

COALDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
221/223 Third St., Coaldale, PA 18218
January 10, 2023 7:00pm

Executive Session: 6:30pm-7:00pm Personnel matters were discussed.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Council President Angela Krapf followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Solicitor Robert Yurchak, Mayor Herb Whildin, Council President Angela Krapf, Council Vice President Claire Remington, Councilman Jacob Adamitis, Councilman Wayne Figner, Councilman Ken Hankey Jr., and Councilwoman Yvonne Stoffey. Councilman Francis Hutta, Junior Councilpersons Kaidence Krapf and Hilary Shreffler were absent.

Public Participation:

- Robert Demyanovich, 225 W. Phillips St., gave his opinion on the Light Duty Policy previously discussed and that he doesn't feel it is in the best interest of Coaldale taxpayers.
- John Cray, Director of Operations Tamaqua Ambulance, wanted to discuss funding for the ambulance including additional funding from Coaldale Borough. They are providing 24 hours a day 365 days a year coverage for 5 municipalities, including Coaldale. They also provide mutual aid to surrounding townships. At this time, none of the 5 municipalities contribute to the ambulance association. They responded to 299 calls to Coaldale last year according to the 911 report. He provided income and expense information to each council member. The fuel cost went from \$8,000 a year to \$24,000 a year. The only income the ambulance receives is from the subscriptions mailed to each resident and 3rd party billing companies. John is not sure how long the ambulance service can continue with no additional funding. If Coaldale would consider help in funding the ambulance, he would provide financial information at monthly meetings. His goal with additional funding from the municipalities would be to put a second truck in service. Claire asked who would be responsible for Workman's Comp Insurance, and John said the ambulance association would be. John said that Coaldale could designate where the money goes; payroll, repairs and maintenance, fuel, etc. They also switched to a billing company with lesser fees. Angela will get his contact information and would have a meeting to further discuss.
- Jeff Fable, 18 Bull Run St., discussed the water run-off and ice buildup on Bull Run St. Claire intends to do something down there this summer to correct the issue.
- James Mestopolus, 1618 Main St. Hellertown, PA, owner of rental properties in Coaldale, thanked Wayne and Yvonne for walking through properties with him. He provided information on some of his rentals to council members with one that has a lease starting on the 15th and 2 others that are rented and occupied. He also gave an update on other properties and his goal is to get more properties done by March. He also said if anyone has any questions about his properties, to let him know. Claire asked about his 2 houses on the highway and James said one of the other houses down there needs to be demolished first before he can do anything.
- Gene Reed, 110 Greenwood St., moved back into his house 2 months ago that was damaged by a fire in March 2021. He asked for his \$13,000 fire escrow to be returned to him. Carl needs to inspect 3 things yet before the money can be released. Gene also complained about the neighbors and their dog going to the bathroom in his yard. Angela will try to reach Carl.

Approval of previous minutes: Motion made by Jake Adamitis to approve the previous minutes. Seconded by Claire Remington and the motion carried **unanimously**.

Treasurer's Report/Approval of Bills:

- **Motion** made by Claire Remington to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.
- **Motion** made by Claire Remington to pay the bills. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.

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Police Report: Read by Yvonne Stoffey

- **Motion** made by Jake Adamitis to accept the police report. Seconded by Yvonne Stoffey and motion carried **unanimously**.

Mayors Report: None

Presidents Report: Given by Angela Krapf, President

- \$20,138.06 collected in 2022 from PLA for delinquent sanitation and \$1,819.77 in interest.
- \$9,292.60 collected in 2022 from PLA delinquent sewer transmission and \$980.61 interest.
- \$41,842.82 collected in 2022 from PLA for delinquent real estate taxes and \$1,552.11 in interest.

Secretary's Report: Given by Beth Shreffler

- Information was included in the packet for a new website from 3 vendors. Angela will discuss with Lacey about what we are currently paying before proceeding.
- Reached out to PTD for IT services but she is not listed as a contact so PTD would not discuss with her.

Solicitor Report: None

Fire Report: Given by Jacob Adamitis, Chairperson

- Fire sirens are back up and running. PPL fixed the power issue.
- Having issues with radio communications with the comm center with dead spots in town. He will ask the police if they are having the same issues with the dead spots in town.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Report: None

Jr. Council Report: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings/Complex:

- The complex roof is 75% complete and pictures were included in the packet.

Demolition/Grants: None

Finance/Utilities: None

Handicap:

- One application was submitted but then withdrawn by the applicant.

Police: None

Police Pension: None

Recreation/Memorial: None

Streets: Given by Claire Remington, Chairperson

- Claire requested to add another full-time employee and Angela wants to advertise for the additional full-time position. **Motion** made by Claire Remington to advertise for a full-time streets department employee. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**. Application deadline will be 2 weeks after the ad is placed.

Old Business:

- Claire wanted to table any action on Light Duty.

New Business:

- The water authority is doing a project in which Coaldale needed to sign off on in order for them to get funding. The information was received right after the last council meeting. In order for them to submit the paperwork on time, Coaldale need to sign off on it right away. **Motion** made by Claire Remington to ratify the letter for the water authority. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Information regarding a Private Sale was received and the deadline to respond is before the next meeting. **Motion** made by Jake Adamitis to add the private sale to the agenda. Seconded by Yvonne Stoffey and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Received information for a Private Sale of 273 Third St., lot and improvement, in the amount of \$10,184.76 and the bidder is Eddy Luis Villar Salazar. **Motion** made by Claire Remington to approve it. Seconded by Yvonne Stoffey and motion carried **unanimously**.

8:05pm Council went into Executive Session

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