

MONACA BOROUGH
Meeting Minutes
October 9th, 2018 at 7:01pm

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. Blararik- present
Mr. McGown- absent	Mr. Michel- present
Mr. LaPearle- present	Vice President Shotter-present
Mr. Wilson- present	President Booher- present

Others Present

Mayor Simon D. Short, Mario N. Leone Jr., Rich Urick, Esq.

Visitors –None

Communications –Mr. Leone mentioned two letters he received this month with results for two grants that were recently submitted. The first was from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the PA Small Water and Sewer Program, Water replacement project. Unfortunately, the Borough was not selected. This is disheartening he states but they will continue to be persistent and hopefully be awarded in the future. The second letter is in regards to the most recent submitted grant for the 2018 Multimodal Transportation Fund. Penn Dot stated the borough did not receive any funds in this cycle. However, when the next cycle opens the borough will be allowed to resubmit the existing application/packet instead of re-doing a new one.

Minutes- Mrs. Majors **motioned** to approve the **Regular** Meeting Minutes from the September 25th, 2018 Council Meeting. Second by Mr. Blararik. Motion carried unanimously.
Mr. Blararik **motioned** to approve **Workshop** Meeting Minutes from the October 2nd, 2018 Meeting. Second by Mr. LaPearle. Motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal and Contractual- Mr. Wilson **motioned** to approve the monthly bills. Second by Mr. Shotter. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayors Report-Mayor Short gave his report for the month of September 2018

Citations and Parking Tickets: **107**
Criminal Arrests: **22**
Call For Service: **544**

Managers' Report- Mr. Leone gave a brief recap of the DC trip to visit with Senator Toomey. Overall the trip went well. He gave compliments to President Booher, Mayor Short and Councilman Blararik for an outstanding job representing the Borough. There won't be an announcement of the award until late November which was a surprise but allows them time for more lobbying. Mr. Leone did receive a letter of support from Shell the day of the trip supporting the project and good to hear they are on board. The 2019 Budget was briefly discussed. He and Mr. Kramer will have everything prepared for the next workshop meeting. He received notification on the Sewer/VAC truck. This truck is used from Pittsburgh Airport Authority. Mr. Leone will get status and follow up when he hears more. He then stated he received the preliminary healthcare renewal of the Boroughs premiums. The Borough is looking at a 4.2% increase in healthcare. Lastly, Mr. Leone brought up a newspaper article that mentioned a grant that was recently awarded to Central Valley School District for a Resource Officer, specifically for the middle school. Chief Piuri came to the podium to elaborate and ask council's direction if they wish to enter into agreement with Central Valley in regards to this. Superintendent Dr. Perry has reached out to him and would like to set up a meeting with Borough officials. Mr. Shotter asked if the school gave any education of cost sharing and what the terms and length of the grant are. Chief Piuri said the grant will cover the remainder of this school year until the end of next school year. Plans after that are unknown. The grant would cover the officer's salary for 180 days that make up a school year. Mr. Leone stated there are big decisions to be made and a committee should be formed. He suggested they look at Center Twp.'s agreement for the committee to have a baseline

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when discussing. Mr. Shotter suggested a 5 year study be done by Chief and Treasurer Dave Kramer. Mr. Wilson strongly disagreed and would like this to be acted upon immediately since the children are involved. President Booher and Vice President Shotter disagreed with Councilman Wilson and emphasized research should be done before decisions are made. Chief also finds it prudent to “crunch numbers” before decisions are made. Mr. Leone elaborated grants take time and they may not see the monies being applied until January of 2019. Chief also stated the school districts’ preference is to keep the same Resource officer on duty every day and to not rotate officers. Mr. Shotter stated the Mayor, Solicitor, Borough Manager, a couple council members, Chief and school board members should make up the committee in regards to the Resource Officer. Chief Piuri stated he will gather as much information and coordinate with the Borough manager and Solicitor and this will be further discussed at the next meeting.

President Booher said backing up to the D.C. trip, he gave “kudo’s” to Councilman Blanak and Mayor Short for the job they did with Senator Toomey. They should be commended on a job well-done. A small round of applause was given.

Solicitors Report- Solicitor Urick gave his report. No update on the two tax appeals on LifeSteps and Gay/Redden. The Dioguardi matter was concluded. The Parking and Quality of Life Ordinances are scheduled for adoption October twenty-third. He has made changes to the Library lease but some statements have been made from the library board that he is having trouble with. The Civil Service Rules and Regulations was mentioned and that first, the changes have been made for Corporal position to be added to the ordinance and second, amendments need to be made to the Rules & Regulations. Council was already given the amendments to the Rules. They were asked to look over again and this will be discussed in an upcoming meeting with Chief. Solicitor Urick stated Mr. Leone will have to contact Mr. Deluco on the sale of Kermiet Tank property for status update. Lastly, he said he filed three tax appeals on properties owned by the Borough. Hearing is set for October 18th which he and Mr. Leone will attend. They should hear a decision by end of year. Mr. Michel asked about a timeline on Kermiet Tank Sale. Council discussed. Solicitor said to first let Mr. Leone talk to Mr. Deluco then go from there.

President Booher brought up the COG Salt Bid tabulations. Unfortunately this year they only received one bid. He explained that every year the Borough buys a lump sum of salt off the State and some off COG as back up. Per that one bid, due to contract being amended with terms not advertised, the Borough is not able to accept since it is now null and void. This will have to go out for rebid and Mr. Leone would like to find prices on his own as well. Mr. Leone discussed how the Borough balances the salt usage out between CoStars and COG. Council discussed.

Department Report -WWTP Curt DiGiovine gave his monthly report for September 2018.

Ordinance Review Committee Report-Mr. Shotter reported he and Mr. Wilson will send the Street Maintenance Ordinance to Solicitor Urick per council’s agreement to change the time only.

Monaca Volunteer Community Outreach Report- Mrs. Majors gave a brief update of road clean up with the children. Weather pending they will continue to clean.

Downtown Business Authority Report- Mrs. Majors asked if the new date and time for the meeting was advertised in the paper. Secretary Brittany confirmed it was. She said the first newsletter went out and committee members Kelly Burgos, Mayor Short and Kevin Kerr did a wonderful job on it. Next meeting will be held October 17th with guest speaker Suzanne Modrak, for a discussion about facade grant availability and application processing.

New Business:

1. Mrs. Majors briefly explained a letter she submitted to council which requested permission to sponsor an Advent Concert at Redeemer Lutheran Church on Thursday, December 6, 2018 to benefit the Santa Cops project. She explained more details about the program. (a.) Mr. Shotter **motioned** to approve the Advent concert at Redeemer Lutheran Church on December 6th to benefit Santa Cops Project. Second by Mr. Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.
(b.) VP Shotter then request that the following motion be made: Mr. Wilson **motioned** to authorize the Monaca Police Department and any 3rd Party entity to fundraise for the Monaca Police Department Santa Cops program. Second by Mrs. Majors. President Booher asked the audience three times if they had any questions/concerns in regards to the added motion. There were none. Motion carried unanimously.
2. The new proposal for Water Utility Software upgrade from LB Water was discussed. As Mr. Leone stated in his e-mail that was sent to council, he recommends the permalog not be included but the other 2 proposals he does recommend. He then said this week the current 7 year old system is having technical difficulty and is on the brink of collapsing. He also stressed the value in getting the Customer portal part of the new upgrade. Mr. Michel

asked how the portal will be monitored. Mr. Leone said it will be recognized from the meter. Mrs. Majors **motioned** to approve the new proposal from L.B. Water for Water Utility Software for the FlexNet system along with the Customer Portal. Second by Mr. Wilson. Mr. Shotter wanted the record to reflect that his request for the borough to investigate online billing at monthly intervals for customers is why he'd be supporting this. Council discussed monthly billing. Solicitor Urick said, keep it simple and you have to do what the Ordinance says. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Mr. Leone discussed the zoning application submitted to Nick Vorrias-NSO from Mr. Zupan for 1533 Marshall Road fence variance. In the packet, it shows a drawing of the location of the fence, which will stretch across both of his parcels. Solicitor Urick is waiting on a decision tonight before working on verbiage to state if the property owner were to sell the vacant lot the fence would have to come down before the sale. Mr. Michel questioned the property line & distance of the fence and if it crosses Borough grounds. Mr. Shotter also would like clarification of who is doing the work, the contractor or property owner and if insurance was submitted to the borough. Mr. Shotter **motioned** to grant the variance on the following three conditions (a) Solicitor Urick prepares the necessary language for the fence to be deconstructed if the parcels were ever to be sold separately, (b) that the Zoning Permit Application is found to be complete and if any Workers Compensation is done and (c) to have any necessary information looked into to have the right-of-way to make sure the 5 foot is enough for the fence. Second by Mr. Wilson. President Booher asked audience three times if there were any concerns or questions regarding the motion. None were given. Motion carried unanimously.

-Mr. Michel asked if the new flags that were ordered were put up in town yet. Mr. Leone confirmed they were. He also asked about Colonial hill trees and how far the property line extends for Beaver Avenue residents. Mr. Leone is certain all the properties on Beaver Avenue extend all the way up the hill to the road. They are the owner's responsibility, not the Borough's. Mrs. Majors also stressed there is a tree on top of another tree going up Colonial Hill. -Mr. Shotter than asked if signs have been ordered for "2 Hour Parking" and "No Overnight Parking". Mr. Leone said the new verbiage needs to be decided first. Mr. Shotter asked if this could be decided within the next week so signs can be ordered and put up within the time frame of when the parking Ordinance is adopted. Mayor Short also requested the Road Department to have the parking spaces painted in regards to the ordinance as well. Mr. Blanarik added to not have them repaint yellow lines that are not supposed to be painted in town, specifically the football field.

-Mr. Leone then gave a shout out to the "Happy Weeders" including Angel Zampogna who was in the audience on behalf of the fall decorations put up in town. The office has received multiple compliments and he commended them for their fine work.

Citizens: Robert Mazenko-1628 Beaver Avenue, Monaca-was in attendance to ask council if there is any way to speed up the process and go above the Magistrate's office since his issue is not getting resolved with his neighbor's ongoing negligence to clean up his property. Mr. Mazenko explained how he is now getting rodents running through his yard. He asked where he stands as a citizen. Solicitor Urick said the Judge sets his own agenda and the Borough has no authority to go around or above his schedule. This is unfortunate and he has to wait on the Magistrate's schedule. Mr. Leone also reassured him an ordinance will be passed in a couple weeks that will help speed up these kind of issues, skipping the District Justice process.

Announcements: Councilman Blanarik announced the upcoming October events. October 11th is food truck Thursday. October 13th is the Stop, Drop & Run 5k race. October 21st is the Hall of Fame induction Banquet at Center Stage, dinner served at 6:30pm. October 27th is the town Halloween Parade and Party. Lastly, October 31st if Trick or Treat from 6-8pm.

Executive Session: none

Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Wilson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:32p.m. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brittany Bologna, Secretary

