

Borough of Coraopolis  
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania  
Regular Council Meeting via teleconference  
March 9, 2022  
6:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Borough of Coraopolis was called to order by Council President David Pendel.

Police Chief Denbow led the gathering in the Pledge to the Flag.

A Roll Call of Members was then taken.

**Present**

Rudy Bolea

Ed Pitassi

George Mihalyi

Allison Marine

Gary Flasco

David Pendel

Michael Dixon, Mayor

**Absent**

Robb Cardimen

Chad Kraynyk

Mr. Pendel said Mr. Cardimen is excused for this evening.

Mr. Pendel asked if there were any questions on the Agenda. Mr. Pendel said are there any comments from the public regarding Agenda Items? Being none, the meeting continued.

Mr. Pendel said we have a few recognition awards for this evening and we'll start by turning over the meeting to Chief Denbow.

Police Chief Denbow said most everyone here knows that on January 6, 2022 there was an attempted abduction of a young school student named Dezi and she is here with us this evening. Officers James Cillo and Officer Shawn Quinn immediately responded to this call that morning and through the diligent interview with Dezi the officers were able to obtain a description of the individual. In less than two hours the officers were able to take this individual into custody and make an arrest. Chief Denbow said, tonight I would like to recognize two of Coraopolis' finest and present them with a certificate of Exceptional Service Award and he continued to explain.

Mr. Pendel said we have a very courageous young lady with us this evening, so on behalf of the Borough of Coraopolis we would like to present a recognition award to Dezi Frawley for her exceptional knowledge on personal protection and her courageous act of defending herself against an attempted abduction on January 6, 2022 and he continued to explain.

Mr. Pendel said for our next recognition I will turn the meeting over to Mayor Dixon.

Mayor Dixon said to ducktail onto the two previous awards and recognize strong leadership I would like to present Chief Denbow with and Outstanding Community Service Award and he continued to explain.

Mayor Dixon said the next awards are for long term business owners of the Coraopolis Hardware, Bill and Ken Sweterlitsch and Deb Hregdovic. Coraopolis Hardware has been a part of our community for 134 years and for many years the three of you have been in charge of running this business. Mayor Dixon continued to explain and presented each with a certificate and a Key to the City.

Mayor Dixon said I have a proclamation to make regarding a service organization in Coraopolis, the DeMolay Organization and continued to read the proclamation.

Mr. Pendel said we will continue on with our agenda.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 9, 2022, Regular Council Meeting. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

Motion passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 2, 2022, Council Workshop Meeting. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

Motion passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Pitassi made a motion to approve the Invoices for March 2022 in the amount of \$310,705.38. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Mr. McCutcheon said there are a couple of large items, we made the payment for the firetruck lease which is around \$34,000.00 and we paid the interest on the building in the amount of \$49,000.00.

Upon Roll Call Vote

Rudy Bolea	Yes
Ed Pitassi	Yes
George Mihalyi	Yes
Allison Marine	Yes
Gary Flasco	Yes
David Pendel	Yes

Motion carried.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to approve the Payroll for the month of February 2022 in the amount of \$123,801.40. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote

Rudy Bolea	Yes
Ed Pitassi	Yes
George Mihalyi	Yes
Allison Marine	Yes
Gary Flasco	Yes
David Pendel	Yes

Motion carried.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to approve Resolution 22-373 to apply for a Program Year 2022 Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Park Rehabilitation for the Riverfront Park Phase III Improvement Project. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Mr. McCutcheon said Phase III is for \$500,000.00 total and so we're applying for a \$250,000.00 grant and our hope is to match that with another grant. This is through the CFA Greenways Trails Recreation Application.

Upon Roll Call Vote

Rudy Bolea                    Yes

Ed Pitassi                    Yes

George Mihalyi            Yes

Allison Marine            Yes

Gary Flasco                Yes

David Pendel              Yes

Motion carried.

### **Solicitor's Report**

Mr. Richard Start said I have nothing to report this evening.

### **Police Chief's Report**

Chief Denbow gave the Police Department Report for the month of February 2022.

Chief Denbow said I want to remind everyone to please keep your vehicles locked and if at all possible do not keep a firearm in your vehicle. We had a rash of vandalism last week and we were able to quickly identify the individual responsible and have filed charges.

Chief Denbow said there was a shooting last week and with the assistance of the Allegheny County Police we were able to make an arrest.

### **Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Spencer said for the month of February 2022, the Coraopolis Volunteer Fire Department answered 7 calls; 1 mutual aid call, 1 structure fire in Robinson Twp., 1 fire alarm at the Cornell School District, a call for a vehicle running into a house on State Avenue, 3 employees from the dog grooming shop were seen at the hospital for carbon monoxide and we found a bad furnace inside the business, and an overloaded outlet due to a space heater on Ridge Avenue. There was another call of something burning on Ridge, but we were unable to locate it. Total manhours were 105.19 hours.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Dixon said I have received a couple of complaints about trash in the streets and I am going to be putting together an action to see what we can do to combat litter in the town and he continued to explain.

## **Committee Reports/Comments from Council**

Mr. Flasco said I have an update on the welcome packet for business coming into town. Ms. Marine, Mr. Bolea and I are working on it and will present to Council at our Workshop Meeting next month for input and approval from Council.

Mr. Mihalyi said I have nothing at this time.

Mr. Bolea said I have nothing this evening.

Ms. Marine said we took our desire to update our salt storage facility to COG in order to get some insight from other municipalities who maybe had experience doing so. The bid that we did get back is in the ballpark of what other areas have seen and she continued to explain.

Ms. Marine said regarding the Communications Committee; we released a letter informing residents of the Waste Management rate increase and she continued to explain.

Ms. Marine said the Easter Egg Hunt is returning this year on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 10:00 am. She continued to explain and asked if there was anything she should know about having the water turned on.

Mr. McCutcheon said just let me know a week before your event, so we can get it turned on.

Mr. Pitassi said the Shade Tree will have a tree planting on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> and anyone who wants to help can meet us at the library at 9:00. We will be serving lunch, so I hope we get a nice turnout.

Mr. Pitassi said it is getting time for the summer reading registration at the library which will be held June 6<sup>th</sup> – June 11<sup>th</sup>. The summer reading will be from June 13<sup>th</sup> – July 29<sup>th</sup> so come bring your family and enjoy.

## **Manager's Report**

Mr. McCutcheon said we spoke with Lucinda about her food truck and she is considering moving it to the Jailhouse area parking lot. She is asking about closing half of that lot for an event in that parking lot. We need to get more details

Mr. McCutcheon said looking at the road program that we had, the numbers came in higher than what I expected. We have about \$400,000.00 budgeted for road work this year. Chestnut Street from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue is estimated at \$260,000.00 so hopefully we can get Columbia Gas to help with some of it since they have dug into that road a few times. Doing Pine Alley and a little bit of School Street is an additional estimated cost of \$423,000.00. My recommendation is to pull out School Street and one of the sections of Pine Ally to get that number down under \$300,000.00. We can discuss with the engineers at our next workshop and decide what we want to advertise for.

Mr. McCutcheon said we did apply for three grants; one for \$250,000.00 for a salt storage facility, one for \$250,000.00 for playground equipment at the Ridge Avenue Tot Lot. The application for Mill Street, is for \$830,000.00 which will be used for roadway and sidewalks for \$540,000.00, storm sewer \$117,000.00 and a waterline replacement is \$171,000.00 and he continued to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said I want to thank Rick from Gold's Tree Service. The other night we had an issue on Montour Street where a pine tree was lifting out of the ground. Rick got out there that night and had it done within a half hour. Mr. McCutcheon said we have two ribbon cutting ceremony's this week, tomorrow and Saturday.

### **Comments from the Public**

Ms. Sheila Permitter from the Coraopolis Towers said I have complaints from residents at the towers and she continued to explain.

Mr. Brian Diggins said we would like to do a large construction project on Mill Street. From our standpoint it doesn't make much sense economically for us to do it, but we'd still like to go ahead with it because it would be a very good thing for the town. A couple of things that I wanted to work with you is:

Figuring out how to freeze taxes on a tax assessment after we renovate the building

I'd like to address some short-term deficiencies of infrastructure along Mill Street from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and he continued to explain.

I'd like to be part of the conversation to discuss the overall larger plan that's going to take place for Mill Street and he continued to explain.

Mr. Danny LaRocco said I am here to report a complaint from Mr. Clyde Goode of Francis Street. He is asking if we can level off where dumping is happening and he continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to terminate employee #2321 from the Borough of Coraopolis. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

### **Upon Roll Call Vote**

Rudy Bolea Yes

Ed Pitassi Yes

George Mihalyi Yes

Allison Marine Yes

Gary Flasco Yes

David Pendel Yes

Motion carried.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**