

**Monaca Borough  
Workshop Meeting Minutes  
March 20th, 2018 at 7:01pm**

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- <b>absent</b>	Mr. Rebich- present
Mrs. Majors - present	Mr. Blanarik- present
Mr. McGown- present	Mr. Michel- present
Mr. LaPearle- present	Vice President Shotter- present
Mr. Wilson- present	President Booher- present

**Others Present**

Mayor Short, Mario N. Leone, Jr.

**Items to Discuss:**

-Jared McKay was present representing the Water Department to inform council of a few requests/needs for their department. **(1.) Valve Exercise Machine**-He passed around a picture of the one he has in mind which would be around \$65,000.00. This has multiple purposes besides turning valves it can also jet sewers and help clean catch basins. This piece of equipment will be demo'd April 4<sup>th</sup> at 8am-Borough building. **(2.) Meter at Reservoir**-right now they have a pressure sustaining valve that does not work. He request a meter be installed for accurate readings for future. The cost for the meter is approximately \$3,750.00 and they will install in-house. **(3.) Flushing**- He announced the whole system will be flushed starting April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. He suggests they do 1 midnight and 1 daylight shift, both 8 hour shifts starting at 11:30pm. He would like everything to rest between the hours of 3:30pm-11:30pm to replenish the system during the process. In order to do a full exercise of these, it will be a 3 cycle process which will take a lot of manpower. This explanation was given to emphasize why the Valve Exercise Machine would be a necessary purchase. Mr. LaPearle suggested to research and see if other boroughs have this; if we could rent or possibly the borough buy and other boroughs rent the machine off of us. Mr. Shotter said the question is do we buy, rent or approach COG for this type of equipment. They would need a more specific time frame of the use of this machine before making a decision. Prior to April 16<sup>th</sup>, President Booher asked if Jared could schedule a training for the hydrant equipment to test it on one of our hydrants to determine if it's compatible or not. Jared said he will try to get this scheduled before April 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Shotter also asked if the data could be tracked once the flushing begins.

**(4.) Well 15-** (budget for 2019)-this Well needs cleaned and motor swapped. He said Well 16 and 14 are good. Jared had one last request. Per the DEP, he will need to find a way to send a letter out to residents to makes sure they know exactly which service line is theirs that runs into their house. He will need each resident's specs by 2019. Mr. Leone and Jared announced sometime this year they will be clearing a path over the main transmission line due to the incident that happened in Ambridge recently with their main line incident and how long it took them to get to it. They are hoping to rent an excavator from Martino, Inc. and should get this done within a day's work. Lastly, **(5.)** a meter needs installed at Colonna industrial park.

-Mayor Short discussed the **Poly Icon proposal** that was in the agenda packet for council to review. The idea is to add some artistic flare such as murals, icons, sidewalk art, mosaics, etc to the downtown area. Mayor is asking for the approval of council before investing anymore time into the project. His main focus is to accent little parts of Monaca with these artistic designs to differentiate this town from any other town. He believes Monaca needs a niche and this could be it. Council gave their approval and some suggestions and ideas were added. There is a high volume of traffic flowing through the downtown area due to the Shell Cracker plant and these visuals would be a great entry gate coming into our town. Mrs. Majors said they have to be very cautious in the artwork that will be done in the Borough. Mayor Short said any piece that will be done will first be approved by council and he will surely make sure each piece is a timeless piece of work. Mr. Wilson asked about ordinances and if this is ok to put the artwork on Borough owned buildings. These are questions that will be passed on to Solicitor Urick before going forward. Mayor wants the community to be involved, school district, businesses, etc. An authority or committee would need formed so the community can feel included and this committee would also help organize funding for the project. Mr. Leone has informed SGA of this idea although Mayor Short is trying to stay clear of the Streetscape project location and gave areas in the Borough he would like to focus on. More ideas were given in light of this project. Overall, council approved going forward with the project.

**Manager's Update-** Street Sweeper was discussed- Repair Old or buy New? Mr. Leone discussed the demos and what he and Jake Iorio recommend at this point. They recommend repairing the old sweeper at an approximate cost of \$8,000.00 which they will have for 2018 season. The time frame for the fix would take about 4-5 days which would be completed around the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in April. Their recommendation was due to needing more time to address buying a new sweeper at such a high cost and there are more important pieces of equipment needed per Mr. Iorio's Road Department wish list. President Booher asked if they could at least put the repair on the schedule while council makes a final decision. Mr. Leone said that won't be possible due to parts which would need to be ordered for this kind of repair needed. It was stated, three options for repairs were given in the past, and no action has been taken. Then buying new was the next option which demos have been brought in at around \$250k-\$280k and no action made.

At this time, Mr. Shotter motioned to recess at 8:34pm so Secretary Brittany could print March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Minutes for his review. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Shotter motioned to resume the Public Meeting at 8:37pm. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion continued on about the street sweeper and what has been brought up in the past month. Mr. Shotter asked if the repair is a "crutch". Mr. Leone said if he and Mr. Iorio were to recommend any of the new sweepers now, they would suggest the Johnson model. Mr. Michel said he is not for buying a new street sweeper due to other equipment being needed that will get more use. Mrs. Majors recommend talking to the Public Works department, ask Mr. Iorio to prioritize his "wish list" on equipment needed and have a meeting to discuss the list. It was decided by council to take buying a new sweeper off the table as of now, repairing is the way to go. Mr. Leone mentioned it would be a more valuable investment to the borough to repair instead of purchasing new. The three different prices for each repair were given (that have been given in the past workshop meetings); 1<sup>st</sup> repair- \$8k, 2<sup>nd</sup> repair-\$67k and the 3<sup>rd</sup> repair-\$100k. All decided "no" for option 2 repair for \$67k. Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Leone to please find the information of the time frame in which the \$8k repair and \$100k repair will be and then council can make a final decision on which option to choose.

(Mr. Michel left the meeting at 9:50pm; Mr. Rebich left the meeting at 10:00pm; Mr. Michel returned at 10:02pm)

-President Booher, Mr. Leone and Vice President Shotter discussed their trip to Washington, DC (last Thursday) for the Streetscape project in hopes to acquire a grant. They made a point to emphasize U.S. Senator for PA, Pat Toomey's strong influence for their district and possibly being the key for obtaining the grant for the streetscape project. More discussion was made about the project. Commissioner Camp also went on the trip and helped immensely. They announced the Borough paid for his flight for the trip. The Town council meeting time and location have been changed for Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The council meeting is relocated to CJ Mangin Building at 998 Pennsylvania Avenue and will begin at 6:00pm for the Monaca Gateway Streetscape presentation. The main focus of this meeting is to update all on the project and to welcome public to give their input, concerns, questions and feedback.

**Old Business:** Ordinances were discussed

1. **Quality Of Life Ordinance-** Mr. Shotter touched base on the wording in the ordinance once more. It was agreed that there will be a flat fee of \$50 for citations. Mr. Shotter said all changes that have been discussed will be given to Solicitor Urick in hopes to present it by next week's council meeting.
2. **Parking Meter Ordinance-** Specifics were discussed for the draft of the Parking Meter ordinance and what exactly should be written in the ordinance for downtown parking such as a time limit for parking in front of the post office and overnight parking. The Post office parking has three spots and it was decided that 15 minute parking only will be allowed. Council also discussed if overnight parking should or should not be allowed in parking lots. More discussion was made. Overall, council agreed that overnight parking will not be permitted in the parking lots unless the vehicle has a permit issued by the borough office.

It was asked by council to add to the Old Business list the property across the street from the old Taormina store on Pennsylvania Avenue (near the 1300<sup>th</sup> block). This needs to be addressed in the near future due to the problematic issues with this building and the floor caving in. Council also asked if the Borough Treasurer could give Mr. Leone year-to-date budget to review before council meetings. Lastly, the Bucket truck was discussed. Should the old be repaired or buy? Council asked if Mr. Leone could call the dealership that Mr. Iorio had in mind to see if they will accept hand money in the amount of \$4k, as a down payment for the Truck for sale while council makes a final decision at the next council meeting to purchase or not. It was also asked if the money would be refunded if the decision was to not purchase the truck. Mr. Leone will get this squared away this week.

**Announcements:** none

**Executive Session:** Mr. Shotter motioned to enter into Executive Session for Personnel matters at 10:41pm. Second by



Mr. McGown. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Shotter motioned to adjourn Executive Session at 11:06pm. Second by Mr. McGown. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Shotter motioned to resume the Public Meeting at 11:07pm. Second by Mr. McGown. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Shotter motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:08pm. Second by Mr. McGown. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brittany Bologna", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brittany Bologna, Secretary

Handwritten initials in blue ink, possibly "BS", located in the bottom right corner of the page.