## **MONACA BOROUGH**

# Workshop Meeting Minutes December 19th, 2023 at 7:00pm

Virtual and In Person

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- present Mr. Colville-present Mr. Mitchell-present Mr. Yothers- present

Mr. J. Wilson-present
Mr. LaPearle- present
Mr. D. Wilson-present

# **Others Present**

David L. Kramer, Jr; Mayor Antoline-absent

Visitors: None

**List Of Attendees:** None

Managers' Update: Mr. Kramer gave his report. He first thanked all those who attended the Borough Christmas party last Friday. He gave thanks to Gab and Britt for their effort in putting it all together. Monaca Lofts: Mr. Kramer said he found out at the end of last week Monaca Lofts at 609 Penn Ave, have a close date of January 11th and the demo will be next. SGA: He forwarded council the e-mail SGA had sent regarding the questions that were brought up last meeting regarding Streetscape. They should have the updated bid package ready for the first meeting in January and hoping bids can be received early February. Meeting: Mr. Kramer said he has a meeting with Design Stream next week to discuss the options for Pacific Avenue property. Funding: He sent an email to council today from Rep. Matzie. The Borough is being awarded \$250,000 for the Storm and Sewer Separation project on 9th Street. They had applied for 400k and ended up with 250K. He said he is happy with this to help with some of the costs and can move forward. Mr. D. Wilson asked how much it takes now to finish this project. Mr. Kramer said around \$405k. He got a notification as well that the RACP grant has opened again. He will be applying for this again for the Civic Center. Police Pension: Mr. Kramer gave a follow-up on the police pension fund about employee contributions. Mockenhaupt got back to him stating the pension is funded at 102 percent, which is slightly overfunded. He said they will have to look at the MMO. Mr. Kramer elaborated this is just Police pension, not all employees. Lastly, he mentioned Simon Short being in a month ago regarding putting in a stage at Washington plaza. Mr. Kramer said he received a call last week from Tony Caltury at the County. Tony had asked if the Borough had plans for a stage. The county has \$50k to put toward a stage, and all the borough has to do is request the funds. Mr. Kramer said this is perfect timing. He did ask Tony if the Borough could partner with CDC to request this, or does the borough alone have to request it. Tony said he doesn't see this as a problem. Mr. Kramer said he has a meeting tomorrow with CDC, they can write the letter to request the funds, and CDC/Borough can start figuring out plans for it. Ouestion: Mr. D. Wilson asked status of the LSA grant. Mr. Kramer said it was submitted which they were working with Rep Matzie's office on this, and they should here outcomes in January. Mr. Michel asked if the stage discussion must be motioned before moving forward. Pres. Booher said no because it is going through the CDC and not council. There were no further questions.

Solicitors' Report: Solicitor Urick gave his report. First, he stated Stoelzle Glass signed the Right-Of-Way for one dollar. All is in order and sufficient to record at the Recorder of Deeds office. Next, CVS right-of-way proposed another alternative. He sent them a strip appraisal today, and he said we'll see what they say. If that doesn't happen quickly, he will suggest the borough begin eminent domain proceedings, which will get the borough the title to the right-of-way and can then proceed with the project. Solicitor Urick explained the time frame and steps to a recent tax assessment appeal sent by Wade Tuma and the next action he will need to take. Lastly, regarding 808 & 810 Beech Street properties, he mentioned the Resolution hasn't been returned yet from the school. He asked Mr. Kramer if he could reach out. He had nothing further to report.

## **Items to Discuss/Motion:**

- 1. Mr. LaPearle **motioned** to adopt the 2024 Final General Budget. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2. Mr. Mitchell **motioned** to adopt the 2024 Final Water Budget. Second by Mr. Colville. Motion carried unanimously.
- **3.** Mrs. Majors **motioned** to adopt the 2024 Final Sewer Budget Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously.
- **4.** Mr. LaPearle **motioned** to adopt Ordinance No. 992 –Final Real Estate Tax Rate. Second by Mr. Yothers. Motion carried unanimously.
- **5.** Mr. J. Wilson **motioned** to adopt Ordinance No. 993 –Final Fire Tax Rate. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.
- **6.** Mr. LaPearle **motioned** to authorize Borough Council President & Borough Manager to sign 2024-2027 Public Works Contract Notice. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7. Mr. Colville **motioned** to approve 2024 Beaver County Humane Society agreement. Second by Mr. Yothers. Motion carried unanimously.
- **8.** Mr. Yothers **motioned** to approve payment to Full Throttle Performance to replace engine in the 2012 Ford F-550 Truck in the amount of \$22,426.81. Second by Mr. Michel. Mr. D. Wilson asked what this truck is used for. Mr. Kramer said plowing. Motion carried unanimously.
- 9. Mr. Colville **motioned** to hire Hunter Mitchell as a full-time Laborer, with a starting rate of \$18.37/hr, pending he passes a physical and drug screening test. Second by Mr. Yothers. Motion carried unanimously.
- **10.** Mr. Mitchell **motioned** to hire Maison Hogue as part-time public works laborer, with a starting rate of \$14/hr, pending he passes a physical and drug screening test. Second by Mr. Colville. Motion carried unanimously.
- 11. Mr. Colville asked how much the Chevy truck came in at. Mr. Kramer said \$57,000. Mr. Colville **motioned** to approve the purchase of a 2023 Ford Police Vehicle from Jim Shorkey Auto Group in the amount of \$43,774.00 (COSTAR pricing). Second by Mr. Yothers. Motion carried unanimously.

<u>New/Old Business:</u> Pres. Booher went around the room asking if anyone had any new or old business to discuss. There was none.

<u>Announcements:</u> Mr. LaPearle read the following announcements: Monday December 25<sup>th</sup> & Tues. Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>, Borough office closed for Christmas. Christmas Week: Garbage collection will take place Tues/Wed. Monday- January 1<sup>st</sup>, Borough office Closed for New Year Holiday. Tuesday- January 2<sup>nd</sup>- Borough Council Reorganization meeting will take place at 6:00PM. New Years Week: Garbage collection will take place Tues/Wednesday.

**Executive Session**: Mr. J. Wilson **motioned** to go into Executive Session for Personnel at 7:25pm. Second by Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Majors **motioned** to adjourn Executive Session at 7:27pm. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Colville **motioned** to resume the Public Meeting at 7:27pm. Second by Mr. Yothers. Motion carried unanimously.

<u>Adjourn</u>: There being no further business, Mr. Mitchell **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:28pm. Second by Mr. J. Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Bologna, Secretary