

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Acting President Sodl.

In attendance were Mayor Bodish, Dee, Hermany, Kern, Santoroski, Sodl, Chief Emerich and Fire Chief Britt

EMA Grim, Helman & Luckenbach were absent

Acting President Sodl led a moment of Silence in Honoring Steve Burker

Pres. Sodl led pledge of allegiance:

Hearing of persons present: Rachel & Chris Fine from DRC Technologies. Final & updated proposal of 2025 contract. Tim Grohtolsky from Coplay Sports regarding tournament fundraiser all proceeds go to the Boyle family and amend contract to include new stadium lights being used. Annie Killeen questioned insurance coverage for Coplay Sports, Jarod Glass from Coplay Sports requesting clarification of "cowboy authority" and lease agreement regarding use of Stadium lights.

PWD – Not present

BCO Helman- Absent

Chief Emerich- reported October 265 incidents, 5 arrests of DUI or thief related. Yearly 2650 calls, last year's total 2681 calls. Contribute to more staff, officers involved and engaged. 350 Citations for the year. 281 last year's total. 51 arrests this year; 62 arrests last year's. Stats: 29 traffic arrests, 15 written warnings, 20 Borough tickets, \$100 paid parking tickets. 4 police requests total, 2 vendor permits for Halloween parade. 1 fingerprint fee. Money collected: \$215. Vehicle #33 involved in accident "dead lined" and "disabled". Adjustor to determine whether vehicle is repairable or needs replacement. Vehicle #32 had been voted to be potentially decommissioned. Permission granted by Mr. Sodl for the vehicle to be used as Chief's vehicle. Vehicle "partially" in service for Chief to respond to calls, because vehicle No longer has printer or dash cam. Insurance covered until 12/31. PD participated in the Halloween parade. Chief commended officers: either their first parade or came on with FTO during last Halloween parade, "eye opening" with a couple hiccup with extra volunteers, they 'gutted it out'. Officer Dunleavy and Miss Humanick participated in trick or treating by giving out \$200.00 in candy and receiving a \$50.00 donation. Shop with a cop via County in December. PCCD grant \$12,119.00 cadet reimbursement. Receipts and reports submitted. 3 cadets academy tuition free, salary 50% reimbursement, cadet uniforms, supplies for testing, screening, polygraph, firearms paid; and 80% duty equipment paid. Evidence and records storage training to take place 11/11, 11/12. 30+ officers from area participating in and boosting review of local businesses for lunch. \$500.00 per class are free to Coplay officers. 6 booked training for 2025. Cadet Clint is slated to graduate 12/13. Mr. Dee extended thanks to Fire Police from surrounding counties for volunteering with Halloween parade. Time stripes on Chestnut Street do not currently need to be re-painted. Touch up in Spring.

Fire Chief Britt -reported via Chief Emerich. 31 calls. Yearly total 226. Responded 6 building fires. Coin toss 11/29 2nd and Chestnut. FD is excepting donations for families involved in the fire on Catherine Drive. Check to see what is needed. Personally thanked the community helping the families. CPD is working on doing a BBQ for the wildfires, because it's a hot meal. Grant & community days' pay for daytime fire fighters. Other department reaching out b/c CFD has been successful. In the coming years they would like to extend coverage 24/7. Contributing quick response for Catherine Drive. Under normal operations. Mr. Sodl stated for a bunch of volunteers and doing a heck of a job. Support as a whole the volunteers with out question.

EMA Grim- Absent

Chadwick – Reported letters: dated 10/31 from Broughal & DeVito 2025 fees rate increase to \$150.00 for Solicitor and \$95.00 for paralegal per hour. Fees adjusted in budget. Centronia Ambulance Corp, sincere gratitude for \$2000.00 donation. Railroad explorer post requesting permission to park their

trailer in the back because they will be at Ag Hall from the 8 to 10. Nov 30 to Dec 1st. Verizon monopole requests Maple streets to close. No date requested or length of time. Rick stated spoke to Brad, crane to be placed on street and closing Maple from 8th to 6th. The Chief was informed only one lane would be closed, 4-6 hours. Flagger force can be requested due to dangerous curve and be paid by Verizon.

Applications excepted for Mayor's position have until Nov 9. Postmarked 11/9.

Discussion of any problems/matters:

Acting Mayor Bodish- stated that the passing of Mayor Burkner left a big void for the council and the community. 2. Thank CFD and neighboring FD and municipalities with quick response for the fire at Catherine Drive.

Dee- Nothing to report

Hermany- No meeting last month. Nothing to report. Except there's a meeting this month.

Kern- reported first reading of budget. The finance committee met twice prior to this meeting. Lehigh County Assessment real estate value of Coplay Borough total \$201,679,300.00. Admin: increase of salary of engineer, solicitor, auditor 7.5% to that line item. Tax collector salary based on taxes collected: borough building/property down .600th of a percent. Streets up 12.9%. Multi-modal grant, putting in streets, increased budget there. Recreation down 10th of a percent. Waiting for property and professional Liability insurance for Borough. Emergency services and Police budget down 7/10 of a percent. Still in negotiations with CPD salary will be contract based. Addition technology enhancement for LH county compliance. Community engagement projects, Chief Emmerich looking programs: coffee with cops, national night out. Fire budget down 1.66%. Emergency management saved \$3507.77. State fund, purchasing PW vehicle. Sanitation cost up 3.47% based on PW contract of employees. Recommendation of the finance committee hold taxes as same as last year. Garbage tax increase of \$20 per household. \$20 per senior, 6% increase to business. Chief Emmerich reported PD donations traditionally made in the past, donations were built into budget and are not required.

Administration-

Luckenbach-Absent

Santoroski- \$300,000.00 grant rewarded to purchase a street sweeper for Coplay. Mr. Kern congratulated Vito the grant writer. Mr. Sodl asked Mr. Bodish for rough cost numbers of street sweeper \$383,000.00. When applied 2 years ago, the cost was \$353,000.00. Borough would need to add in \$83,000.00. Currently fee per year to sweep streets is under \$2,000.00. New street sweeper can be available 24/7 and able to clean storm drains. Mr. Dee thanked the state representative for helping get grant.

Sodl – Working of Police contract.

Hearing of Persons Present: Joe Bundra, questioned new garbage tax increase \$20.00 per household and \$20.00 for seniors. Seniors will continue to get a 10% discount. Seniors current \$380 to increase to \$400.00. \$420 current household rate, increase to \$440.00.

At Regular Meeting:

Approve Technology Company switch from DRC to Keystone Technologies.

Approve the first reading of budget by Finance Chair.

Approve Secretary to advertise final budget reading and special meeting.

Approve Secretary to advertise ordinance setting tax rate for 2025 and resolution adopting receipts and expenses per new budget.

Approve December 16, 2024 6:00 PM for the special meeting to approve the 2025 budget.

Approve the annual appointment of auditor Kirk & Summa to audit 12/31/2024 financial statements.

Approve Coplay Community Days to lease Plaza property for \$250.00 from November 22, 2024 through January 31, 2025.

Approve Explorer Post 101 to have their Holiday open house Saturday, December 14, 2024 through January 5, 2025 with numerous dates and times through that time period.

Approve annual donation to Coplay Sports in the amount of \$500.

Approve 1–2 day road closure from 8th & Maple St. to Wall St. from 8-4pm for Verizon to place crane for projected work on the monopole. (will open road at 4)

Approve Coplay Sports to use the Municipal Gym on Mondays & Wednesdays from 5PM-7PM, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 5PM -9PM, Saturday & Sunday from 10AM-7PM from November 2024 through March 2025

Approve to return 75% Street Opening Escrow funds for the completed Front and Second Street project to UGI in the amount of \$312,300.

Approve to sell and accept bids for Fire Dept 2005 Ford Crown Victoria.

Approve naming the Gazebo at Coplay Town Plaza the “Steve Burkner Memorial Gazebo”.

Authorize Attorney Harrison to conduct a Personnel investigation.

Any other items for Discussion:

Regular Meeting November 12, 2024 at 7PM

Motion by Kern, second by Hermany, to enter executive session for Personnel at 8:27 PM.

Motion by Dee, second by Santoroski, to adjourn meeting 8:40 PM.
All in favor 6; Opposed _____ Abstain _____ **Carried/Denied**