

MINUTES KOPPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 19, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
Koppel Borough Municipal Building

PRESENT

Barbara Gioffre, President
 Tom Sobona, Vice President
 Athena Pangikas-Miller, Mayor
 Eugene Docchio
 Jeffrey Dengler
 Frank Pisano
 Carrie Clerici
 Chuck Bevington
 Joe Budicak, Solicitor

ABSENT

Brandon Fombell, Engineer

GUESTS PRESENT

Timothy C. Brewer, Anna Marie Plavecsky, Carol Shirilla, Joann Smith, Jill Richner (Koppel Fire Dept.), Suzanne Broge, Russell Broge

MOTIONS**Meeting Minutes**

- Approval of minutes of March 15, 2022 meeting. Motion to approve minutes of last meeting. All in favor and all approved.

General Fund

- Approval to pay bills from the General Fund. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

Fire Department

- Approval to pay bills for the Fire Department. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion to permit the Koppel Fire Department to pay \$5,000 to make needed additional repairs to the Koppel Borough Fire Engine. The Fire Department is not asking for Koppel Borough to pay for any of the repairs. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

Maintenance Department

- A motion to allow purchase of road signs, poles and tops for \$563.85. They were damaged from traffic being rerouted during a fatal accident. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion to allow the purchase of 15-ton of cold patch. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion to approve the purchase of piping for water runoff which will be paid for by Ann Muoio. The work will be done by Koppel Maintenance. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

EADS

- A motion to approve EADS engineering fees of \$49,400 with payment coming from the Covid Relief Grant money received by the Borough. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

Municipal Building and Office

- A motion to approve the purchase of 6 tables to be used for meetings at the Municipal meeting room. The total cost is approximately \$600. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

REPORTS

Zoning Report

The house that is in violation of code on 3302 3rd Avenue is an ongoing process. Site inspection with the Humane Society was made March 3rd. A code violation report from inspection was done and delivered to Beaver County. Condemnation to be posted following April 11th deadline for compliance. A discussion by council members and the solicitor on this property was made about the trees lining the street and obstructing the view of drivers and pedestrians. It was asked if the trees can be removed by the Borough. It was advised that they can be removed because of the safety issue involved, but the expense would be responsibility of the Borough.

Delinquent trash notices were mailed to properties by the Code Enforcement officer and is being followed up by hearings for non-compliance.

CodeSys was notified of a property owner having made an opening for the installation of a garage door without a zoning permit and compliance will be pursued.

Total zoning report is made available for view at the Koppel Borough Municipal office.

Police Report

No report was given.

Fire Department Report

Jill Richner reported that the roof on the Fire Department building is in need of repairs and the Koppel Borough fire engine needs additional work for its compliance for certification. A loan was made by the Fire Department to pay for the roof and engine repair. Money needed to make repairs to the Borough owned truck are about \$5,000. Jill asked for permission for the Fire Department to have the work done on the truck and Council approved. The Fire Department had an inspection by the auditor general and the report given was good.

SOUP SALE. The next soup sale is on April 23 and preorders are taken for Broccoli Cheddar, Potato and Wedding soup. A pulled pork dinner will be held June 15th. Cost for the dinner to be announced later.

The mayor offered to make flyers for the Fire Department when they have fund raisers for posting on social media.

Garbage and clippings are being dumped illegally at the Fire Department and at the Borough maintenance site. It is unlawful for any persons living outside the Borough to dump any refuse in the Borough. Those caught will be cited.

Maintenance Report

The need for additional cold patch for repair of potholes was made. A skid of mulch is also needed for the park and other areas in the Borough and will be purchased soon. The piping to repair water running into the basement area of the old section of the Borough building and coming off of the Muoio building is to be paid for by Ann Muoio and the work will be done by Koppel Borough Maintenance. A dye check was made to identify the source of the water. The water runoff needs to be repaired so that the newly installed boiler in that section and the foundation of the building will be protected.

Engineer's Report

SR 0351 Icing Condition

The icing near the bridge is a problem. On January 20, 2022, Tenaris and PennDOT began to look for a resolution. The last correspondence about the issue indicated that the source was not from PA American Water. The water was tested and

did not contain chlorine or phosphates. It remains to be determined what path forward will be taken between PennDOT and the landowner.

PA American Water – Second Avenue

Options are being reviewed to improve the quality of the pavement provided so the road can withstand the traffic. A meeting was set to review the road paving with PAW and the subcontractor.

Break Retarder Signage

The Borough was provided additional information on the location and installation of the signage on April 18, 2022 by PennDOT.

Traffic Light

It was reported that the traffic light at SR 18 and SR 351 is not working properly and traffic is backing up. A call will be made to PennDOT to check the timing device.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

Mayor's Report

There was a discussion regarding the cameras at the traffic light and their ability to monitor activity. Chief Warren has requested a final quote from Motorola for digital radios that will be required by the County. The initial cost reported was \$8,527 and is proposed to be put in place sometime this summer. The County will subsidize 80% of the cost and the Borough would then contribute 20% to purchase. Other brands were mentioned, however, the model purchased must be compatible with the County's system. The County has chosen Motorola and will purchase a large volume at a discounted rate.

Event planning was discussed and volunteers are needed to help with Community Day's Vendor Sale. Potter is coming back on June 22 for Goofy Golf. The fee to participate is \$25 per person. The Potter group will then build a scoreboard for the ballfield.

GUESTS

Anna Marie Plavecsky asked about contacting the owner of PSC Metals to resolve the problem with explosions. A letter will be written to contact the owner requesting a meeting to discuss the issues.

A request was made to repair the road near Damon's Pond.

DISCUSSION

EADS – Stormwater Grant Engineering Fees for Arthur Street

The project would be bid out in the fall and would begin next spring. The cost for engineering is \$49,400 for stormwater on Arthur Street. To start \$27,000 is needed. Money received by the Borough from Covid Relief could be used to pay for the fees. The remaining \$17,000 would be paid in the following year and also paid from the Covid grant. A motion to approve was made.

Armstrong Utilities

After changing phone service from Verizon to Armstrong Utilities (cheaper rate) Armstrong wants to now charge the Borough for internet service. The total cost per month for service would then be \$184 per month for telephone, cable and internet. Internet service has been free from the inception of first entering into a contract between Koppel and Armstrong Cable for the franchise. The current contract is not up until August of this year and Armstrong will be notified that Koppel Borough is not interested in negotiating a contract until the current one is expired. Included in the contract is free internet and cable TV for the Borough and Fire Department.

Municipal Building and Office

It is estimated that 6 tables are needed for the municipal building meeting room. The total cost is approximately \$600. Council motioned and approved the purchase.

MOTION TO ADJOURN - Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.