

COALDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
221/223 THIRD ST., COALDALE, PA 18218
JUNE 13, 2023, 7:00 PM

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, Council President Angela Krapf, Council Vice President Claire Remington, Councilman Jacob Adamitis, Councilwoman Yvonne Stoffey, Councilman Francis Hutta, and Councilman Wayne Figner and Councilperson Cadence Krapf were present. Councilman Ken Hankey Jr. and Mayor Herb Whildin was absent.

Attendance: There were 7 members of the public and 1 reporter in attendance.

Public Participation:

- Bob Demyanovich, 225 W. Phillips St., addressed several issues.
 - He inquired about the demolition of blighted properties. Claire Remington discussed costs and said she would accept his help with finding grant money.
 - He wanted an update on the Right to Know (RTK) about the land. Solicitor Yurchak spoke to him about this.
- Francis Hutta, 120 W. Lehigh St., addressed several issues.
 - He provided photos of the flooding of Moser Ave., the culvert, and Lehigh St. The drainage pipes are not working, and his property is getting flooded. He suggested that the Borough put a road in or vacate the road so that he could cut trees, install a road and drainage boxes to prevent the flooding of his property.
 - **Motion** made by Claire Remington to vacate Moser Ave. between 6th and 7th Sts. and Lehigh St. past 6th St. via Ordinance. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Dan Weiksner, 1 W. High St. addressed one issue.
 - He inquired about an update on the Burn and Animal Control Ordinances. Angela Krapf stated the Burn Ordinance is on the Agenda and the Animal Control Ordinance is being drafted by Solicitor Yurchak.
 - He asked about the status of the mayor since he lives in South Carolina. Solicitor Yurchak stated that the mayor hasn't resigned yet. He also stated that anyone could report the situation to the D.A., that it does not have to be council.
- Mary Ann Markley, 206 W. Earley Ave., addressed one issue.
 - Stray cats are being fed and they are living in empty houses. They were being spayed and neutered and being brought back to the neighborhood. There is a problem with feces in yards and on porches.
- Jennifer Barrup, 117 W. Earley Ave., addressed one issue.
 - Stray cats were being returned to the neighborhood by shelter workers. However, many cats are not spayed and neutered and have multiple litters. Claire Remington offered to lend the borough's humane traps to remove the cats.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes for May to be presented for approval at the next Council meeting on July 11th.

Treasurer's Report / Approval of Bills:

- **Motion** made by Frank Hutta to accept Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.
- **Motion** made by Claire Remington to pay the bills when money is available. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.

Police Report: Read by Yvonne Stoffey.

- May 2023: Total money collected was \$442.97; Total miles patrolled were 2,380; and Total number of calls for service was 109.
 - **Motion** made by Frank Hutta to accept Police Report. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Purchase Request for Gear estimated cost \$6,500.00.
 - **Motion** made by Yvonne Stoffey to approve the purchase of police gear. Seconded by Frank Hutta. There was a question as to whether the expenditure was in the budget, which it was. The motion carried **unanimously**.

Mayor's Report: None.

President's Report: Given by Angela Krapf, President

- \$.02 collected in May from PLA for delinquent sanitation.
- \$1,034.08 collected in May from PLA for delinquent sewer transmission.
- \$3,426.62 collected in May from PLA for delinquent real estate taxes.
- The Klines Hill Grant:
 - A meeting is being coordinated. Angela Krapf reached out to Representative Barton's office. Hopefully there will be additional funding costs that may increase in 2024. The increase could possibly be \$160,000.00. Coaldale may also need to contribute as well. A lock-in clause would not be likely because it is a contractor bid.
- Our Worker's Comp Insurance Policy will be cancelled by MRM on August 31st, 2023. We will need to look for a new carrier. We will start with the Weiss-Schantz Agency, Inc. that called about a free consultation.

Secretary's Report: Given by Jill Figner.

- McGriff Insurance Renewal:
 - Current premium \$8,002.75, New premium \$8,692.48, the difference is a 9% increase.
 - **Motion** made by Frank Hutta to approve the insurance renewal. Seconded by Wayne Figner and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Pen Tele Data:
 - PTD webmail is going to be discontinued and are asking us to migrate to a new version. Computer Pals could advise on an appropriate option.
 - Angela Krapf to discuss with Kyle Kentner.
- Schuylkill County Emergency Management Agency:
 - Updating Hazard Mitigation Plans
 - Jill Figner will forward this information to Officer Kevin Soberick.
- Diversified Technologies:
 - Signature needed on application for online payments.
 - Angela Krapf will complete application. Jill Figner will forward to Diversified Technologies.
- Kistler O'Brien Fire Protection Renewal:
 - Signature needed on proposed plan renewal.
 - Jill Figner will obtain more information for plan renewal ratification at the July 11th Council Meeting.
- Rental Housing Permit Applications:
 - 223 W. Phillips St. – the application does not need Council approval, just an inspection.
 - General status of rental properties:
 - There is a list of rental properties. The renewal fees are almost completely paid. The inspections need to be caught up. The inspection spreadsheet is not current and needs to be updated. I am operating in triage mode so I do not know how you would like to proceed given Claire Remington's prior comment that another person might be needed to work on rentals.
 - There was an anonymous complaint that a rental property has a door nailed shut and no fire escape and the concern is for the people living in the property. Angela Krapf stated complaint

forms must be signed. The property is on the rental list. Carl Faust can step in and prevent people from living there, but he is very busy as well.

- Jill Figner will contact Luis Negrón to determine if he has the authority to condemn blighted properties and what the fee would be.

Solicitor's Report: Given by Attorney Robert Yurchak.

- The Burn Ordinance needs to be accepted.
 - **Motion** made by Frank Hutta to accept the Burn Ordinance. Seconded by Jake Adamitis. A question was asked about enforcement. Enforcement would be handled by the Police, the Fire Chief, or any Fire Company Designee. The motion carried **unanimously**.
- Repository Sale of 257 E. High St. Bid for \$1,355.00, response due by August 1st, 2023.
 - **Motion** made by Claire Remington to approve repository sale. Seconded by Frank Hutta and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Writs of Execution
 - Jeff Kelly of Portnoff provided a list of properties for approval of Writs of execution.
 - **Motion** was made by Claire Remington to execute Writs. Seconded by Frank Hutta and motion carried **unanimously**.

Fire Report: Given by Jake Adamitis, Chairperson.

- Fire Chief reports 18 calls for May 2023 and 64 calls YTD.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Report: None

Jr. Council Report: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building/Complex:

- Request to purchase and install hot water heater for Borough Hall for \$1,425.62 to conserve oil.
 - **Motion** made by Wayne Figner to approve purchase. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Motion to add a motion to purchase new door with panic hardware for Borough Hall.
 - **Motion** made by Claire Remington to add a motion. Seconded by Frank Hutta and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Purchase and install new door with panic hardware for Borough Hall for @ \$2,030.00 from High Mountain Hardware.
 - **Motion** made by Frank Hutta to purchase and replace door. Seconded by Jake Adamitis and motion carried **unanimously**.

Demolition/Grants: None

Finance/Utilities: None

Handicap: None.

Police: None

Police Pension: None

Recreation/Memorial:

Streets: Given by Claire Remington.

- Street repairs will begin at the end of July.
- Question the necessity of Building and Zoning Permits for sewer line repairs and full refund of curb cut fees.
 - Angela Krapf mentioned the Uniform Construction Codes.
 - Solicitor Yurchak to investigate the matter.
- Procedure for unregistered, broken-down, and/or vehicles sitting for weeks on streets.
 - Solicitor Yurchak verified that unregistered / uninspected vehicles should not be on the street.

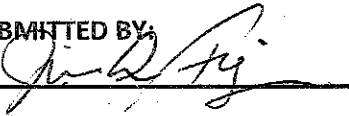
- Angela Krapf stated that the new ordinance states vehicles must be registered and inspected whether on the street or on the property.
- Solicitor Yurchak asked for a list of properties with unregistered / uninspected vehicles. He will find the owner's name and send a letter indicating a timeframe to address the matter.
- Wayne Finger asked about towing the vehicles. Angela Krapf explained that it would be a long process and potentially costly.
- Line painting for 158 Ruddle St. rear driveway on Earley Ave. between 5th and 6th Sts.
 - The alley way is tight, so without the lines it is impossible to pull in and out of the driveway. However, lines were never painted at this location before.
 - **Motion** made by Frank Hutta to paint the lines. Seconded by Wane Figner and motion carried **unanimously**.

Old Business:

New Business:

Adjournment: Motion made by Frank Hutta at 7:53 PM. Seconded by Wayne Figner and motion carried **unanimously**.

SUBMITTED BY:



Jill Figner, Borough Secretary

Submitted for Approval on July 11, 2023