

**MINUTES KOPPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**September 19, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.**  
**Koppel Fire Hall**

**PRESENT**

Mayor - Athena Pangikas-Miller  
Acting President – Tom Sobona  
Susan Krawchyk  
Anna Marie Plavecsky  
Suzanne Broge  
Jeff Dengler  
Chief Warren  
Officer Erie Squicquero  
Joe Budicak - Solicitor

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Dave Plavecsky, Jim Krawchyk, Nate Regotti, Carol Shirilla, Joann Smith

**MOTIONS**

- A motion was made to accept the minutes from the August 15 and September 5 meetings. 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 bills for the Fire Department. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to have the Basketball Hoop Ordinance finalized by Solicitor Budicak. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to allow the two non-uniform employees to be represented in the union. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to increase the Landlord Rental License Fee. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to allow Mary Jo Sobona to be bonded so that she could assist the current Tax Collector. All in favor and all approved.

**CODE MANAGER REPORT**

- Officer Squicquero said he has started using door hangers for code violations and is having a better response than sending letters.
- Richardson Inspection is in the process of getting permission to get an inside inspection of one of the problem properties. One of the issues is the owner does not pick up the mail.

**POLICE REPORT**

- Residents have reported that there is a suspicious white jeep driving around town. The police have started patrolling during the time of school bus pickups and drop offs.
- The union solicitor will be contacting Solicitor Budicak in order to get the union process started.

**ZONING REPORT**

No Report

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

No Report

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT**

- Officer Squicquero went to the annual training last week. The Emergency Management book that was given to him shows that each town/municipality has their own binder with an emergency plan. There was no plan in the book for Koppel. A lot of work needs to be done and it will take a while to get it updated.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- Will comment under Old and New Business

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- On August 10, Chief Warren was called by dispatch to respond to Jiggy Nardone's home for a cardiac event. Chief Warren had to break in to assist Mr. Nardone. It was touch and go at times, but the Chief was able to save his life. The Nardone family was in attendance and wanted to give thanks to the Chief. The Mayor presented Chief Warren with a "Life Saver" pin. Mr. Nardone spoke and thanked everyone and said he has always been a sports fan but he found some new heroes in the police department and firefighters. Many pictures were taken and the meeting resumed.
- The Mayor and Chief Warren are working on an SOP (standard operating procedure) document about uniform purchases for officers, probationary period, and other issues. However, some of these issues should be taken care of through the union agreement.

## **MAINTENANCE REPORT**

No Report

## **GUESTS**

No questions from the guests

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- Nate Regotti, consultant for Comcast, wanted to attend the meeting to explain that Comcast is expanding their network to Koppel Borough. They will be expanding from Route 18 by the turnpike, to Big Beaver and into Koppel. The residents will have access to phone, security, wi-fi, and internet. If you have Comcast in your home, you will be eligible for mobile service through Xfinity. Federal law requires a cable company to have a franchise agreement with each municipality it services. The municipality may have multiple franchises, which gives the residents a choice. Plans are to start construction by April, 2024 and be completed by the end of 2024. This will all be privately funded by Comcast.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue property has been cited by Richardson Inspection Services as unsafe. However, the owner has not acknowledged the citation yet. The Mayor has called Commissioner Camp many times to discuss help with the demo since this is considered an emergency but the Commissioner has not returned her calls. Penn Dot will not pave the road in front of that building – they feel it is not safe. There were many ideas presented as to what would be the best alternative, but no decision was made.
- Discussions were also had about the demolition of the church. No decision has been reached.
- The Mayor asked council to consider having Trick or Treat Thursday night before Halloween. Many residents prefer this so the Mayor will ask for opinions on Facebook. A decision will be made at the next working meeting on October 3.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:57 PM**