

MINUTES - KOPPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 17, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
Koppel Borough Municipal Meeting Room

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Athena Pangikas-Miller, Mayor
 Brandon Fombell, Engineer

GUESTS PRESENT

Timothy C. Brewer, Patty Palamone, Carol Shirilla, Joann Smith, Jean Thellman

MOTIONS**Meeting Minutes**

- Approval of minutes from April 19, 2022 meeting. Motion to approve. 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.

Police Department

- A motion to approve the hiring of Zachary Preisel to the Koppel Police Department as a part-time employee. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion to approve \$698.45 to Beaver County for new digital radios for the Police Department. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

Emergency Motion – not at this meeting

- A motion to approve payment to Youngblood Paving of \$49,000 for improving the road base on 2nd and 4th Avenue after milling and repaving which was due to water and sewer line replacement. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

Maintenance Department

- A motion to approve the purchase of 10-ton weight limit signs and posts to be purchased at a cost not to exceed \$1,000. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

Ordinance

- A motion to approve and advertise a 10-ton weight limit on roads and alleys in the Borough of Koppel. Motion to approve. All in favor and all approved.

REPORTS

Zoning Report

Owen Pella Zoning reported the following:

3302 3rd Avenue - violations resulting from inspection of the property and hearing held with the Humane Society on May 3, 2022. The property has been condemned and the owner was notified to vacate. The property was not secured following condemnation.

2304 2nd Avenue - garage door installation without permit by the owner is being referred to CodeSys.

4301 4th Avenue - awaiting HUD demolition following environmental inspection and a re-inspection to be performed to resolve concerns prior to demolition. Use variance request for parking/recreation.

5437 5th Avenue - a letter sent to the owner to address the issue of not applying for an Amusement License from the Borough for the installation of Pennsylvania Skill machines at the premises. The property is zoned as VC (Village Center) and a narrative description of the proposed use is needed from the owner to determine if it is an allowable use. If it is not an allowable use under VC, a use variance from the Borough's Zoning Hearing Board would need to be applied for.

Citations and notices are being drafted for delinquent trash accounts.

The zoning report in its entirety is available for view at the Koppel Borough Municipal office.

Police Report

Chief Justin Warren reported that the upgrade to digital radios will take place soon and radios purchased through Beaver County Public Safety will be made with the County paying 80% and Koppel being responsible for the remaining 20%. The total cost for 1 Motorola APX4500 Mobile (1 radio is already in service in the new police vehicle recently purchased by the Borough) and 3 Motorola APX6000 Portable Radios is \$2,540.01. A reimbursement of \$1,841.56 will be made, leaving a remainder of \$698.45 for the Borough to pay.

Fire Department Report

Tim Brewer reported that the Koppel Borough Fire Department will be having a fundraiser luncheon/dinner on June 25th and will serve pulled pork, baked beans and coleslaw for \$8.

Maintenance Report

- The pulled pork luncheon has been posted on the sign in front of the maintenance building.
- Police vehicles were serviced and windshield wipers were replaced.
- The 10-ton dump truck needs to be sent out for state inspection and it was asked that inspection be done at a local business.
- On the repaved portion of 4th Avenue, it was reported was that there is about 30 yards between Richard and Mount Street where water is pooling.
- The tamper needs to be repaired and suggestions were discussed of where to take it for a possible rebuild.

Engineer's Report – No Written Report Given

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 was made to PennDOT and Dan Fedio came out to make the adjustments. The sensors in the road are broken and if it continues to back up, he asked that we call him again. A concern for accidents resulting from motorists avoiding the light was discussed. It was reported by PennDOT that a new system is planned to be installed in 2023.

Solicitor's Report

Joe Budicak, Solicitor, reviewed the weight limit ordinance and told council he will advertise. A discussion followed regarding truck weight, streets prohibited and those exempt from the limit. A discussion of weight limit sign placement was made. The solicitor will review the proposed new animal ordinance for the next meeting.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Athena Pangikas-Miller was not present but has planned a town meeting to address the issues involving PSC Metals now owned by SA Recycling on May 19th at the Koppel Fire Department Hall at 6 pm.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE - a Memorial Day event to honor those who gave their lives for our country is planned and will be held on Memorial Day starting at 9 am. Weather permitting it will be held at the Memorial Park. If it rains, it will move to the Koppel Fire Department Hall. Coffee and donuts will be served following.

GUESTS**Juvenile Curfew**

A question was asked if there was a curfew ordinance in Koppel. There is a juvenile curfew ordinance #400 and the curfew is for any one under the age of 18 years old. The ordinance states no one under 18 should be on the streets of the Borough from 11 pm to 6 am unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

DISCUSSION**3302 3rd Avenue Property**

A request for the cutting of trees and bushes lining Richard Street and 3rd Avenue that are obstructing the view of pedestrians and motorists from 3302 3rd Avenue property was made. The work will be done by Koppel Maintenance. The borough received a letter stating that the property is up for Sheriff Sale for non-payment of school taxes. A discussion followed regarding the demolition of the building.

5437 5th Avenue Property

A request by council was made to have Owen Pella, Zoning Officer, inspect this property before operation of any business begins.

Tenaris

It was reported that Tenaris plans to tar and chip and will later blacktop the road along their fence from north to south along their property line. Also, a new Bag House will be built to eliminate dust expulsion from the plant and will begin in June.

Church/School Property

A question was asked why the barricade around the church and school were placed at the end of the building instead of the front of the building. Council is asking that parking be prohibited around the building to deter vandalism. The barricades will be moved to accommodate the request. A hearing for the vandalism at the building done in 2020 was held and attended by the arresting police officer and Mayor Athena Pangikas-Miller.

MOTION TO ADJOURN - Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.