

COALDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

February 12, 2016 at 7:00pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

ATTENDANCE: Thomas Keerans(*Council President*), Michael Doerr(*Council Vice-President*), Joel Johnson(*Mayor*), Robert Yurchak(*Solicitor*), Yvonne Stoffey, Angela Krapf, Francis Hutta, Harry Hontz, Claire Remington, Carl Faust(*Zoning Officer*), Anissa Nunemacher(*Treasurer*)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Judy Veron (16 Foster Avenue), had a complaint that 30 and 12 Foster Ave. were left abandoned, and the previous owners left two cats inside the residence which were setting off the house alarm. The cats died, and the neighbors witnessed a child of the home owners remove the dead cats, throwing them out in the garbage. They would like to know what Code Enforcement can do about the properties, and if the homeowners can be fined. Solicitor Yurchak said the house is currently under investigation by Code Enforcement, and the Borough is looking into the problem.

PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes from the previous meeting will be rewritten before being approved.

BILLS: Claire Remington made a motion to approve and pay the bills, seconded by Harry Hontz. Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT: Sgt Krapf interviewed two officers for the part-time positions available to help enforce the Quality of Life Ordinance. Mike Doerr made a motion to hire both officers, seconded by Harry Hontz. Motion carried.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Solicitor Yurchak sent a certified letter to the contact people for the property at 88 Miner Street about cleaning up the property. They have refused to help take care of the residence. Bob Yurchak said we can have the Code Enforcement Officer enter the property, and do an official inspection to see what the Boroughs next step is. Yvonne Stoffey made a motion to send Michael O'Hara to 88 Miner Street to do an inspection, seconded by Claire Remington. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Johnson is having a Town Hall Meeting at the Angela Theater on February 22nd at 6:30pm. The Mayor is encouraging the students from Panther Valley and Marian High Schools to attend. Also Congressman Matt Cartwright will be attending.

SOLICITOR REPORT: (1) Bids for the demolition of 146 Fisher Ave. were opened by President Keerans

ROBERT STEMPA EXCAVATING BID - \$24,875.00

JEFF GEORGE EXCAVATING BID - \$16,850.00

Mike Doerr made a motion to table the bids until reference checks are done on Jeff George. Frank Hutta seconded, motion carried. (2) Bob Yurchak requested a motion to approve the water turn off/on fee. Claire Remington made a motion to approve the fee, seconded by Harry Hontz. Motion carried. (3) According to our 2002 contract with ESRC, the Borough is not responsible to continue to participate in their program, or make the annual \$2500 donation, if ESRC does not send a yearly budget update. The Borough has not received this budget, therefore we are no longer financially responsible and will no longer be participating in ESRC, because Coaldale Borough has never received any of the benefits of the program in the 15 years they participated. (4) We need to advertise for a Planning Commission consisting of 3 people and 1 alternate. No more than one Council member can be on the Commission. Claire Remington made a motion to advertise for the Ad Commission, seconded by Harry Hontz. Motion carried.

FIRE REPORT: (1) Harry Hontz read off the fire report. As of this date Council has not received a current or monthly ambulance report from The Tamaqua Ambulance Assoc... (2) The fire department is requested another onetime payment, above the Borough's normal donation, of \$7500.00. President Keerans would like to hold off on this donation for 2-4 weeks.

STREETS REPORT: (1) Mike Doerr received 5 applications for snow plow drivers, and made a motion to hire 3 of the 5 applicants after completion of background checks (Francis Hutta Jr., William Doerr and Edward Tesner). The motion was seconded by Frank Hutta. Motion carried. (2) Mike Doerr made motion to approve two rock salt purchase orders and one purchase order for a heavy duty ½ inch impact wrench. Motion seconded by Frank Hutta. Motion carried. (3) The new dump truck was in a minor accident while snow plowing, but has been fixed. It also has a mesh cover that was ripped, and Barry from Kovatch was informed and is looking into repairing it.

COMPLEX: Angela Krapf said the PV Youth Girls Basketball will be utilizing the gym at the Complex. Angela is going to make up a checklist for the coaches to ensure the proper steps are taken to close up the gym after use. (2) Pathstone reported some building issues that need to be fixed such as a door, floor tiles and some light bulbs. Also Pathstone's contract expires in June, and a new updated/revised lease has to be drawn up for them stating in detail what they are and are not responsible for in the

building. (3) Councilwoman Krapf is still in the process of purchasing bleachers for the Complex, and feels it is best to get the double step bleachers for safety, and she will still be under budget getting them. Frank Hutta agrees for liability reasons that the double step bleachers would be best. (4) On Sunday February 21st there will be a soup sale and Indoor yard sale from 7a-2p.

HANDICAP: (1) Yvonne Stoffey read a letter she sent to a resident about abusing their handicap space, making them aware that if it continues the space will be reassessed and possibly removed with no refund. (2) Yvonne Stoffey would like to have the yearly handicap renewal fee possibly lowered. Mike Doerr made a motion to lower the handicap renewal fee from \$50.00 to \$25.00. Bob Yurchak wants to hold off on lowering fee until he checks into the wording of the Ordinance and see if it has to be changed.

OLD BUISNESS: (1) Council would like to re-appoint Berkheimer for delinquent per capita and General Borough tax collection. Claire Remington made a motion to have Berkheimer collect these delinquent Borough taxes, seconded by Frank Hutta. Motion carried. (2) The Borough building has 3 broken windows upstairs that need to be repaired. Also, Claire Remington would like to paint the interior of Borough Hall, and made a motion to purchase up to \$500.00 worth of paint. The motion was seconded by Yvonne Stoffey. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL MATTERS DISCUSSED

NEW BUISNESS: (1) Carl Faust suggested that the Borough raise the Zoning fees for Conditional Use and Variances from \$350.00 to \$750.00. Claire Remington made a motion to raise the Zoning fees, seconded by Mike Doerr. Motion carried. (2) Claire Remington made a motion to ban smoking in all Borough vehicles (police vehicles included). The motion was seconded by Mike Doerr. Motion carried.

Mike Doerr made a motion at 10pm to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Claire Remington. Motion carried.

