

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Bodish. In attendance were Burkner, Eisenhauer, Luckenbach, Molitoris, Royer, and Sodl, as well as Police Chief Genovese, and PWD Boyle. Vacancy in the office of Mayor. Fire Chief Buskaritz and EMA Coordinator Buskaritz were absent.

Hearing of persons present:

Dolph Wechsler, 5 Magna Dr., thanked public works for clean up efforts during snow storm, they did a great job. Would like to see police officers be friendlier toward residents, wave, say hello. Chief Genovese stated will take care of same.

Barry Kibler, 143 Cherry St., issue with neighbor at 141 Cherry St. who installed 6' fence and now seven cameras all around property and some are pointed toward his residence, spoke with Helman regarding fence and Chief regarding cameras, realizes there is no Ordinance or law in place against either fence or cameras. Tried to speak with neighbor asking not to point cameras at home, no change. Could council initiate an ordinance to restrict placement of cameras, etc. Chief Genovese stated police cannot make neighbor show what the cameras are recording, however he will do an outside visual check to ascertain where cameras are pointing. Pres. Bodish questioned if cameras look into Mr. Kibler's home with a negative response, pointed toward front entrance from side. Mr. Kibler gave Pres. Bodish diagrams of properties showing fence and location of cameras.

Paul Brem, 26 South 2<sup>nd</sup> St., would like to applaud the efforts of public works with the limited manpower and equipment available. However, snow was removed from businesses prior to snow emergency routes. Pres. Bodish responded residents must help, if vehicles are moved makes it easier to open street. PWD Boyle stated snow emergency routes are in place to keep roadway open and passable, not parking areas. After storm, began removal at businesses, then churches and then problem parking areas. Sodl added public works worked for 16 hours straight on Saturday in order to keep streets passable for emergency vehicles. Mr. Brem stated plowing was not the issue, that was good, it was that the snow was not removed from parking lane, added with heavy rains forecast for tomorrow storm drain at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Keystone needs to be cleared of snow for drainage. Luckenbach commented, public works working through town to remove snow where necessary, residents must be patient in storm of this size. PWD Boyle added residents need to help, not hinder, when they shovel snow into large piles in street instead of their front yards, makes parking much more difficult.

At this time, interviews of the applicants for appointment as Coplay Mayor took place.

James Peluso submitted a letter to borough office on January 15, 2016. Mr. Peluso was not in audience to be interviewed by council members.

Kimberly Fitzpatrick submitted a letter and resume to borough office on February 1, 2016. Eisenhauer began interview with the question, what do you believe to be the top 5 strengths necessary to be Mayor. Ms. Fitzpatrick's response included the strengths of confidence, cooperation, open mindedness, authoritative and headstrong, intelligence and follow through on issues also a priority. Burkner questioned how would you build a strong relationship with council. Listen and discuss with all members with understanding, compromise to come to a decision good for all, sit down and get to know every member of council. Burkner questioned how would you respond to negative media on the relationship between Mayor and council. May have disagreements, but all should work together for the good of Coplay. Burkner questioned why do you want to be Mayor. To help our community and keep it the way it is, grew up in a very dissimilar environment, glad to be in Coplay now. Molitoris questioned how long are you a resident of Coplay. Two years. Are you interested in just fulfilling the remaining two years of the term or do you plan to run for Mayor during the next election. Plan to stay in position and run in 2 years. Luckenbach questioned if you plan to be here for the full 23 months of the term with a positive response. Sodl asked Ms. Fitzpatrick to state her name and address for the record. Kimberly Fitzpatrick, 17 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Apt. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front. Questioned if a registered voter with a response of yes. Sodl asked what experience would provide "fresh perspective" as stated in your application letter. Have leadership experience during Marine Corps service with small groups; won't dwell on past problems or issues, keep progressing and moving forward. What do you believe is the most important duty of Mayor. Runs the police department. Military dates from 2006-2008 and worked at Staples from 2006-2010, can you explain. Worked at Staples before and after military. Pres. Bodish asked if working at this time, with a response of no. Eisenhauer questioned what was the most difficult group situation you have been involved in and how did you handle it. in the military, dealt with an individual under my leadership who had more years of experience and did not easily accept my direction. I spoke privately with that individual to correct this situation which did not work. At that point, I utilized the proper channels of command to resolve the situation.

Dean Molitoris submitted letter to borough office on February 2, 2016. Eisenhower stated same questions, what 5 strengths are needed to be Mayor. Listener, communicator, sales person to sell small town charm, flexibility and good moral values. What was a difficult situation and how did you handle it. During term as President of Coplay Sports, fieldhouse sustained heavy damage from fire, rallied volunteers of the organization, borough council and other borough organizations together to obtain funding to rebuild. Burkner questioned how to build strong relationship between Mayor and council. Longtime resident with a lot of pride in our small town of Coplay, negative comments would be discussed to find root of issue. Need to maintain open communication with council in order to promote good relationships. Mayor is an important job, negative media press will happen but shouldn't be provoked, social media should not be used for response to negative comments, should be discussed one on one. Why do you want to be Mayor? Love the borough, raised here, looking forward to continue the recent progressive mindset while maintaining small town feel, talking with residents and communicating what Coplay is about to those residents. Councilmen Molitoris questioned if looking to fill in for the 23 months or longer. Long term is the goal. Sodl questioned if a registered voter and asked to state name and address for record. Yes, registered voter. Dean Molitoris, 5 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Sodl stated brother Mark is on borough council, would there be any conflict or difficulty with that. Considers that to be a strength. Sodl questioned work history. Work at Moravian College as plant operations manager, manage staff of 12 and deal with faculty on regular basis. Sodl questioned what is most important duty of Mayor. Realizes police department is an important function, I believe resident concerns, talking with residents is most important, bringing issues raised by residents back to council. Pres. Bodish stated 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration upcoming and very important to our town, need someone to represent the borough.

Pres. Bodish thanked Ms. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Molitoris for submitting their applications for Mayor and for answering council's questions.

PWD Boyle reported January completed projects include removal of all Christmas lights and municipal building decorations, upgraded street signs, demolition of old locker room in basement and preparing plans for new locker room, survey of 1 Bridge Street property and posting "no trespassing, no dumping and private property" signs, completed routine building maintenance and clean up, routine sanitation pickups, routine street repairs and routine snow plowing and clean up. Projected work for February and March includes 1 Bridge Street site work, start pool pump house work, complete storm drain mapping, start parkway clean up, begin pool preparations, start tennis court building repairs and start fire department painting.

EMA Coordinator Buskaritz was absent, no report.

Chief Genovese reported 163 calls for January, 2016 with 1 arrest, 11 traffic violations, 3 written warnings and 11 borough parking tickets issued. Snow Emergency put into effect by Mayor as of 11 pm Friday, which worked well to aid public works in keeping roads open. Two officers were out during storm to aid residents and public works personnel did very well. Will be carrying opiate overdose kits in cars beginning sometime next week, some officers still need final training. At this time, Chief Genovese reviewed 2015 Police Summary Report, reviewing number of calls, arrests, and clearances with borough council. Eisenhower questioned if curfew ordinance had impact. Chief Genovese responded yes, saw decrease in late night activity.

Fire Chief Buskaritz was absent, no report.

Secretary Gyecsek reported financial interest statements will be included in meeting packets and should be returned to office by 3/31. Also, copy of fee schedule will be included in packet for review, same will be discussed at 3/1 workshop meeting. Met with new engineer to review open projects and upcoming Front Street paving project. Bid package will be advertised in March and opened at 4/5 workshop meeting, hoping to include streets damaged in 6/30 storm in order to obtain better pricing, however snow fall has set back process. Engineer will attend next week's meeting to bring council up to date. Per Solicitor Preston, Balliet Stadium Agreement is okay to approve using same names as in past and first paragraph of agreement gives borough right to use premises. Also, Solicitor contacted Coke directly, working with them to draft a contract, may be able to report on same at regular meeting. Sodl suggested to Mr. Helman in audience that he followup with Coke as well. Sodl questioned status of roof bid package. PWD Boyle received call @ 2 weeks ago regarding roof warranty at pool house, nothing since that time. Secretary Gyecsek reported to date cost is more than \$16,000 for engineering and no bid package. Sodl requests Secretary contact Solicitor Preston to call Keystone Consulting Engineers to discuss.

Discussion of any problems/matters:

Fire department request to use "office" structure at 1 Bridge Street property for fire training purposes. Sodl stated he had requested fire department representatives attend to answer questions, no one in attendance, matter should be tabled until March workshop.

Council representatives for safety committee and liaison positions formerly held by Mayor Bundra – IRT, CFC and Coplay Sports. Pres. Bodish suggested PWD Boyle to chair safety committee. Burkner stated will stay on committee. Secretary stated must have two elected officials, Sodl volunteered. Pres. Bodish asked Royer to be IRT liaison as he already attends meetings. Royer accepted same. CFC liaison asked Luckenbach who agreed to same; and Coplay Sports liaison to Burkner as chair of Parks & Recreation with affirmative response.

Any other changes to lease agreement with CFC. None stated by members, motion at regular meeting.

Boards & Commissions – George Prebula to open appointment on Civil Service Commission and Christine Mann resigning as member of Coplay Planning Commission. Chief Genovese stated Mr. Prebula currently alternate on Civil Service volunteering to fill open position left by Stan Reinhard. No further questions by members, motions at regular meeting.

Request to waive pavilion fees for the following rentals – St John's Lutheran Church on 7/24; Coplay Community Days from 8/24-8/31; Trinity UCC on 9/11; and Senior Citizens on 9/21. No questions or comments by members, motion at regular meeting.

From tax collector Deutsch – request to turn over outstanding 2015 per capita and 2015 garbage taxes to G.H. Harris Associates. Secretary reported both amounts less than turned over for collection last year. Sodl commented repeat offenders still gall. Pres. Bodish did receive numbers from Deutsch of outstanding, oldest is 3 properties from 2008. No further discussion by members, motion at regular meeting.

Pres. Bodish asked for any other items for discussion, there were none.

Mayor position is vacant, no report.

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees:

Sodl reported identification cards should be issued to all employees, including recreation and library. To buy program and printer would cost more than \$2,000, however we can send picture and have private company prepare and issue for only \$7 each card, in this instance, more practical to outsource. ID is particularly important during an intermunicipal emergency situation. All members agreed with need for same.

Royer reported Secretary received cost of \$800 from Dietrich Group to appraise 38 S 4<sup>th</sup> St for sale, contacted our bank who did not return call, and contacted Riggs Real Estate who provided costs of \$425.00 for full appraisal, \$300 for walk thru and \$250 for drive by. After minimal discussion, members agreed to walk thru appraisal for \$300 to move forward with selling property. Sodl questioned if bid advertisement could be sent out to realtors. Secretary will check with Solicitor Preston on same. Royer continued, gym roof leaking due to snow pack, public works removed snow in area however could not determine where leak is located, will continue to monitor. IRT report, Frosty 5K run organized by two teens from Northampton who are proponents of the IRT and donated all proceeds to the IRT, commend them on their efforts.

Burkner reported council is twenty-four hour job, receives calls routinely i.e. gym roof leak and snow in the cemetery, etc. and thanked public works and members for their support to resolve concerns when calls are received.

Eisenhauer reported she will report on overtime used for recent snow removal at regular meeting.

Bodish thanked public works for their efforts during storm. No garbage or recycling pickups were postponed due to the snow.

Hearing of persons present: None.

AT REGULAR MEETING:

Vote to renew lease agreement with CFC.

Vote on appointment to Civil Service Commission and resignation from Planning Commission.

Vote to waive pavilion rental fees.

Vote to turn over outstanding 2015 per capita and 2015 garbage.

Vote to renew lease with Coplay Sports and Legion Baseball for Balliet Stadium.

Vote to appoint Mayor.

As there was no further business, motion to adjourn by Sodl, second by Burkner. Meeting adjourned until next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 7 PM.