

Borough of Coraopolis  
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania  
Regular Council Meeting via teleconference  
May 11, 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**

David Pendel

Robb Cardimen

Rudy Bolea

Ed Pitassi

George Mihalyi

Allison Marine

Gary Flasco

Michael Dixon, Mayor

**Absent**

Chad Kraynyk

Mr. Pendel said Mr. Kraynyk is out of town, so that is why he is not in attendance 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 I would like to present Jack Cairns from the VFW Post #402 with a check in the amount of \$700.00 from the Borough of Coraopolis for the upcoming parade. We certainly appreciate your work and dedication to the community.

Mr. Cairns said thank you very much. I appreciate all of your help; the parade is a monumental task and with your help it will be a good parade this year and thank you for your donation.

Mr. Pendel asked Mayor Dixon to give the next presentation.

Mayor Michael Dixon said this evening I would like to acknowledge Sam Segneri and his family's contribution to the Borough of Coraopolis for the past 68 years and I would like to present you with a key to the city.

Mr. Segneri said I want to thank the Mayor and the Council for this and most of all I want to thank the patrons of Coraopolis over the years, it wouldn't be possible without them and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 13, 2022, Regular Council Meeting. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Motion passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 4, 2022, Council Workshop Meeting. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Motion passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to approve the Invoices for May 2022 in the amount of \$269,358.06. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

Mr. McCutcheon said there is the one large payment of \$105,000.00 to Bronder for the traffic signals at 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Mill Street and this will be reimbursed to us from the ARLE grant that we were awarded and a discussion pursued.

Upon Roll Call Vote

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Pitassi made a motion to approve the Payroll for the month of April 2022 in the amount of \$126,150.33. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote

Robb Cardimen	Yes
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 award the 2022 Road Program to El Grande Industries in the amount of \$438,950.00. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

Mr. McCutcheon said there are a few spots that we are doing with Columbia Gas and \$80,000.00 of this will be reimbursed by Columbia Gas, so that is about what we budgeted for this year. A discussion pursued.

Upon Roll Call Vote

Robb Cardimen	Yes
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 22-378 approving the acquisition and subsequent disposition of Lot and Block Number 419-C-133 (634 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue) through the Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.  
Motion passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to approve Resolution 22-379 approving the acquisition and subsequent disposition of Lot and Block Number 341-H-211 (Cliff St.) through the Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.  
Motion passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Pitassi made a motion to approve Resolution 22-380 approving the acquisition and subsequent disposition of Lot and Block Number 341-C-22 (1731 Hiland Ave.) through the Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.  
Motion passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Pitassi made a motion to approve Resolution 22-381 authorizing the Borough Manager to sign a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant in the amount of \$490,000.00 for Mill Street Roadway Improvements. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.  
Mr. McCutcheon said this is about \$700,000.00 project, so we would be using over \$200,000.00 of Borough funds which would probably go into next year's budget so we wouldn't see it this year. This is the third or fourth time we've tried to get a grant for this street.  
Motion passed by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to hire Stephen Tauriello as a Full-time Police Officer. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion. Mr. Pendel said I did receive a message from Mr. Kraynyk stating the only update discussion with the Chief and the Personnel Committee is the recommendation to proceed with an additional officer.

Upon Roll Call Vote

Robb Cardimen	No
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 this past month most of the work we did involve a building permit issue and the Train Station.

## **Police Chief's Report**

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

Chief Denbow said once again I want to remind everyone to please keep your doors locked on your cars and do not store firearms in your car. Most of the shootings in Pittsburgh are from firearms that were taken from car break-ins and he continued to explain.

## **Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Spencer said for the month of April 2022, the Coraopolis Volunteer Fire Department had a total of 6 calls; 3 on I-79 assisting Kennedy Township, 1 electrical, 1 Coraopolis Towers and one assist for a total of 94 volunteer hours.

Chief Spencer said on Friday I am traveling to Columbus Ohio to do a final inspection on the new engine that was ordered last year. I am expecting delivery of that truck to be in two to three weeks.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Dixon said good evening to everyone in attendance and then said as most of you know by now, I am a software engineer and there is a concept in software engineering known as being retrospective, where we take the opportunity to look back over our experiences to continuously improve our efforts. It's an open forum of critical analysis where we identify what went well, what went not so well, and what we want to do differently. What I have observed that is going well is there is a great deal to be happy about and proud of in Coraopolis, lots of new businesses and more to come. Several ribbon cuttings by the CCDC and the Pittsburgh Area Chamber of Commerce. Several mural painting projects are being discussed, the further development of the soccer complex, our recent Shade Tree plantings and clean up day, the hopeful revitalization of the Coraopolis Historical Society, a recent cooperation with the downtown parking alliance, new additions to the train station by the CCDC, the upcoming Riverfront Park, the Memorial Day Parade and of course the Second Saturdays. All very good and exciting things coming this year.

What I have observed that is not going so well is lengthy, confusing building inspection timelines for one reason or another and the apparent questionable behavior of the inspectors thereof. Lots of litter in the streets and some illegal dumping in some sites. Complaints about it from citizens and business owners alike and the response thereof. The look and feel of our facades, old versus new lighting, trees, lack of parking and the most recent gross misuse of our choice blue bin solution to trash receptacles in this Borough. Considering those issues and what I would like to do differently, I am starting a focus group of citizens that want to organize and discuss façade, lighting and signage improvements throughout our Borough to hopefully facilitate the need of a civic plan for our future. A guide of projects for how we want our town to look, feel and grow into the future. I also started a pledge campaign aptly named "Coraopolis Can Do" to muster support from citizens and business owners alike to offer their cooperation and sponsorship of a new compliment of trash receptacles that will clean up and add an attractive boost to the downtown area. I have set a goal of \$25,000.00 and I already have a \$2,500.00 commitment. I also started a dialog with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and their Illegal Dumping Prevention Program Manager. We are currently investigating cameras and license plate scanners on a loan program they have that will help thwart illegal dumping in troubled areas with no cost to the Borough. I am hoping to partner with members of Council to further these initiatives into action in the coming months. Acting together decisively is the only way we can move forward. Let's get to work.

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

Mr. Flasco said I have nothing to report this evening.

Mr. Mihalyi said I have nothing this evening.

Mr. Bolea said I want to make a comment about the Allegheny County Vacant Property Program; years ago, we became a member in this program and I think it has been one of the better things that we have decided to do in the Borough. This allows people who live next to a vacant property obtain it at a great price and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen said I have nothing this evening.

Ms. Marine said the Parking Committee has their action steps and will have a report at the June Workshop Meeting.

Ms. Marine said just a reminder that this upcoming Tuesday is the primary election here, so don't forget to go out and vote.

Mr. Pitassi said I want to thank everyone who got involved with us for the Cory Cleanup Day and he continued to explain.

Mr. Pitassi said the library is starting its Senior Library Outreach Program for the Coraopolis Towers and the Woodcrest retirement residents and that will begin on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Manager's Report**

Mr. McCutcheon said Chief Denbow approached me a few weeks ago about opening a credit card that was requested by his officers so they can buy some of their stuff on line and they would use that card only for police uniforms and small equipment. I spoke with First National Bank today and they said we will need a resolution authorizing the opening of a credit card there.

Mr. Cardimen said I will make that motion, but will other departments like the Street Department be able to use this card?

Mr. McCutcheon said we already have a card that they use and he continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve Resolution 22-382 authorizing the opening of a credit card at First National Bank to be used for purchase of police uniforms and equipment. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. McCutcheon said I spoke with the engineers who are helping with the traffic signals and the Green Light Go traffic signal that we were awarded for Montour Street and State Avenue is getting close, just waiting on approval from PennDOT. If we can get it advertised, we can get it started.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise for the traffic signals at Montour Street and State Avenue utilizing the Green-Light-Go grant. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote

Robb Cardimen	Yes
Rudy Bolea	No
Ed Pitassi	Yes
George Mihalyi	Yes
Allison Marine	Yes
Gary Flasco	Yes
David Pendel	Yes

Motion carried.

Mr. McCutcheon said we talked about the Zoning Hearing Board resignation of Anthony Price and I also think that we also appointed him to the Civil Service Board as an alternate. We should accept his resignation for both Boards.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to accept the resignation of Anthony Price from the Zoning Hearing Board and the Civil Service Board. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. McCutcheon said we will need to start thinking about possible replacements.

Mr. McCutcheon said Jordan Tax Service will be here Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to noon and Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 1 pm to 4 pm for real estate collections.

Mr. McCutcheon said there is a group that I belong to and we had a meeting last night and awarded the Coraopolis K-9 fund \$2,000.00 just to help them out because they haven't been able to do fundraising for the past three years due to covid.

**Comments from the Public**

Mr. Mike Harris of 800 Main Street said I just wanted to say that I was one of the first pledges for the Mayors Coraopolis Can Do Program and I am going to be happy to see if we get some new trash receptacles because I have been complaining about those for quite some time.

Mr. Harris said I want to bring up again the possible stop signs on Main Street and he continued to explain.

Mr. Harris said with the lack of parking in Coraopolis there are a lot of cars parked that go against the ordinance stating you have to have current plates and a valid registration on your car. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said I received a letter from a group called Revival Today who wants to rent Shelley Jones Pavilion on June 18<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 3 pm for a food and clothing give away and a community give back.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Special Event Permit requesting the use of Shelley Jones Pavilion on June 18, 2022 from 8 am to 3 pm. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.  
Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.  
Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen told Mr. Start that he has a document for the sale of a fire department vehicle that needs to be looked over and he continued to explain.

Mr. Start said I will take a look at it as soon as I get it.

Mr. Pendel said what do we do with the proceeds from that sale?

Mr. Cardimen said traditionally it goes into the general fund and he continued to explain.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.  
Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**