

Tuesday January 21,2024

COURTDALE COUNCIL MTG. MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by Carl H.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL:

Carl Hodorowski, President
Jeff Ford-
Joseph Rish, Vice President-
Debra Youngblood-
Amy Yuhas-ABSENT
Michael Waslin- ABSENT
Joe Biniek-
Mayor Degnan-
Len Sanguedolce, Solicitor
Loriann Monto-Secretary/Treas.

MINUTES READ:

Minutes from the December Council meeting were reviewed by all members of council. Debbie motioned to accept the minutes and Joe B seconded the motion. All were in favor

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The treasurer's report was read, Carl made a notation about the income being a bit convoluted because of the police cruiser grant money having to be added and then subtracted in the police category, as well as the income from engineering fees that were added and subtracted because they were a part of the paving project in 22/23. Police salaries are not actual because of the DUI/DRE reimbursements—they are paid and then the borough is reimbursed by the county for their time on DUI/DRE. Also noted was the property tax totals—there was a considerable increase in income from hiking the taxes a bit and they offset some of the higher rate expenses. Joe R motioned to accept the treasurer's report with Jeff Ford Seconding his motion and all were in favor.

Jeff Ford motioned to pay the bills and Joe B seconded the motion. All were in favor.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Degnan read the police report –Chief Dan submitted an annual police report which was very thorough,insightful,and helpful to recap all the great things that the Courtdale Police Department has done and continues to work on.

Easter baskets with the Fire Department were mentioned and they are actively working on a collaboration with the boro, police and fire, to organize a holiday activity or event.

PUBLIC:

There were several students from WWV that were sitting in to observe the council meeting. Resident from 57 Short St, stood to explain his concerns with the plowing of snow to avoid the water shut offs at the end of the street. Carl will review with the street department, some of the employees were not aware of shut offs.

Carl also expressed concern and frustration with the management of the plowing schedule with the street department workers. Carl and the street committee will coordinate a meeting to discuss the situation with all parties involved.

COMMITTEES:

Meeting with Brenda Pugh was discussed;

Carl, Scott, and Len had a meeting with members of the Agency working with PennDot on the 309 Bridge relocation project. Many items were discussed, with the primary takeaways being—A traffic signal light will be added once the project is complete, which adds another layer to a number of factors (maintenance, insurance, increase in liquid fuel funds). This project is scheduled to be in 2026/2027. There is a very great possibility that Courtwright St will be paved because of the detour that will be in place during the project.

OLD BUSINESS:

Joe Rish made a motion to accept the resignation of Council member Michael Waslin. Jeff Ford seconded the motion and all members were in favor. (Michael Waslin submitted his letter of resignation on 12/17/24 with the resignation being effective 1/21/25.)

The auto repair shop at the end of Courtdale Ave did move the signs that were blocking the view of traffic back to make traffic a little more visible.

The Bureau of Elections will be contacted with the offices that are up for election this year. The offices are Mayor (4 year term), Tax collector (4 year term), (4) councilperson seats (4 year terms), (1) councilperson (2 year term), Judge of Elections (4 year term), and Inspector of Elections (4 year term). The secretary will submit the form once the solicitor reviews it

NEW BUSINESS:

Debbie made a motion to accept the payment to the tax collector for December (29 payments @\$2.75)

and November (6 @\$2.75). Joe R seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Carl made council aware of issues with outside lights. Faulty bulbs are the issue. Mattioli was contacted and will replace the lights. Debbie motioned to approve the installation of new lights. Joe R seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Hoyt Library is requesting a \$1000 donation, and West Side Little League is requesting a donation. These requests will be tabled until the next meeting—we will research previous donations and discuss at the next council meeting.

Jeff Ford motioned to pay \$50 to Larksville Ambulance as a yearly donation to their service. Joe B seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Debbie read the Courtdale Fire Company yearly report.

Jaci mentioned that the hose company is looking into hiring a grant writer. She also mentioned looking into who the backup fire company will be.

Carl discussed the sewer meter(Luzerne Boro contacted Courtdale for flow readings)—the company who installed the meter was contacted to calibrate the meter but at his meeting found the sewer to be “filled” and was unable to perform the calibration. Carl contacted WVSA to clean the line. Once the weather is above 35 degrees they will be able to perform the cleanout.

The Courtdale Borough Website, CourseVector, sent an email making us aware of the need for ADA compliance. Loriann will reach out to Course Vector to request more information and actual cost of the service.

Raises for Courtdale employees were discussed. Jeff Ford motioned to approve a 3% raise for all borough employees for 2025. Joe B seconded the motion, a roll call was done and all in attendance were in favor.

Joe Rish motioned to adjourn the meeting, with Joe B seconding the motion to adjourn at 8:01pm.

