

Borough of Coraopolis  
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania  
Council Workshop Meeting by teleconference  
February 1, 2023  
6:30 PM

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

A Roll Call of Members was then taken.

**Present**

Robb Cardimen  
Rudy Bolea  
Ed Pitassi  
Chad Kraynyk  
George Mihalyi  
Allison Marine  
Gary Flasco  
David Pendel  
Michael Dixon, Mayor

Mr. Pendel asked if there were any questions on the Agenda. Being none, the meeting continued.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to set the Workshop Meetings for the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM excluding the July and August meetings and the Regular Meetings for the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to approve Resolution 23-396 authorizing execution of a Cable Franchise Agreement between the Borough and Verizon Pennsylvania LLC. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call

Mr. Cardimen	Yes
Mr. Bolea	Yes
Mr. Pitassi	Yes
Mr. Kraynyk	Abstain
Mr. Mihalyi	Yes
Ms. Marine	Yes
Mr. Flasco	Yes
Mr. Pendel	Yes

Motion Carried.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve an agreement with Waste Management for Hazardous Household Waste Collection for 2023. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve payment to Woltz & Wind Ford in the amount of \$40,400.00 for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Police Interceptor Utility AWD. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call

Mr. Cardimen	Yes
Mr. Bolea	Yes
Mr. Pitassi	Yes
Mr. Kraynyk	Yes
Mr. Mihalyi	Yes
Ms. Marine	Yes
Mr. Flasco	Yes
Mr. Pendel	Yes

Motion Carried.

Mr. McCutcheon said we'll probably give the Chief's 2011 to the Water Authority, so they can use that for their meter readings.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to approve a Real Estate Compromise Agreement for Delinquent Taxes for Lot & Block 342-A-270 known as 125 Mill Street for Derek Diehl contingent upon the other taxing bodies also approving the Agreement. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call

Mr. Cardimen	Yes
Mr. Bolea	Yes
Mr. Pitassi	Yes
Mr. Kraynyk	Yes
Mr. Mihalyi	Yes
Ms. Marine	Yes
Mr. Flasco	Yes
Mr. Pendel	Yes

Motion Carried.

Mr. Pendel asked for a motion to approve Partial Payment Request No. 1 to CHD Enterprises in the amount of \$180,740.07 and asked Mr. Null to explain.

Mr. Drew Null directed everyone to Attachment A and said this is mostly site grading and some underground utility work. Along with this you are also authorizing a Change Order in the amount of \$12,492.50 which includes replacement of a catch basin to tie the storm system. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said this is for the electrical and the catch basin.

Mr. Bolea said why is this an additional \$12,500.00 and why wasn't this included in the original bid?

Mr. Null said we had anticipated that the wiring could be reused, but the contractor was not comfortable using it and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve Partial Payment Request No. 1 to CHD Enterprises in the amount of \$180,740.07. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call

Mr. Cardimen	Yes
Mr. Bolea	Yes
Mr. Pitassi	Yes
Mr. Kraynyk	Yes
Mr. Mihalyi	Yes
Ms. Marine	Yes
Mr. Flasco	Yes
Mr. Pendel	Yes

Motion Carried.

Mr. McCutcheon said we did get 50% of the money on Phase I and Phase II, but we have to be careful because we don't want to use more than what we're paying out and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve Change Order No. 1 with CHD Enterprises for an increase of \$12,492.50 for the underground electrical work and catch basin replacement at the Riverfront Park. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call

Mr. Cardimen	Yes
Mr. Bolea	Yes
Mr. Pitassi	Yes
Mr. Kraynyk	Yes
Mr. Mihalyi	Yes
Ms. Marine	Yes
Mr. Flasco	Yes
Mr. Pendel	Yes

Motion Carried.

Mr. Pendel asked for a motion appoint Annie Demaree to the Coraopolis Memorial Library Board of Directors. Mr. Pitassi said we vetted her and she is a delightful person and we feel she will be a good fit for the Library Board.

Mr. Pendel said with the addition of her what is your total?

Mr. Pitassi said five, four including myself.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion appoint Annie Demaree to the Coraopolis Memorial Library Board of Directors. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to sell the 2007 Dodge Charger police vehicle to We Buy Any Car. Mr. Bolea seconded the motion.

Mr. McCutcheon said this is the Dodge that they don't use and it hardly runs anymore and if we try to sell it the advertisement will cost more than what the car is worth and a discussion pursued.

Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Dixon said Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> Age Friendly Neighborhoods Coraopolis is having a Souper Bowl at the VFW from 3:00 – 6:00. The public is welcome to have free soup and we are offering transportation for the residents from the Tower's along with one hour of free Bingo so we hope to see you all there.

## **Engineers Report**

Mr. Drew Null said Riverfront Park; there is nothing else to add other than the pay requests that you authorized earlier this evening.

Mr. Null said the DCNR Program; the special funding round of Phase III was not authorized so that typical year program is coming up and due in April. We'll set up a preapplication meeting with DCNR for resubmission.

Mr. McCutcheon asked this is \$600,000.00 and we would have to match \$300,000.00?

Mr. Null said correct, DCNR Grants are a 50% match.

Mr. Drew Null said 2020 Road Program; I did get a final pay request from the contractor, but I don't have it this evening because we got a change order to go along with that and he continued to explain.

Mr. Drew Null said 2023 Road Program and directed everyone to Attachment B which shows the roads that have been discussed for the Program. There are several roads listed for mill and overlay improvements and I think it would be wise to pick up a crack sealing program for the roads that we have done from 2017 on and he continued to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said this does not include Chestnut Street, so we may have to scale this back some.

Mr. Cardimen said I think the only consideration should be the Public Works Complex area and he continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said everyone take a look at these areas and we can make a decision.

Mr. Drew Null said Main Street Road Construction; I do not have a pay request for this evening and directed everyone to the punchlist items on Attachment C.

Mr. Drew Null said Ridge Avenue Tot Lot; we did finally get some communication from the COG to confirm the scope and he continued to explain.

Mr. Drew Null said Grant Applications; CharWest COG pushed out a notification for the Blight Program, but the County hasn't officially notified of a timeline.

Mr. Drew Null said Developments; the Garden House had a planning meeting with the County and the County did issue preliminary approval.

Mr. Drew Null said Water and Sewer Authority; we are working with the contractor for the MS4 Program and it looks like they'll probably start in the next month for that PRP Project for the stream restoration along Brook Street.

Mr. Pitassi said regarding the punchlist items for Main Street, what came out of the storm drain on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Main? It's pushed back so far it will not catch the runoff from the rain.

Mr. Null said it was put in as proposed for 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Main Street and he continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

### **Comments from Council**

Mr. Flasco said I have nothing this evening.

Mr. Mihalyi said I have nothing this evening.

Mr. Bolea asked Mr. Null if he was familiar with reclamite?

Mr. Null said I have heard the term and I think the COG had worked with that.

Mr. Bolea said that is why I'm bringing it up because they spoke very highly of the product that they used in Carnegie. He said it was doing a tremendous job preserving the asphalt and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Bolea said Mr. Diggins brought this up and that gazebo is a disgrace and it is falling apart. Mr. McCutcheon is trying to get in touch with the Treko family to see if they are interested in redoing it and if not, I propose that we get rid of it and he continued to explain.

Mr. Bolea said we should put the decoration snowman away.

Mr. Pendel said do you all recall the brick chair that Jane Keffer talked about donating? Is there still an interest there?

Mr. McCutcheon said we have not heard from her at all.

Mr. Kraynyk said I want to reiterate Mr. Bolea's comment on the gazebo, it is in very poor shape so I'm a proponent on doing something with it by either removal or fixing and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen said have we heard anything from Woltz and Wind Ford on our dump truck?

Mr. McCutcheon said the order is in, but there is no guarantee yet.

Mr. Cardimen said for over 400 days the Public Works Department has been without an employee. We had a Public Works employee retire December 19, 2021 and I want to know, if Council has any intention on hiring another employee and he continued to explain.

Mr. Bolea said we have two interviews, one for Thursday and one for Friday. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Ms. Marine said we received six submissions for our Parking Study RFP and everyone on Council is welcome to read through them. I have read them all so if you have any questions, please feel free to ask. I am impressed with the professionalism of all of the submissions and next we need to determine what the next steps are. What I think is important to note is what's the difference between an RFP versus a public open bid and she continued to explain. These proposals are open for ninety days so our goal is between now and the March Workshop Meeting to narrow down the list and determine the pros and cons of each and a discussion pursued.

Ms. Marine said concerning the Communications Committee; Allegheny West has reached out asking for any Borough updates for the February Cornell Edition and something that they have been interested in is the updates for Riverfront Park so I have sent them an update and she continued to explain.

Ms. Marine said concerning the E-waste collection that Mr. Mihalyi mentioned and I think we can make an easy "how to" and post it to the website and she continued to explain.

Mr. Pitassi said Decker has started work on the new air conditioner units at the library and Gilligan who is doing the soffit fascia will come in the spring and the library will also be getting bids for new carpet.

Mr. Pitassi said I think we have someone who wants to come in to the Historic Society and take over and he continued to explain.

Mr. Pitassi said we did get the grant for the Shade Tree and we will be getting the trees and the shrubs and we will do the Ferree Street Steps and he continued to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said can you talk to Larry Tollis because they are going to have to cut that grass going up the left side of the hill.

Mr. Pitassi said yes.

### **Borough Manager's Report**

Mr. McCutcheon said next week Dana Watkins will be here to present for Black History Month and she has also asked to reserve the Gazebo Lot on May 4<sup>th</sup> for the National Day of Prayer and Shelley Jones Memorial Park on August 19<sup>th</sup> and I will put those on the agenda next week for when she is here.

Mr. McCutcheon said I met with Randon Willard from the CCDC and they want to use Mill Street for their Second Saturdays in June, July, August and the Fall Festival. He brought up also using the Gazebo Parking Lot and I didn't think that we ever gave permission to use both at the same time because they have used the Jailhouse lot in the past, but Mr. Willard says there seems to be a disconnect and he continued to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said the work for the new traffic signals is going on at Montour and State and is part of our Green Light Go program.

Mr. McCutcheon said we have been talking about installing cameras for the Riverside Park and Ms. Marine mentioned STS out of New Kensington. I spoke with the former Police Chief for Moon and he recommended them as well, so if they are COSTARS they should be an easy fit.

Mr. McCutcheon said the \$40,000.00 for the new police interceptor does not include the extended warranty, so we will talk to them on Friday and see what the cost of that will be. The cost for the striping and other equipment is \$17,155.00 and that does not include the watch guard video system which is \$7,550.00, so it's an additional \$24,705.00 will be going into that vehicle.

Mr. Pendel said will we need to purchase a new gps chip for the new police vehicle and the new ATV.

Mr. McCutcheon said we can take the one out of the Dodge and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said the Zoning Hearing Board is meeting next Tuesday for an assembly variance requested for the Riverhounds/AHN building. The original building permit was for recreational athletics, but now they want a place of assembly which will allow political, religious and basically anything and he continued to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said Penn State architect students who are working with the CCDC and the mayor have a conceptual design proposal for the Coraopolis Riverfront Park. They have approached Lennon Smith for a CAD drawing and we haven't even received one yet. I don't mind giving them a picture of what our plans are, but they shouldn't have gone to Lennon Smith, so we are going to talk to them about their request being more than what they should have done.

Mayor Dixon said I did communicate with them that they should be going to Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. Pendel said just for clarification, can you elaborate on these conceptual design proposals for the park because I didn't know anything about that.

Mayor Dixon said this is the CCDC's project and I am just sitting in as an advisor and they are asking me for information if they need it.

Mr. Pendel said so you do not know the scope of their project.

Mayor Dixon said I know they are looking at Mill Street and Pine Alley to do conceptual designs as part of a project that they are working on and Mr. Willard is the one who commissioned all of this, so I would follow up with him for more details. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Bolea said what time should we be here for Dana's presentation next week?

Mr. McCutcheon said she will start at 6:30 and it will only be a ten-minute presentation.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to Adjourn. Mr. Kraynyk seconded the motion.

Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Meeting Adjourned.