

MONACA BOROUGH
Meeting Minutes
September 25th, 2018 at 7:00 pm

The Regular Meeting of the Monaca Borough Council was held on the above date and time. The Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Mr. Snyder- absent	Mr. Rebich- absent
Mrs. Majors - present	Mr. Blanarik- present
Mr. McGown- present	Mr. Michel- present
Mr. LaPearle- present	VP Shotter - present
Mr. Wilson- present	President Booher- present

Others

Mayor Simon Short- present; Mario N. Leone, Jr. – present; Rich Urick, Esq. - present

Engineers Report- Tony Sadaka of Widmer Engineer gave his report.

Visitors- none

Communications- none

Minutes- Mr. Wilson motioned to approve the **Regular** Meeting Minutes from the September 11th, 2018 Council Meeting. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wilson motioned to approve the **Work Shop** Meeting Minutes of September 18th, 2018. Second by Mr. Blanarik. V.P. Shotter asked for confirmation if the Borough will be paying for the upcoming DC trip. Mr. Leone and President Booher confirmed that the Borough is paying for the trip. Mr. Shotter asked if the minutes that state “the Borough will not be paying...” could be revised to reflect the correct information that the Borough is paying for the trip. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Blanarik both rescinded their previous motion. Mr. Shotter **motioned** to amend the Work Shop meeting minutes from September 18th, 2018 to note that the Borough is paying for the DC trip. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal and Contractual- Vice President Shotter motioned to approve the monthly bills. Second by Mr. LaPearle. Motion carried unanimously.

Managers' Report- Mr. Leone called up Scott Adamson, Broker for the Borough's Insurance to discuss 2018-2019 Insurance quotes for renewal for the Borough. He sends this to Mr. Leone every year which then needs council's approval for renewal. He began by passing out a packet to council, Solicitor Urick and Mayor Short with all the information provided that he then began to discuss. He went over the renewal premiums and compared them to last year. Scott did mention there is a \$3000 increase from last year. Mr. Shotter motioned to approve the 2018-2019 Insurance Renewal for the Borough of Monaca. Second by Mr. McGown. President Booher asked the audience three times if they had any questions/concerns regarding the new motion. There were none. Motion carried unanimously. Scott was dismissed from the meeting.

Borough Solicitors Report: Solicitor Urick had nothing to report. He did reiterate council will soon act upon ordinances for new position in the police department, Parking Ordinance and Quality of Life ordinance. Other than that, everything else is status quo.

New Business:

1. Mr. Leone began by explaining the letter sent by Duquesne Light representative Barbara Leja. He had a meeting with them in regards to DLC designing the relocation of dry utilities in town. It was not mentioned in the meeting but was stated in the e-mail received that DLC wants to move forward with the Borough and would like to put a deposit down of \$20,000 for design/engineering of the project. They asked for a little more clarity on final cost of the project and how much will the \$20,000 deposit cover. Mr. Leone was asking direction from council and could he move forward with them on this. Mr. Michel asked if any other town ever received a deposit before. Mr. Leone said SGA said this is customary from DLC only. Widmer Engineer Tony Sadaka was in the audience and answered

a few engineer related questions that council posed in regards to design & costs for the project. Mr. Leone also stated there is nothing in writing from DCL at this point. By the Borough undergrounding the utilities and economically enhancing the corridor the borough can promote further economic development that's bigger and bolder which will give DCL more customers which in turn will provide more revenue. Overall, the Borough is hoping to get into a partnership with DCL on the project. Mr. Shotter stated they do not have enough information to make any decisions therefor he recommended Mr. Leone go back to Duquesne Light and ask for a detailed design proposal of what the total estimates are for the project and then council can make a decision. Lastly, Mr. Shotter reiterated that Solicitor Urick will review any agreements before council agrees upon anything. President Booher concurred.

2. Mr. Leone then reminded council of the Climate Realty group that participated in the Sustainable Bus tour that came through Monaca a few months back. They would like to present to council on an initiative they undertake on being 100% Committed Campaign. Mr. Leone explained that they are asking for a full 100% commitment in taking electricity completely off the grid. Mr. Shotter said he is usually the first to be on board as a supporter but with all the upcoming projects for the downtown area, he said this will be hard to fully commit. He then asked if they could table this until they have further knowledge of projects. Mr. Leone will let the Climate Realty Group know council is not interested at this time.

Mrs. Majors asked if the change in date and time of the Monaca Downtown Business District Authority needs to be advertised. President Booher said yes. Mr. Leone gathered the updated information for date/time change and will have it advertised this week. The name of the MBDA was also questioned to Solicitor Urick if they have to use that name exactly as it states in the Ordinance. Solicitor Urick said yes, that's how they are registered with the state so it must stay as is. He confirmed they are a governmental entity which all governmental entities are non-profits. Lastly, Mrs. Majors asked for those who want the new MBDA newsletter to let her know so she can add them to the list. They will be sent once a month. She thanked Borough Secretary Brittany for updating the Borough website with their information as well.

Mr. Shotter mentioned the Stop Drop and Run 5K Race is on Saturday October 13th and the VFD is in need of volunteers for this. Mr. Michel lastly asked if the parking meters in town were all removed. Mr. Leone was unsure and will find out from the Road Department to make sure all have been removed. He then asked how the Monaca Borough was picked to be the one to hold the 1st travelling Commissioners meeting. Mr. Leone stated councilman Wilson happened to be at one of their meetings and volunteered the Borough to be the first. Based on attendance for the one held tomorrow (September 26th), they will determine if these will continue to other Borough's/Municipalities. Lastly, President Booher asked if Ms. Angel Zampogna could be placed on next Workshop meeting agenda as the next List of Attendee to give her wish-list items/ideas to council. Angel is a part-time employee with the Borough who does clean-up/maintenance at Antoline Park through the Shelter Rental months.

Citizens: **Joe Zupan-1533 Marshall Road-** was in attendance to ask Council's direction about putting a fence up at his residency. This fence would require stretching across two lots, both that he owns. He spoke a few weeks ago with NSO Nick Vorrias on the matter. Nick could not make this decision and directed him to attend a council meeting to bring it to their attention to seek approval. Two of the reasons why he wants the fence put up is for the safety of his own children and since the school bus turns on the corner where his house sits, this would help keep those children safe as well. Mr. Leone elaborated that Mr. Zupan owns two lots, one with a house and one without any structure. In order to put up a fence, the ordinance does state there has to be a primary structure on a lot to put a fence on it. In the event if Mr. Zupan would ever sell that vacant lot by itself, that's where the issue stands since the fence would stretch across both lots. Council discussed and Mr. Zupan explained that he would follow all height requirements for the fence. Mr. Zupan also spoke to a surveyor to come and survey the properties at a cost of \$1400 but the surveyor found it best that he bring it to council instead of paying all these costs since it's just a fence. Council as a whole was unaware of the situation prior to the meeting. Therefore, council needs time to look over the drawings and will put it on the next council meeting agenda October 9th to discuss further once council has a better understanding. Mr. Shotter asked Solicitor Urick if they were to grant a variance if they were able to sell the two lots together. Solicitor Urick said no. Mr. Shotter asked if he could research and see if he could come up with some type of wording where they could have some type of condition when issuing a variance that all the owner would have to do was make sure the fence was taken down before the sale of the lot. Solicitor Urick said that could be doable but you cannot put any restrictions on the sale of the land. Solicitor will do his research on his end.

Announcements: Councilman Wilson announced the upcoming events. Sunday, September 30th Monaca's very first Oktoberfest event at Antoline park from 12pm-6pm. The Next Food Truck Thursday event will be held October 11th at Washington Plaza from 4-8pm. The PSAB Fall Leadership Conference will be held at Seven Springs Resort from October

12th to the 14th. Those who want to attend can register with Brittany. Lastly, Saturday October 13th is the Stop Drop & Run 5K Race, Walk and Obstacle course. Registration available at www.monacafire.com.

Executive Session: Mr. Shotter **motioned** to enter into Executive Session at 7:50p.m. for personnel matters. Second by Mr. McGown. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Shotter motioned to adjourn Executive Session at 9:28p.m. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Shotter motioned to resume the Public Meeting at 9:29p.m. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Blanarik **motioned** to request Mayor Short to approach Chief of Police and members of the Department whom participate with any dealings with the Police Dog to turn over all funds collected to date together with any Financial Documents related to the Police Dog for the purpose of providing open accountability of those funds. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Shotter **motioned** that this point going forward any employee of any department of the Borough needs to obtain permission or authority from Council to engage in any fundraising activity that would benefit any such department in any manner. Second by Mr. McGown. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Michel **motioned** that any Person or Entity desiring to use the Borough's name that would financially benefit the Borough in connection with any fundraising of any kind must first obtain permission from Council to do so. Second by Mr. Shotter. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. LaPearle **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 9:52p.m. Second by Mr. Wilson. Motion carried 7-1, V.P. Shotter-no.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brittany Bologna, Secretary

