Coaldale Borough Council Mtg
Minutes 6/9/15

Meeting called to order by President Thomas Keerans followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: President Thomas Keerans, present, Francis Hutta present, Yvonne Stoffey present, Vice President Michael Doerr present, Harry Hontz absent, Angela Krapf present, Brenda Hosler present, Mayor Joel Johnson present, Attorney Robert Yurchak present, Secretary Elizabeth Hosler.

Before the meeting was opened to public participation, President Thomas Keerans addressed an advertising error for the Special Meeting that was held on June 2nd. It was advertised in the Times News for June 3rd. Secretary Elizabeth Hosler had emailed the Times news originally stating the 2nd, and then sent a correction stating the 3rd. The Times New stated they never received the correcting email, therefore running the wrong date. The Times News addressed us having an “illegal meeting” and violated the sunshine act. This issue was addressed by a representative of the Times News present at the meeting. She stated that we had time to correct the ad once it was noticed as incorrect, but no one saw the incorrect ad. Proof of advertisement was received the day after the meeting.

A Motion was made to ratify all the actions that occurred at the June 2nd meeting. Motion was made by Francis Hutta, second by Brenda Hosler. Motion carried.

Public Participation:

A resident questioned what the criteria is for a bid proposal for work and how we determine who we choose. She questioned why we chose the more expensive bid for cleaning work at the Complex. Francis Hutta spoke and stated that he went through the Complex with both contactors and went over what work was to be done, prices, etc and the bid we chose was more detailed and he felt they would provide the services we needed more efficiently.
Kelly Dursalitis from Miner street asked about an exemption to the sewer maintenance fee. She placed a request in writing for an exemption to the fee because no one had lived in the building in years and it was only used for storage. There was not water or sewer on either. A motion was made by Angela Krapf to approve the exemption, second by Brenda Hosler. Motion carried.

Tony Kondertavage asked on the status of the water authority appointment. He had put in a letter of interest.

A resident asked what was discussed at the June 2nd special meeting. President Thomas Keerans stated that police pension board, advertising for the zoning hearing board, borough office hours and a letter from Attny Cindy Yurchak regarding the June 23rd cell tower meeting was discussed.

Claire Remmington from W High St asked what the status was of publishing delinquent sanitation bills in the paper. Attorney Yurchak said that he had advised against it and council had taken his advice, it was decided not to publish them. She also asked if it was possible to change the angle parking on her block to regular parking all year because of the parking problems. A motion was made by Vice President Michael Doerr to change the ordinance to eliminate the angle parking, second by Brenda Hosler. Motion carried.

Angela Krapf elected to speak in the public portion as a resident. She wanted to know why an interview was conducted for the borough secretary position without anyone’s knowledge and who was involved. Angela questioned why Joel Johnson was in on the interview and how was Tom able to make this decision alone. It was addressed that we are supposed to be moving forward and working together and things are still being done behind the scenes.

Treasurer’s Report:

It was discussed that Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank was changing online banking and that there were some changes that needed to be made for the payroll being processed the week of June 23rd. Motion was made by Brenda Hosler to accept the treasurer’s report, second by Frank Hutta. Motion carried.

Approval of bills: motion made by Brenda Hosler to accept the payment of bills presented, second by Michael Doerr. Motion carried.
Mayor's Report: Mayor Joel Johnson requested that he be approved to attend the annual mayor's conference from July 16th - July 19th and be reimbursed for his costs per an itemized bill. Motion made by Brenda Hosler to approve the attendance, second by Michael Doerr. Motion carried. Mayor Johnson also requested that we advertise for two part-time police officers. Vice President Michael Doerr stated that he had two applications for part-time officers that had already had their clearances. A motion was made to approve the hiring on an as needed basis the two applicants. Motion made by Frank Hutta, second by Yvonne Stoffey. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Brenda Hosler to still advertise for two part-time officers on an as needed basis. Second by Frank Hutta. Motion carried.

Mayor Johnson stated that he had received a complaint on an officer from Dave Yelito and Neil Kennedy and would like the police committee to review.

Mayor Johnson stated that he would like to reorganize the police department and remove Keith Krapf as officer in charge and replace with Todd Weiss. When asked why, he stated that he is interested in new ideas.

Council briefly discussed this issue and after further consideration, a motion was made by Vice President Michael Doerr to table this, second by Brenda Hosler.

President's Report:

No report but brought up about joining with other councils regarding the sewer authority and the issues with DEP. It would be in our best interest to join with the other boroughs on this issue. A motion was made by Michael Doerr, second by Frank Hutta to look into regionalizing on the sewer authority issue with Lansford and Summit Hill. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report:

Elizabeth Hosler reported that she has found many adjustments in the sanitation accounts resulting in roughly $24,000. Most were cash payments and we are not sure why these were made or what was done with the cash. We are going to look into these further.

Delinquent sanitation accounts have been being paid and many are making payment arrangements since.
Life Insurance policies for the police department is being worked on.

Letter to Jeff Leslie, the former IT person will be sent to request any and all intellectual information back that belongs to the borough.

Attended a municipal secretarial and administrators class in May with Anissa in Breinigsville.

Ordered more sanitation bills with the updated hours:

Committee Reports:

Buildings-no report-Frank Hutta.

Utilities- Michael Doerr- water authority appointment.

Ronald Polischak nominated by Michael Doerr. Second by Frank Hutta. Vote deadlocked at 3 yes, 3 no.

Peter Radocha nominated by Brenda Hosler. No second. Motion dies for lack of second.

Joe Gnat nominated by Frank Hutta. Second by Michael Doerr. Vote is 4 no, 2 yes.

Larry Fritzinger nominated by Frank Hutta. Second by Yvonne Stoffey. Vote deadlocked at 3 yes, 3 no.

Tony Kondertavage nominated by Frank Hutta. Second by Yvonne Stoffey. Vote 4 yes, 2 no.

Ted Bortnick nominated by Brenda Hosler. No second. Motin dies for lack of second.

Joel Johnson nominated by Michael Doerr. Second by Frank Hutta. Vote 3 yes, 3 no.

Keith Krapf nominated by Frank Hutta. Second by Brenda Hosler. Discussed if it would be a conflict of interest. Attny Yurchak said he would have to research it before giving an answer.
Appointment water authority position is tabled until we get the advice of the solicitor if there is a conflict of interest in Keith Krapf’s nomination. Special Meeting will be held June 16th, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

Nomination for Neil Kennedy by Frank Hutta. No second. Motion dies for lack of second.

Nomination for George Brimmer by Frank Hutta. No second. Motion dies for lack of second.

Nomination for Mark Wilden by Frank Hutta. No second. Motion dies for lack of second.

Zoning: Motion made by Michael Doerr, second by Frank Hutta to advertise for the zoning hearing board for appointment at the meeting. On June 16th. Motion carries.

Recreation:

Angela Krapf stated that there was some repairs needed for items in the playground. Is the borough going to pay for repairs or should CHOSE take care of it was discussed. Frank said to get an estimate on the repairs and get it fixed and then the borough will reimburse CHOSE.

Frank Hutta makes a motion to give the authority to CHOSE to get the items fixed and the borough would reimburse from the complex account. Second by Michael Doerr. Motion carries.

Angela Krapf stated that the first movie in the park of the season was a big success and was the most people they have had so far.

Police Report:

Reported by Michael Doerr. started and ending mileage on vehicles, monies collected in fines, parking tickets, and other items. Accidents, arrests and other incidents were reported.

Fire: Reported by Michael Doerr, number of fire calls, training hours and classes and man hours.
Grants:
Angela Krapf reported that there was an update from grant writer Mary Linkevich on items that she has looked into and a regional meeting she attended.

It was discussed about demolishing properties and the steps in order to do that with Attny Yurchak.

It was discussed about donating 2500.00 in order to obtain grants and that we were turned down last year for the grants in questions. Motion made by Michael Doerr and second by Frank Hutta to table donating the money until further discussion or research can be done. Motion carries.

Streets:
Report by Michael Doerr, purchase order for 175.32 for safety vests for the borough workers. Motion made by Michael Doerr, second by Frank Hutta to purchase the vests. Motion carries.

Application for a part time borough maintenance on an as needed basis. Motion made to hire on an as needed basis pending a background check by Michael Doerr, second by Frank Hutta. Motion carries.

Waiver for excavation permit for street work. Motion made by Michael Doerr, second Frank Hutta. Motion carries. Approved to waive the fee in lieu of street work.

Discussion over request from St. Lukes to put in speed bumps in their parking lot. Motion by Michael Doerr, second by Brenda Hosler to approve the speed bumps. Motion carries.

Police Pension:

Police Pension board reorganized, Elizabeth Hosler, Thomas Keerans, and Keith Krapf and Joel Johnson are on the board.

Handicap:

None

Finance:
None

Coadale Complex:
Monies given to treasurer for rents received. No major repairs, minor repairs need to be done.

Demolition:
None

Revitalization:
None

Personnel:
None

Code Enforcement:
Report given that was turned in from Mike O’hara from May issues.

Zoning:
None

Solicitor:
Ordinance for parking regulations for moving vehicles that have sat for over 72. Motion made by Michael Doerr, second by Frank Hutta to accept new ordinance. Motion carries.

46 letters sent out for delinquent sanitation over $500.00.

Old Business:
None

New Business:
Frank Hutta called an Exec Session. Meeting adjourned.

[Signature]
Treasurer / Act Secretary