

**COALDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
221/223 Third St., Coaldale, PA 18218
March 11, 2025 7:01 pm**

Call to Order

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

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

Audience Attendance: 12 members of the public were in attendance.

Approval of previous minutes: **Motion** by Angela Krapf, seconded by Mike Radocha. Motion passes.

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

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

Mayor's Report: None

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

- Solicitor recommended and **Motion** made by Angela Krapf to move forward with action by Portnoff. . Motion seconded by Kim Gavornik and motion passed **unanimously**.
- The AC/Heat unit in Borough failed. **Motion** made by Kim Gavornik to ratify a \$2000 bill with a \$400 warranty rebate. Second, Michael Radocha and motion passes **unanimously**.
- Borough received USDA correspondence regarding relining sewer lines. **Motion** made by Angela Krapf for Coaldale's approval to apply for grant towards the relining of the sewer lines. Seconded by Wayne Figner and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Resolution 2-2025 has an addendum to sanitation bills and dumpsters fees for 1 month are \$200 and would like to change to \$250 for 1 month. **Motion** made by Angela Krapf. to accept revised Resolution 2-2025. Second, Kim Gavornik and motion passes **unanimously**.
- Redesigned new letterhead.
- The Department of Transportation is in town for data for service contracts in the county.
- Grants for municipal vehicles are out. Contact Tanya Sinclair.
- Scott Gerber for Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) to attend a meeting in Schuylkill Haven, which is at no cost and assist in his training for our newly appointed Emergency Management Coordinator. **Motion** made by Angela Krapf to approve of Scott Gerber attending, seconded by Michael Radocha and motion carried **unanimously**.
- There was a question about who does background checks and solicits requirements. The Solicitor suggested that he will draft an ordinance to require Act 34 or background checks for amusement

ride operators and companies. **Motion** made by Kim Gavornik to allow Attorney Yurchak to draft these ordinances. Seconded by Wayne Figner and motion carried **unanimously**.

- Reminder for employee ethics forms.
- There is a \$45 fee for PSAB course fee regarding Borough facts for the office. **Motion** made by Wayne Figner to approve of the \$45 fee to take the PSAB course. Seconded by Angela Krapf and carried motion **unanimously**.
- Tamaqua Transfer Clean Up Week is April 5, 2025. Coaldale Community Yard Sale is set for Saturday May 31, 2025, and Sunday, June 1, 2025.
- Office looking into having a cell phone for the office only. It was suggested to obtain a track/flip/prepaid/minute type of phone and card up to \$100.00. **Motion** made by Angela Krapf to allow the office to purchase a cell phone for the office for up to \$100.00. Seconded by Kim Gavornik and carried **unanimously**.
- Remove Francis Hutta from the Police Committee due to unavailability and have Angela Krapf, Kim Gavornik, and Jacob Adamitis on the committee.
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Secretary's Report: None.

Police Report: None

Solicitor's Report: None.

Fire Report: Given by Ang.

- Year-to-Date Calls: dwelling fires in the borough - 1, dwelling fires out of the borough - 3, vehicle accidents - 2, automatic aid calls - 5, total service calls- 7, EMS assist - 2, CO detector activations - 2, total calls - 23, total man hours on call 482.25hrs, training hours in company - 236 hrs., total man hours training - 236 hrs., total man hours in meeting - 62 hrs., fundraising hours - 4,686hrs, total man hours on maintenance on equipment - 4,445hrs. **Motion** made by Kim Gavornik to accept the Fire Report. Seconded by Angela Krapf and carried motion **unanimously**.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Report: Given by Luis.

- March 11, 2025, Code Enforcement posted seven condemned notices of violation on property, 15 notices of violation to property to get property fixed. Over 20 properties still need to be checked.
- Status of Phillips St. apartment building is condemned, and no one lives there. The property owner needs to file electrical permits.
- Lehigh St. status - Luis met with the new property owner and he received notice of violation on March 11, 2025. Property will begin to be fixed within a month. Work will start with the roof. Complainant was also there. He is aware that he needs electrical, plumbing, etc. permits.
- 226 Phillips St. status - Luis posted notice of violation. Property owner has 30 days & then has 10 days to appeal by codes.
- 259 E. High St. - Luis spoke with the owner trying to find out what's going on with the engineer. Next Wednesday, March 19, 2025, a structural engineer will be there, and Luis will meet with him.

Jr. Council Report: None

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration: Given by Kim Gavornik.

- 62 applications received for Secretary. Interviews in the next 7-10 days.

Buildings/Streets/Handicap: Given by Michael Radocha.

- Engineer coming to look at High St.
- Michael Radocha will meet with PennDOT Rep. to discuss inlet issue on RT 20p incorrect pitch and water pools on road.
- Michael Radocha was brought up contacting Lansford for street sweeping and Claire suggested contacting Tamaqua as they have a bigger truck.
- Car parked in the middle of Fisher Ave. as there's no off-street parking. Claire asked Solicitor what Council can do to address this as it's a repeated issue. Solicitor will send a letter to the Landlord.

Recreation/Memorial/Complex: Given by Wayne Figner.

- Issues with rental cancellation and basketball as the doors are being left open, toilets left with shit in them, piss on the floor, etc. as there are no consequences currently. The Council will come up with a solution.

Financing/Demolitions/Grants: Given by Kim Gavornik.

- Audits are a slow process but will be reviewed when everything is submitted.
- Two properties on 6th Street were demolished - 2 \$12,000 lines on the properties.

Police: Given by Kim Gavornik.

- Kim will go over options with Angela Krapf.
- A Coaldale police car was in parade the other day with lights and sirens and went through four towns which is illegal as there was not a police officer.

Old Business:

- Insurance company contacted the Council regarding the basketball backboard replacement. Michael advised that they will be working on repairing poles and replacing backboards. Court is to be sealed & painted this year. It was also suggested to get a shorter hoop for little kids in the grass.

New Business:

- Request from a person to repaint the mural on Borough garage. They will need to sign a waiver. **Motion** made by Kim Gavornik to approve of a person repainting the mural on the Borough garage after signing a waiver. Second, Michael Radocha and motion passes **unanimously**.
- Revise moving permit fees from \$10 per adult, seniors/handicap to \$5. **Motion** made by Kim Gavornik to \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and handicap. Seconded by Wayne Figner and motion carried **unanimously**.
- Windows for the upstairs complex needs to be re-advertised. **Motion** made by Angela Krapf to advertise for Complex windows. Second by Kim Gavornik Carries...

Public Participation:

- Joe Paules, 51 W. Howard Ave, brought up that the street in front of his house has water that goes down his driveway and garage. Water needs to go uphill to make it to the gutter. Michael Radocha advised that the pitch is the wrong way. Claire Remington advised that the issue would be addressed. Mr. Paules also asked if he could cut the trees by the trailer up the street from him.
- People are posting about renting rooms weekly, monthly, etc. on Facebook. Landlords have to register their properties and need to be inspected, but it may be in the rental code or ordinance. Luis said he will check the rental ordinance to see if it's mentioned, but right now rental inspections aren't happening.

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

Motion made at 8:03 pm to adjourn by Angela Krapf and seconded by Kim Gavornik. Motion passes **unanimously**.

SUBMITTED BY:

Submitted for approval on March 15, 2025