

**COUDERSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2023
5:45 PM**

The Coudersport Borough Council held their regular monthly meeting on Friday, November 17, 2023 beginning at 5:45 pm at the Coudersport Borough Maintenance Facility on Damascus Road.

The meeting was called to order by President Hathaway who led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Present were members Wayne Hathaway, George Hults, Jack Keifer, Jesse Minor, Marty Fry and Todd Husson.

Also present were Mayor Dubots, Manager Beverly Morris, Donna LeSchander, Wayne Wentzel, Denny Goodenough, Abigail Rossman, Robert Rossman, Teresa Kisiel, Kelli Wheeler, Officer Jared White and Officer Ian Creech.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS – NONE

VISITORS REQUESTS AND COMMENTS

Teresa Kisiel was present to inform Council that she is moving in January and the sign in front of her house for parking for tax collection will need to be moved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was motioned by Councilman Fry, seconded by Councilman Keifer to approve the minutes of October 20, 2023 with a name correction in the public present (Tom Thomas to Jim Thomas). Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHER LIST

It was motioned by Councilman Hults, seconded by Councilman Husson to approve the voucher list in the following amounts: General Fund \$211,593.60, Water Operating Fund \$28,418.10, Sewer Operating Fund \$39,400.31, Street Lighting Fund \$3,671.46, Fire Protection Fund \$4,070.00, Recreation Fund \$10,289.62 and Library Fund \$63.00. Roll call vote taken: Councilman Keifer Yes, Councilman Husson Yes, Councilman Hults Yes, Councilman Fry Yes, Councilman Minor Yes and Councilman Hathaway Yes. Motion carried 6 Yes 0 No.

Reports that were received were meeting notes, voucher list, fund balance, treasurer's report and police report.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2023-4 LOCAL SHARE ACCONT GRANT (STATEWIDE)

It was motioned by Councilman Fry, seconded by Councilman Keifer to approve resolution 2023-4 a resolution needed to apply for LSA Grant funds in the amount of \$425,000 for equipment (street sweeper/vacuum). Roll call vote taken: Councilman Keifer Yes, Councilman Husson Yes, Councilman Hults Yes, Councilman Fry Yes, Councilman Minor Yes and Councilman Hathaway Yes. Motion carried 6 Yes 0 No.

COUDERSPORT VOL. AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

Kelli Wheeler and Mandy Smith, representing CVAA, were present at the meeting to discuss with Council the need and request for more funding for CVAA. It was noted that 40% of the calls are for Coudersport Borough and CVAA covers 30 municipalities. Coudersport Borough currently assesses a ½ mil to residents that is passed through to CVAA. All of the municipalities in our area do not contribute and no funding is provided from the County or Rep. Causer's office.

It was motioned by Councilman Fry, seconded by Councilman Minor to approve a ¼ mil raise in the budget. After discussion, Councilman Fry amended his motion to raise the millage from ½ mill to 1 mill. This motion was seconded by Councilman Minor. Roll call vote taken: Councilman Keifer Yes, Councilman Husson Yes, Councilman Hults Yes, Councilman Fry Yes, Councilman Minor Yes and Councilman Hathaway Yes. Motion carried 6 Yes 0 No.

This change will be reflected in the 2024 budget that will be advertised.

MAHER SIDE LOT ADDITION

After discussion this item was tabled until minutes from August 2000, where a fence was approved condition upon a survey being done where a fence was erected and until a measurement from the proposed side yard and the garage can be placed on the map.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Morris reported that CBA met on Thursday, November 16, 2023 and CAMA will meet on Monday, November 27, 2023.

Manager Morris asked if Council would consider the same Christmas gift to the employees as in the past. This is a \$75 gift card to any local business. Councilman Husson requested that the employees be given the option to donate their gift to CVAA or some other local charity.

Manager Morris asked that consideration be given to the time and place for the organizational meeting that will be held on January 2, 2024. It was discussed and decided that the meeting will be held on January 2, 2024 at the normal meeting room on Damascus Road beginning at 6 pm.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dubots reported that Trunk n Treat was a success and that there were no issues with Trick or Treat.

Mayor Dubots requested that parking meters be bagged from November 20, 2023 through January 2, 2024 in support of the merchants. It was motioned by Councilman Husson, seconded by Councilman Hults to approve this request. Motion unanimously carried.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief McClain was not able to be present. Officer White and Officer Creech were present and Officer Creech updated Council on training he attended in Harrisburg that was presented by the FBI and has to do with how secure all law enforcement computers will have to become. Audits will be conducted by the PSP clean section. Officer Creech is working with Councilman Keifer on these requirements.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UTILITIES, STREETS, BRIDGES AND TREES

Manager Morris reported that the repairs to the channel wall have been completed.

RECREATION/LIBRARY

Manager Morris reported that DCNR has approved the close out of the pool grant monies.

FINANCE/ORDINANCE

COUNCIL STIPEN

It was motioned by Councilman Hults, seconded by Councilman Keifer to raise the amount of monthly pay that Councilmen and the Mayor receive from \$100 per month to \$125 per month. Discussion that followed included Manager Morris reminding all that this pay increase would only be for the newly elected council members. After the next election, those elected would then receive the increase as per Title 8 (Borough Code). Roll call vote taken: Councilman Keifer Yes, Councilman Husson No, Councilman Hults Yes, Councilman Fry Yes, Councilman Minor No and Councilman Hathaway No. With 3 votes Yes and 3 votes No, Mayor Dubots was called upon to break the tie. Mayor Dubots voted Yes. Motion carried 4 Yes, 3 No.

2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

It was motioned by Councilman Fry, seconded by Councilman Minor to advertise the 2024 budget for public inspection and prepare and advertise the ordinance for an increase in taxes for 2024. Roll call vote taken: Councilman Keifer Yes, Councilman Husson Yes, Councilman Hults Yes, Councilman Fry Yes, Councilman Minor Yes and Councilman Hathaway Yes. Motion carried 6 Yes 0 No.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Morris, Secretary

