

**Monaca Borough  
Workshop Meeting Minutes  
August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:02pm**

The Work Shop 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**  
Mrs. Majors - present  
Mr. McGown- present  
Mr. LaPearle- present  
Mr. Wilson- **absent**

Mr. Rebich- **absent**  
Mr. Blanarik- present  
Mr. Michel- present  
Vice President Shotter- present  
President Booher- present

**Others Present**

Mayor Short, Mario N. Leone, Jr.

**Items to Discuss:** L.B. Water representatives (Dave, Bud & Ben) were in attendance to present to council the new software upgrade for Utility Billing including the online application. Ben began with a PowerPoint presentation to guide council through the new Sensus Analytics website. He maneuvered his way around the entire web-based system explaining each application and how it is used. It shows how each resident can set up their own portal and customize it how they want. On the admin side of it, Borough Water Utility Clerk, Gabby will be able to manage what residents will be allowed to see. Multiple questions were asked by council. L.B. Water Rep Dave then discussed their training with the system and reiterated how very user friendly it is. Mr. McGown asked if the new software will have an easy set up for residents. Ben said yes and that there will be a “walk-through” set up on the borough website for all to use. Mr. Blanarik brought to their attention that not all residents have access to computers, internet access, e-mails or have cellphones. Ben reiterated all will have access to their own portal using their own username and password but not all will get the alerts if they do not have e-mail. More questions were discussed amongst councilmembers and the reps. Dave passed out a packet of the PowerPoint including cost for set up and for the first year. Council asked if L.B. Water could provide a long-term price over the next 6-10 years to get a better picture what the borough will be paying in the future rather than now. It was made known by the L.B. Water representatives that there will be no more upgrades to the existing system. Mr. Shotter discussed server options and how the existing system is backed up and how the new one will be backed up. Council did not make a final decision for the new software upgrade. L.B. Water was dismissed at this time.

**List of Attendees:** Jared McKay was in attendance to discuss the needs of the Water Department. He first touched base on the motor for the water fountain at Washington Plaza needing repaired and wanting direction from council if it's even worth repairing for how old it is. Jared gave specifics and facts of how much a new motor would cost and how it would only last probably two years at most for how old the entire fountain is itself. Council gave suggestions of what they would like done to the fountain. They decided keeping it idle for now, not repairing it and finding a way to put some kind of “water” apparatus somewhere in town as remembrance of the fountain if they decide to get rid of it. This is to be added to “old business list” for council to discuss in the future to think of ways to remake the fountain elsewhere in the borough. Second, Jared said all tools and equipment are fine and work perfectly well for them but what he's in dire need of now is another full-time employee. He discussed there is not enough hours in a work day to complete all the tasks with just three people on the Mr. Shotter asked Jared's opinion if they were to turn all three departments into one solid public works department where all can cross-train and be used where they are needed each week. He said it would be useful and very beneficial if all knew how to do each job. Council then discussed budget, if borough can afford another fulltime employee, and what the borough would have to sacrifice to give Water Dept. a fourth person. Mr. McGown asked if the borough treasurer could provide the current budget to council. Mr. Michel then asked about the break at Anchor Hocking. Mr. Leone stated they are setting up a meeting to get clarification. Jared was then dismissed from the meeting.

**Manager's Update:** Mr. Leone was happy to announce the Monaca Volunteer Fire Department recently received a wonderful grant on July 27<sup>th</sup> from F.E.M.A. A.F.G. in the amount of \$833,400 thousand dollars. Their application was submitted for \$875k and overall they were extremely pleased and excited to receive the amount they did. Chief Rambo from VFD #1 was in attendance and thanked those involved with the grant submittal. He also mentioned they will need to find a way to make up the difference they not receive. He said there are upcoming meetings scheduled to discuss the

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funds in deciding what to do with this money. He spoke of his vision for the Monaca VFD and what he hopes to see in the future. Council and borough manager Mr. Leone joined voices in congratulating Chief on their funds. Vice President Chris Shotter thanked Chief Rambo for what was said in the Times article with bringing up the merger and emphasized personally how much that meant to him. Mr. Leone gave a reminder that the DCED grant announcement is set for next Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 1700 PA Avenue at 12:30pm. Governor Wolf, Representative Matzie and Secretary Davin will be in attendance. The CFA Multimodal grant was submitted. Another item he added was the Road dept. dump truck transmission went out and the repair is looking to be about \$2500 to \$3,000. He is still doing an assessment to either repair or say good bye to the truck. Lastly, he brought up positive comments he received from a Climate Reality Bus tour that came through the borough a couple Saturday's ago. A coach bus with a group of people came to Antoline Park where he did a presentation of Sustainable Monaca including the Comfort Station-green roof. He then briefly updated council on Streetscape phase and that next is to get property owners to sign off for sidewalk repair.

**Old Business:** Mr. Michel started by asking President Booher about the parking meters and when he can take them down. President Booher reiterated from the last council meeting, Solicitor Urick stated the ordinance does not need passed in order to take down the meters. Mr. Michel asked if he could coordinate a schedule with the Public Works department to help transport the meters after they take them down.

Mr. Shotter then asked if there was an update with Kevin Turkall for the Municipal Complex. Mr. Leone said he is waiting on direction from council. He also suggested a committee be established to make these decisions and discuss the plans for the new complex. All VFD's need to meet and discuss this. They can then appoint a couple representatives to be a part of the committee as well as a couple reps from council, Police and office Staff. Ideas and visions were mentioned by council and Chief Rambo of the new complex and what they expect. Mr. Shotter asked if a letter can be sent to Fire Departments and to the Bandroom as well about property in that area for possible municipal complex. Mr. Shotter then asked Mr. Leone for update on electric for Streetscape project. Mr. Leone said SGA is going to come to an upcoming council meeting to discuss this with council. He said they need to coordinate a timeline with PennDots, that's the kind of timeline we are under. He then said as far as electric goes, there is no money as of now so we cannot move forward. He's hoping positive feedback from Shell, but he has heard nothing yet. He touched base on the water project and how its all based on technicality. He said the roadway already under work of scope with improvement project, so they did not have to go through that whole procedure. They issued that permit. Tony Sadaka is hoping to put this out to bid as soon as possible. The timeline with all projects in town were talked about. Not any specific timeline for electric since the waterline and PennDot have work that will tear up the main streets. More funding was discussed. Mr. Leone said he reached out to Duquesne Light and is trying to coordinate a meeting with the one rep they have talked with before to discuss potential funding assistance in reconstructing the utilities in town. Mayor then asked if the corner of Linden Street and Taylor Avenue could be repaired before winter hits. Mr. Leone said he will get in touch with road department to repair. Lastly, Mr. LaPearle asked about the dry utilities and which side of the road they are going on and asked for clarification of funding and budget. Mayor and President Booher too, gave input of their thoughts on the utilities. Mayor Short said he is looking more toward a preemptive type of system that's looking toward the future.

**Announcements:** It was announced National Night Out will be held Wednesday August 8<sup>th</sup> at Washington Plaza, rain or shine. The fourth Food truck Thursday of the year will be held August 9<sup>th</sup> from 4-8pm Washington Plaza. Lastly, Beaver County Local Government Conference will be held Thursday August 9<sup>th</sup> at CCBC dome.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Shotter motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:14pm. Second by Mr. McGown. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brittany Bologna, Secretary

