

Borough of Coraopolis
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania
Council Workshop Meeting by teleconference
December 6, 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
George Mihalyi
Allison Marine
Joe Szabat
David Pendel
Michael Dixon, Mayor

Absent

Gary Flasco

Mr. Pendel said for the record, Mr. Flasco did contact me to say he would not be able to attend this evening.

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

Mr. Pendel asked for a discussion on the appointed positions expiring on December 31st 2023.

Mr. McCutcheon directed everyone to the list of open appointed positions on the Agenda and said these seats will not be appointed until January, but wanted to make everyone aware. I will contact those on the list and see if they are interested in serving another term and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to accept the resignation of Jeffrey McBain from the Valley Ambulance Authority. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. McCutcheon said I received a letter from Mr. McBain stating they moved out of Coraopolis, but he did mention that Gary Hutsler is willing to serve.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to accept the resignation of Adrienne DiCicco from the Coraopolis Memorial Library as a Children's Program Specialist effective January 5th, 2024. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

Mr. McCutcheon said Ms. DiCicco is busy with her children and doesn't have the time right now, but did say she would be willing to help if there was a shortage at the library. This position is one that is reimbursed by the Library Board, so I'm sure Ms. Hampe will want to fill it next year.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve a handicapped parking space for Linda Morris at 116 Mill Street. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Mr. Bolea said I want to make sure that residents are aware that a handicap sign in front of their property is not specifically their spot and a discussion pursued.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the contract with Mid-Atlantic Environmental Consultants in the amount of \$4,000.00 for Asbestos Abatement Technical Specification for the Coraopolis Memorial Library. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Mr. McCutcheon said this allows them to prepare the specs and what we want done so that we can advertise for proposals and he continued to explain.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Pendel asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 23-412 approving for the Montour Run Sewer Shed Act 537 Special Study to be prepared to update to the Act 537 Sewage Facility Plan.

Mr. McCutcheon said this is a mandate by the PA DEP. During a heavy rain storm, we have overflows that make it to the river which is a violation. We are going to have to put a Montour Lift Station Equalization Tank there and he continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-412 approving the Montour Run Sewer Shed Act 537 Special Study to be prepared to update to the Act 537 Sewage Facility Plan. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion. Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-413 setting the contribution by participants of the Borough of Coraopolis Police Pension Plan for the year 2024 at 5%. Mr. Pitassi seconded the motion.

Mr. McCutcheon said this is normal, we've been at 5% as long as I can remember.

Motion approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Mr. Pendel said we need to discuss Public Meeting Rules & Regulations that Mr. Rick Start prepared for the Borough.

Mr. McCutcheon said everyone should have received a copy of this and there will be a resolution next week to pass it. Please look this information over and let me know if you have any questions.

Mr. Cardimen said I want to thank President Pendel for looking into this issue.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Dixon said I have nothing this evening.

Public Works Foreman's Report

Mr. Larry Tollis said we are done with leaf season and both trucks are prepared and ready for winter.

Mr. Pendel said when is the new street sweeper coming?

Mr. Cardimen said it's on order and we are still waiting on a couple of pieces for the new 2023 F-550 before it can be delivered.

Committee Reports / Comments from Council

Mr. Mihalyi said I have nothing this evening.

Mr. Bolea said are we going to get rid of the jersey barriers at the bottom of Ridge Avenue where we put that gate?

Mr. Cardimen said I have that covered in my report.

Ms. Marine thanked Mr. Tollis for the leaf cleanup.

Ms. Marine said I have an update on Parks and Recreation; earlier in November our committee met with Mr. Randon Willard, Mr. McCutcheon and Scott (the owner of the Cobblehaus) to discuss the town square area. We showed them the furnishings from the last presentation and are going to follow up with final specs and a couple of different quotes from providers and continued to explain.

Ms. Marine said we met with the Shade Tree Commission as they need to submit their paperwork for the spring tree planting. This includes the trees at the town square area and their deadline is the end of the year so we need to align as a Council as to what that footprint will look like and the number of trees. She continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Ms. Marine said in talking with Mr. Simonetti and feedback from the Arborist and the Urban Forester their recommendation is a design of seven trees and directed everyone to the handouts.

Mr. Cardimen said previously we looked at this and agreed upon five trees.

Ms. Marine said the Arborist came out and reviewed the space and his recommendation is for seven trees and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve five trees for the Town Square area.

A discussion pursued.

Mr. Bolea said I am having trouble visualizing the trees there with the food trucks. The concern to me is we want to allow for the food truck because that seems to work very well for the town and he continued to explain.

Ms. Marine said the deadline for the paperwork is the end of the month so I wanted to use this workshop meeting to create some discussion. If there are still questions in your mind maybe walk the space at the square to get a feel for the size of the area and more discussion pursued.

Mr. Pendel said we have a motion on the floor and if there is not a second then it dies.

Ms. Marine thanked Mr. Simonetti for putting the presentation together and advocating for the Borough.

Mr. Pendel said we will have this added to our Agenda for next Wednesday.

The motion failed to get a second.

Ms. Marine said my second topic is parking. I want to thank everyone for coming to the Public Meeting last week and am asking if any of you have any questions or thoughts from that meeting.

Mr. Pendel said I feel the consultant met our level of expectations for the project and he continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Ms. Marine said thank you all for your input, I think the next step is to put together a punchlist of the implement now short-term activities and she continued to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said Ms. Marine you did a wonderful job at the meeting and a great job on the whole project and I want to thank you.

Mr. Cardimen said thank you Ms. Marine for your hard work on this, it is something that we need to tackle in the continual progression of our community.

Mr. Cardimen said referring to Mr. Bolea's question concerning the jersey barriers the Public Works Department and I along with the CWSA have worked diligently to clean up the end of Ridge Avenue and make it accessible to emergency vehicles only so thank you Mr. Tollis, and your crew.

Mr. Cardimen said we had some problems with our back hoe this week and have ordered a new set of tires for that along with some hydraulic work that needs done.

Mr. McCutcheon said I want to thank Mr. Cardimen, he was able to find a tire supplier which will save money and he continued to explain.

Mr. Pitassi said getting back to the trees, as for as the Shade Tree is concerned, we are going beyond the mid-town square. On top of all of this, there is a property on the corner of Edgewood and Vine Street and the owner would like twelve trees. There are two trees on top of where we did the Ferree Street steps and we are going to add two more of the same type of trees and the house at the corner of Edgewood from Ferree would like two trees put in front of her house.

Mr. McCutcheon said is this a total of four trees in the area?

Mr. Pitassi said yes.

Mr. McCutcheon said Council will have to approve that and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Pitassi said we would also like to plant two trees in our parking lot by the Jailhouse and he continued to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said we can wait until next week to make a motion so can have the town square motion as well.

Mr. Szabat said I have nothing this evening.

Manager's Report

Mr. McCutcheon said COG sent a letter stating that Coraopolis gets to host the December 2024 COG Dinner. I have mentioned it to Carmody's, but haven't given them a date. I am just letting you know this and usually Council, the Mayor and the Chief are invited.

Mr. McCutcheon said the road on Montour Street is starting to slide a little, above Mr. Omlor's house close to the Moon boarder. PennDOT got there quickly and right now there are stop signs in both directions. This is probably not a project until next year and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said before the February Workshop Meeting, we are going to have a hearing. It is not finalized, but I'm just giving you a heads up that the Cash Market wants to sell beer and wine so they will have to have a hearing.

Mr. McCutcheon said we are still working with the soccer field to get money compensation for the four residents, so they don't have to dig up their yards. Some of those residents say they have to have a turn around because they have to back out across three lanes, if heading into Coraopolis.

Mr. McCutcheon said the Green Light Go project at State and Montour Street is going slower. There is still one post missing, but I will check with them for an update.

Mr. McCutcheon said we have been awarded an ARLE grant for 4th Avenue and Watt Street, but I am not sure when that will start.

Mr. McCutcheon said I gave everyone a copy of the budget and there is no tax increase again, so we are in good shape.

Mr. Bolea made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. Mr. Cardimen 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. Pendel said let the record state that Mr. Bolea had to leave the Executive Session at 7:40 PM.

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

Motion Approved by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Meeting Adjourned.