Orrico reported on the work done to board up the church/school. Jesse and Ken are painting at the rectory and cleaning up after Brayman Construction has moved out. They are also constructing a building with washout block for salt storage behind the borough building.

Due to the damage done on the church it decided to increase the insurance coverage on the concession stand.

Mayor's Report

Charges will be filed against those who did the damage to the church. There is a possibility of hiring several new officers to the Police Department. The Mayor Tom Vannoy thanked Mrs. JoAnn Smith and commented on how nice the memorial of service for 9/11 was. At the memorial, the Mayor spoke briefly and Mike Oravitz said the prayer.

EADS Grant

A resolution was passed for submission of a grant to install sidewalks, storm sewers, and amenities. The resolution was approved for submission of a financial assistance application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority.

Zoning Hearing Board

A resolution to approve Tony Clerici to serve as an alternate hearing board member was passed.

Office Equipment

DCED recommended that payroll be completed thru Quick Books. In order for that to happen, a new computer and new Quick Books software needed to be purchased. A motion was passed for \$2,000 to purchase a new computer and Quick Books at \$1,200 and the payroll cost will be \$954 a year.

Meeting was adjourned.