

**COALDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
221/223 Third St., Coaldale, PA 18218
February 11, 2025, 7:00 pm**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Council President Claire Remington followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Councilwoman Angela Krapf, Solicitor Robert Yurchak, Council President Claire Remington, Mayor Eric Ramirez, Councilman Michael Radocha, Councilwoman Kim Gavornik, Councilman Wayne Figner, and Treasurer Catherine Papesh. Jacob Adamitis and Councilman Francis Hutta were absent.

Audience Attendance: 11 members of the public were in attendance.

Public Participation:

- Clyde Bachert, 183 Greenwood St., mentioned he works with DEP in Wilkes Barre and asked about a neutral place without lawyers and engineers to sit down with Sewer Authority regarding wetland issues and sewer issues to see where Coaldale is headed. They can come in and mediate. Clyde also mentioned the basketball hoops to which Councilwoman Angela said she spoke with Frank regarding the basketball hoops and said to wait and see as they might be able to fix it first. Clyde said the middle range for aluminum pole and hoop is \$3,600.00 for 2 hoops and poles.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

January 12, 2025 monthly minutes

- **Motion** made by Kim Gavornik to accept minutes with the correction. Second, Michael Radocha and motion passes **unanimously**.

December 10, 2024 monthly minutes

- Motion made by Kim Gavornik to accept December 2024 minutes

Treasurer's Report/Approval of Bills: Given by Catherine Papesh.

- **Motion** made by Wayne Figner to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second, Kim Gavornik and motion passes **unanimously**.
- **Motion** made by Angela Krapf to accept the Approval of Bills. Second, Michael Radocha and motion passes **unanimously**.

Mayor's Report: Given by Eric Ramirez, Mayor.

- The mayor recommended to Council to enact an Ordinance for amusement ride operators that are working with children to have Act 34 clearances prior to being hired for community events. Attorney Yurchak will investigate it. Any action will be tabled by the March 2025 meeting.
- Mayor's Report 2024 will be deferred to March 2025 meeting

President's Report: Given by Claire Remington, President.

- Claire mentioned that there is a vacancy for the EMC (Emergency Management Coordinator) position. **Motion** made by Angela Krapf to appoint Scott Gerber as EMC. Second, Michael Radocha and motion passes **unanimously**.

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- Fee schedule for 2025 needs approval. **Motion** made by Kim Gavornik to accept 2025 Fee Schedule. Second, Wayne Figner and motion passes **unanimously**.
- Planning & Zoning Fee Schedule needs approval. **Motion** made by Angela Krapf to accept Planning & Zoning Fee Schedule. Second, Kim Gavornik and motion passes **unanimously**.
- Costars contract for 2025 Winter was completed. 200 tons were ordered.
- Handicap permit renewals were sent out.
- Council received notice from the Department of Agriculture regarding licensing and inspecting food facilities. Claire needs help on compiling a list on who sells food in Coaldale for the Department to make arrangements with those locations.

Secretary's Report: None.

Police Report: Given by Kim Gavornik.

- The Council is still under negotiation.

Solicitor's Report: None.

Fire Report: Given by Claire Remington.

- Tabled Action till march meeting.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Report: Given by Claire Remington.

- There are a lot of questions regarding 259/261 East High St. as the man that owns 257 owns both properties, finally responded with a letter that he got a structural engineer, and he will be in this week.
- Luis condemned an apartment building on 113 E Phillip ST.

Jr. Council Report: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration: Given by Kim Gavornik.

- Kim brought up increasing office salary, specifically for Cathy Papesch, \$2.00. **Motion** made by Kim Gavornik to increase Cathy's salary to \$20.00 per hour. Second, Michael Radocha and motion passed **unanimously**.

Buildings/Streets/Handicap: Given by Wayne.

- **Motion** made by Wayne Figner to approve the handicap application for said applicant. Second, Michael Radocha and motion passes **unanimously**.
- Michael Radocha will be working on a list of potential street repairs for 2025.

Recreation/Memorial/Complex: Given by Wayne Figner.

- There were problems at the Complex with the heating system as the big tank downstairs ran out of oil. It needs to be ratified for agreement given by Council to Joe Hutta Plumbing for 2 Modine heaters at Coaldale Complex and cleaning of all units in borough buildings. **Motion** made by Michael Radocha to ratify agreement made. Wayne Figner seconded, and motion passed **unanimously**.

Financing/Grants/Utilities: Given by Kim Gavornik.

- High St and Phillips St need a structural engineer who is coming this week.
- 6th St had some damage as part of the building fell against a lady's house.
- The mayor spoke with Luis and Teddy Bortnik regarding Water St and that it needs to be boarded up. Claire Remington advised that the door was boarded up 2 years ago. They were told not to touch it as its private property. Kim Gavornik questioned why that property isn't on the list of properties to be taken down and Claire advised it was supposed to be bought, but the priority is demoing properties that have people living on either side. Angela Krapf advised it was once our Council's list of properties to be taken down but the grant that council was using to demolish properties was taken away, but it is now back so Claire advised that property will be put back on the list of properties to be demoed.

Police: Given by Kim Gavornik.

- The Police Roster is still intact, so it is being worked on to update the roster.

Police Pension: None.

Old Business:

- Reminder to all to fill out ethics forms which can be filled out online.
- Ad for Secretary in Newspaper. One applicant for Secretary so far. An ad will go on Indeed.

New Business:

- There is a request to hold an Easter Egg Hunt at Black Diamond Park (Ridge Terrace Field) for April 12th & a rain date April 19th starting at 1:00 pm. Council will need a copy of insurance due to it being a private event.
- Tax Collector will not be running so this will be her last year so the position will be available. It was mentioned that if Council wants more money in the budget so decrease Tax Collector salary by \$5,000.00 from \$25,000.00 to \$20,000.00. This decrease in salary will allow Council to have an extra \$5,000.00 to put money elsewhere. It was also mentioned that if the Tax Collector uses Borough building for work the current rent is \$150.00 per month with utilities included. **Motion** made to keep the Tax Collector salary as is at \$25,000.0 but raise rent to \$200.00 per month by Angela Krapf. Second, Kim Gavornik and motion passed **unanimously**.
- Claire Remington asked the Council to appoint Scott Gerber as Assistant Office Clerk on a volunteer basis. Any action will be deferred to look at the legality of confidentiality and tabled till March 2025 meeting.

Executive Session: 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm Personnel Issues were discussed.

Motion made by Angela Krapf at 7:36 pm to adjourn by and seconded by Kim Gavornik. Motion passed **unanimously**.

SUBMITTED BY:

Submitted for approval on February 12, 2025

February 11, 2025