

MINUTES KOPPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 7, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
Koppel Borough Municipal Office

PRESENT

Barbara Gioffre, President
 Athena Pangikas-Miller, Mayor
 Jeffrey Dengler
 Suzanne Broge
 Frank Pisano
 Chuck Bevington
 Joe Budcak, Solicitor
 Owen Pella, Zoning

ABSENT

Tom Sobona
 Carrie Clerici
 Jon Barron, Engineer

GUESTS PRESENT

Anna Marie Plavecsky, Dave Plavecsky, Mike Stabryla, and Tim Brewer

Motions

A motion was made for Eric Squicquero to handle code enforcement for the Borough. An additional \$1 per hour is to be paid as well as holiday pay. All in favor and all approved.

A motion was made to approve Zoning Officer training being offered by PSAB on May 25th at the Doubletree Hilton, in Monroeville. The cost of the training is \$75 and \$150 was approved for travel, food and the training session. All in favor and all approved.

A motion was made to approve webinar training on Blighted Properties presented by Local Government Academy for a fee of \$40. All in favor and all approved.

A motion was made to approve a new contract with Armstrong Utilities for continued franchise cable, television and internet service for the Borough. All in favor and all approved.

Police - Zoning

The duties of Owen Pella, Zoning, were discussed. He will handle rental inspections and delinquent garbage account collection as well as issuing building permits. Officer Eric Squicquero will handle code enforcement and collaborate with Owen when necessary. Questions about Code Enforcement and Zoning education were asked and information given by Owen about how to move forward in obtaining the necessary credentials for property maintenance. Registration for online classes for zoning enforcement is also being made available to council and Officer Squicquero.

The adopted International Building Maintenance Code Ordinance No. 394 in 2015 was discussed and the need to update the ordinance to reflect changes made since then.

The deterioration of the building at 5437 5th was discussed. There are safety issue concerns for the building inhabitants and those walking or driving near the building. The police, zoning and fire officers have contacted the owner and repeated attempts to rectify the problem are being ignored. The owner has been cited. Further attempts will be made to address the issues involved by contacting a neighboring community and the Borough's engineer for assistance in a structural assessment.

Rental inspections in the Borough are to be done yearly. It was decided that once the property passes the inspection and there are no violations an extension to future rental inspections of 2 to 3 years would be given.

A new candidate for a part-time police position was introduced and later interviewed.

Event Planning 2023

Planning for upcoming Koppel Borough events for the 2023 year were discussed.

Easter Egg Hunt – March 25

Community Yard Sale – April 29

Fisher's of Men – July 29 @5:00 pm

Community Day – September 16

Movie in the Park – October (to be announced)