

MONACA BOROUGH
Council Meeting Minutes
December 12th, 2023 at 7:00pm
In person & virtual

The Council Meeting of the Monaca Borough Council was held on the above date and time in person & virtually via Zoom application. The Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Mrs. Majors- absent	Mr. Colville-present
Mr. Mitchell-present	Mr. Yothers- present
Mr. J. Wilson- absent	Mr. Michel- present <i>virtually</i>
Mr. LaPearle- present	Vice President Shotter- present
Mr. D. Wilson-present	President Booher- present
Mayor Antoline- present	

Others Present

David L. Kramer, Jr.- present; Rich Urick, Esq. -**absent**

Visitors: Michael Stromberg, SGA consultant, was in attendance virtually on Zoom, to answer any questions regarding Streetscape options for the new bid package. Mr. Kramer introduced Michael. Michael gave a quick overview of the roadway and sidewalks that need redone through the entire length of the corridor in the borough. He said there are some potential options in providing feedback with Dave. He brought up the different concrete materials. He mentioned cutting back on specific features, such as lighting and planter pots since these are not critical. He said council needs to settle on a strategy with the deducts and then SGA can start rewording the bid package. Pres. Booher mentioned council's main goal is to match up round-about project with the streetscape project. Michael discussed road material options and what is better for the future. Mr. Colville asked what the base is for the road. Michael said standard 2A-subbase material, and leveling sand that's typically required. He explained further in detail. Mr. Michel asked to specify the sand base. Michael Stromberg said angular sand and is sealed with polymeric sand. More was discussed about sidewalk base material. VP Shotter said the challenge for SGA is how can SGA deliver this design in a different manner and how can they deliver the intent of this design in a cost value way. Michael said deducts aren't to water down the project, and they would try to make it a shorter distance of the corridor. He said options are a little limited just in terms of how much they can tinker with the methodology. VP Shotter said he wants to limit burdening future projects and future boards when making decisions. Grant money was discussed and how much was already lost. Michael S. said Costs have gone up in every aspect. Mr. LaPearle added input. He said a simplified version and what council is seeking, it's not cuts of physical space, but an overarching look of "good, better, best". The strategy needs to be "good, better" look, not necessarily rearranging block to block. Just a nominal step back. Michael said that makes sense. Rather than focus on cutting elements, talking more about what materials can be swapped. He can't guarantee it will go toward the numbers the borough is hoping for. He said it's tough to pinpoint the culprit.

Mr. D. Wilson said every time the borough has asked SGA for something, they have not received the answers they are looking for. He hasn't seen anything in the last 3 months that the borough has asked for. Micheal said SGA can switch out materials but a lot of the driving costs are from installation, which he stresses will vary heavily for each contractor. He said in the end, the contractors dictate what they charge to do, which SGA nor the Borough cannot control that. He said SGA can estimate it to the best of their ability, but it's going to vary for all of them. Pres. Booher said how long will that take. Michael said they will have to start looking at materials and calling vendors. SGA will then have to make those selections and come up with a few that meet the intent and put them in front of the borough if they are acceptable. They can give costs of square footage of materials. Materials are only part of the equation in the end. It would have to be a few weeks. VP Shotter said this is for the board, do we want them to look at material selections, but design decisions that are applying labor costs as well; council gave input, and all agreed that no one wants drastic redesign. VP Shotter asked Michael for a target delivery date for council's new set of requirements. Michael said in 48 hours they can let council know a rough estimate of the new bid package. Pres. Booher thanked Micheal for his time. Michael Stromberg thanked all and left the meeting.

Communications: None

Minutes:

Mr. D. Wilson **motioned** to approve Council Meeting Minutes of November 28th, 2023. Second by Mr. LaPearle. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mitchell **motioned** to approve the Workshop Meeting Minutes of December 5th, 2023. Second by Mr. Colville. Motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal and Contractual:

VP Shotter **motioned** to approve the monthly bills. Second by Mr. Yothers. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Antoline gave his report for the month of November 2023.

Citations: **61**

Criminal Arrests: **9**

Calls for Service: **373**

Monetary Receipts: **\$1,023.02**

Managers' Report: Mr. Kramer gave his report. He received an email from Kevin Turkall, Design Stream with 4 options for the Pacific Avenue property. He has an upcoming meeting with Kevin to review those options. VP Shotter said he will also be sending Kevin an email with his questions for Civic Center or Fire Department. Next, the DEP inspected the new chlorination system and gave a temporary "thumbs up" until permit is given in about 2 weeks. The Union met today and approved the public works contract, which will be on the agenda next week for approval by council. He stressed the importance that all try to attend the next meeting due to many important items that need approved before year end. He spoke with Fire Chief Mike Seigel who reported on the new Pumper, that has yet to be delivered. This pumper now has a recall. Next, Mr. Kramer read a letter from a former resident, Hilary Starcher-O'Toole, asking if she could put a free little library in at the pumphouse playground. She is raising awareness for Clean Air & Water & to boost in the environment. She has the funds to put this in and is seeking council's direction on location. He then added that Doc Sisk had reached out and asked if his business could put up "Welcome to Monaca" signs at all five entrance locations in town. All five signs would match the new Welcome sign at the pumphouse. They also have the funds to pay for this as well. He then wanted council to know a resident reached out to him asking if he could take the mosaic Indian at the old Monaca High School down and put it up anywhere in town, or where council sees fit. Council discussed. Mr. Kramer likes the idea. He added they just need to find a location. Lastly, he will need to go into Executive Session under legal. There were no more questions.

Solicitor's Report: (Solicitor Urick -absent)

Department Report – Curt DiGiovine, WWTP Supervisor was in attendance and gave his report for the month of November 2023. Mr. D. Wilson asked if Cain Herman could also be trained while the new hire Jason is being trained. Curt said he could do that.

Ordinance Review Committee Report-VP Shotter had nothing to report.

Recreation Report- Mr. Yothers said they do not have a meeting until February. He had nothing further to report.

Library Report- Mr. LaPearle said they have no meeting this month. Their first meeting of the new year will be in January. Mr. D. Wilson inquired about payment to the library. Mr. Kramer said they pay them quarterly.

New Business:

1. Pres. Booher asked if they had the answers that VP Shotter had asked. Mr. Kramer said not yet. VP Shotter said in the new year is fine. Mr. D. Wilson **motioned** to adopt Resolution No. 10-23, Police Pension. Second, by Mr. Colville. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Mr. D. Wilson asked if the work was complete. Mr. Kramer confirmed this quote is replacing the quote that the borough previously received. Mr. D. Wilson **motioned** to approve payment to Monitronics International, LLC. for fire panel system upgrade at the pumphouse in the amount of \$5,795.38. Second, by Mr. Yothers. VP Shotter asked Mr. Kramer to look over the quote and what the monthly fees are. Mr. Kramer said he will follow up on this. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Pres. Booher said this only has 4 hours used on it. The borough does have a smaller one, that is used. Mr. Colville **motioned** to approve sale of Borough vehicle: 2019 Hurco Valve & Vac Trailer in the amount of \$30,000.00 through Municibid. Second by Mr. LaPearle. Motion carried unanimously.
4. (a.) Mayor Antoline said after speaking with Chief, and the other police officers about purchasing a new vehicle from Mt. Lebanon, they recommend getting these new police vehicle since Nick (NSO) will be needing a new vehicle soon. So, the newer police vehicle would be for the police, and one of their older police vehicles would go to Nick. Mr. Kramer said we are waiting for one more quote. Detective Hogue was in the audience and gave his report as well on his current vehicle. VP Shotter asked the cost to outfit the vehicle. Mr. Kramer said around \$18,000. Overall Pres. Booher said this will be around \$67,000.00 total. VP Shotter then asked for the financial strategy. Mr. Kramer said he would like to lease with police capital improvement. Mr. Kramer said he will have another quote from Chevy for the next meeting to compare.
>Mr. Colville **motioned** to table purchase of Police vehicle from Jim Shorkey for \$43,774.00 to the next meeting. Second by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously.
(b.) Mr. LaPearle **motioned** to not buy Mt. Lebanon 2019 Ford Explorer for \$15,000. Second by Mr. D. Wilson. VP Shotter asked if they had any other need for this vehicle. Mr. Kramer did not. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens:

1. Curt DiGiovine, Superintendent WWTP, commented on the SGA discussion earlier in the meeting. As a former resident of the borough, he wanted council to consider carefully what they choose for the streetscape for thirty years down the road. He said, "you get what you pay for". Lastly, he thanked Officer Hogue for the help with getting rid of the valve turner and it was the best thing they could have done.
2. Kristin Apple-1236 Atlantic Avenue, Monaca, was in attendance to ask permission to put in a memorial bench or tree at the pumphouse park for her stepdad, a lifelong resident of Monaca, Brian Shumaker that just recently passed away. She wanted to do this as a Christmas gift for her mom. Mr. Kramer asked her to give him a call and he would help with this.

Announcements: Mike Frye, Monaca borough resident, read the following announcements. Santa Cops- accepting donations at the borough office during normal business hours. Friday, Dec 15th -Borough Ugly Sweater Christmas Party CJ Mangin 5PM- RSVP to Britt or Gab. Monday, Dec 25th & Tues Dec 26th, Borough office Closed for Christmas. Christmas week: Garbage/Recycling collection will be moved to Tues & Wednesday. Monday, January 1st-Borough office Closed for New Years. Tuesday, January 2nd-Reorganization Meeting @6PM.

Executive Session: VP Shotter **motioned** to go into Executive Session for Personnel & Real Estate at 8:25pm. Second by Michel. Motion carried unanimously.

VP Shotter **motioned** to adjourn Executive Session at 8:53pm. Second by Mr. Colville. Motion carried unanimously.

VP Shotter **motioned** to resume the Public Meeting at 8:53pm. Second by Mr. Colville. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn: There being no further business, VP Shotter **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:54pm. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Bologna, Secretary