

MONACA BOROUGH
Telecommunications via Zoom Application
Council Meeting Minutes
April 13th, 2021 at 7:00pm

The Regular Meeting of the Monaca Borough Council was held on the above date and time via the Zoom communication remote application. The Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Mrs. Majors-present @ 7:10pm	Mr. McLaughlin- present
Mr. Mitchell- present	Mr. Blanarik- present
(Vacant)	Mr. Michel- present
Mr. LaPearle- present	Vice President Shotter- absent
Mr. Wilson- present	President Booher- present
Mayor Simon D. Short-present	

Others Present

David L. Kramer, Jr. & Rich Urick, Esq.

Visitors: None

Communications: **Jackson Avenue Bid opening-** Mr. Kramer announced there was only 1 bid which was received 8:30am on Friday April ninth. Mr. Kramer opened the bid. The bid was from DC Land development, LLC in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Mr. Kramer also forwarded an email that day to council from Solicitor Urick regarding American Rescue plan guide. He explained it was information on what they will be able to spend that money on going forward. Mr. LaPearle asked to confirm the Borough is getting \$500,000. Mr. Kramer said that is correct.

Minutes: Mr. Michel **motioned** to approve virtual workshop meeting minutes of **March 16th, 2020**. Second by Mr. Blanarik. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Blanarik **motioned** to approve virtual Council Meeting Minutes of **March 23rd, 2021**. Second by Mr. LaPearle. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mayors Report- the Honorable Mayor Short gave his report for the Month of March 2020.

Citations and Parking Tickets: 74

Criminal Arrests: 16

Call For Service: 461

Total Miles patrolled: **2,659 miles**

Mr. Michel asked if 74 were parking tickets. Mayor specified that 74 parking tickets and citations were issued. Mr. Wilson asked if that was for the entire month. Mayor Short said yes. Mr. Wilson said that's not a lot compared to all the complaints they keep hearing. Pres. Booher said they will look further into that number moving forward.

Managers' Report: Mr. Kramer gave his report.

1198 Pacific Avenue Demo- He explained a letter he received in the mail from the County approving 1198 Pacific Avenue demo that was applied for back in 2020 and was once denied. This must have come back through again and was approved. They sent the county a "thank you" and put the placard in the building for the demo. They are still waiting to hear back for application they did submit for 1302 Penn Ave.

Road Paving program- Mr. Kramer stated he and Jake sat down with Young Blood Paving which are going to begin paving in the next couple weeks. **Water Valve replacement project-** gave brief update and also said flushing program will begin in a couple weeks to follow and will be advertised and notifications will go out to all residents.

Pre-Bid Meeting/Penn Ave Waterline Project - the meeting happened that day at the Borough at 2 o'clock for Phase 1 of the waterline project. There were several companies that came to the meeting. Mr. Kramer said he's hoping to see competitive bids for this project due to attendance.

Questions asked: Mr. Wilson asked to reiterate the address for Pacific Avenue. Mr. Kramer said 1198 which the borough

owns and is no cost to the borough to get it torn down. Mr. Michel asked how many times borough applied for 1302 Penn Ave demo. Mr. Kramer said this is only the second time. **Monaca Lofts**-Mr. Kramer said he had touched base with consultant Tray Barber who said they probably will not hear back until mid-summer from their grant application.

TIF- Mr. Kramer spoke with Michael in regards to the next step of the TIF. The next approach is to get in front of the financial board from the school to go over what council went over in the last meeting with Michael. **George Washington Fountain**-Lastly, Mr. Kramer had a call yesterday from an individual questioning the borough's intentions with the fountain downtown. He explained the thoughts of this individual to help keep the fountain and finances wouldn't be an issue as he would have others helping. Mr. Kramer said he would like to bring this person in and explore options. Pres. Booher reiterated they would show this person the infrastructure, Streetscape project and go from there.

Mr. Wilson asked who the financial committee is when Mr. Kramer brought up the TIF. Mr. Kramer said the school board. Pres. Booher mentioned Michael Pehur tweaking the numbers to bring Center Twp's contributions down and that's what they wanted to present to CV school board to see if those numbers would be more attractive. Mr. Wilson would like a copy of the numbers that were changed. Mr. Kramer said he will send to council once he receives them. Mr. Michel then brought up the fountain and called on Mr. DiGiovine (WWTP Superintendent) to discuss the fountain. Mr. DiGiovine discussed his thoughts and expertise on the fountain. Council discussed. Mayor Short said they should put this discussion aside until they sit down and talk with the individual about their thoughts, then go from there. Mr. LaPearle asked about TIF and what Center TWP would be losing or gaining from the Borough's offer. Pres. Booher said more than likely it will take away from their project and they at least have to do their part in trying and lowering their contribution down. At the end of the day, the borough could still send to the County and the school doesn't have to be involved and it would only be the County and the Borough. Mr. McLaughlin lastly asked if they had an estimated date for 1198 Pacific demo. Mr. Kramer did not yet, they have the placard and it will be within the next month. Lastly, Mr. Wilson said he agrees with Mr. LaPearle and to give the TIF just one more shot with the school.

Solicitors Report: Solicitor Urick gave his report. The hearing for the Zoning change request for Ed Becker has been scheduled and advertised for April 27th. Mike Jones from his office will be handling the meeting. He then explained the Rescue Plan Guidance which is important information from PA State township association with detailed summary of questions and answers of what you can and cannot do with the money.

Pres. Booher asked to confirm if they approve Jackson Ave bid that they would have to give an explanation for selling less than market value. Solicitor Urick said correct.

Department Report – Curt DiGiovine, WWTP Supervisor was in attendance and gave the March 2021 report.

Mr. Wilson asked in regards to Anchor Hocking, did the Borough ever receive the transfer tax being paid. Mr. Kramer said he actually just received a direct deposit from them that morning, the borough received \$42,000 from the \$8.2million that was owed.

Ordinance Review Committee Report- VP Shotter was absent. Pres. Booher spoke and explained that they would like to have the street opening ordinance amended per the streetscape project. He wants to make sure roads are put back in their proper state. Solicitor Urick said the roads should be put back together as it should be. Pres. Booher is talking about the sidewalks themselves. They discussed specifics. Solicitor Urick said he would need to see current ordinance requirements, and should be reasonable to amend the ordinance.

He also requested Solicitor Urick to write a letter to the owners of the downtown buildings that the borough is having trouble getting into to check the water service line for the waterline project. He will reach out to Gabby, get the list and write the letter.

Monaca Recreation Report- Mr. Blanakik gave his report. Community Days: Rec Board likes the idea trying to have it given the Covid restrictions do not go back. They would like to have it shorter possibly 5pm-10pm, with fewer vendors such as food vendors. Any organizations in town can set up tables and so on. He inquired about having Movies in the Park this summer. Council discussed and did not see a problem with having it this year, due to event being outdoors. They discussed the site license. YMCA Program-call Mr. Kramer at the Y if he can get vinyl banners to hang at each location. Mr. Kramer will call. He then asked the chains at old swimming pool property- ask McCreary's lawn service to make sure they lock that gate every time. Lastly, he asked for new mulch for 15th Street playground and closely inspect playground apparatus for safety reasons. Council discussed. Pres. Booher reminded all that the playground is owned by Central Valley Middle School.

New Business:

1. Council discussed the one bid on Jackson Ave. Much was discussed about the property and the work being done. Eleven to twelve units will be built. Grinder pump/Sewage/Water taps were discussed. Mr. DiGiovine confirmed each unit will have their own grinder pump. Mr. Michel stressed his concern with the borough's responsibility. Pres. Booher reiterated MDIA will oversee everything going on. Mr. Wilson gave explanation of whoever buys it, they all have to go through the same process. Mr. Wilson **motioned** to accept bid for parcel #38-002-0804.000 in the amount of \$5000.00 from DC Land Development, LLC. There was no second on the motion. Motion failed. Solicitor Urick confirmed the next step is to do nothing or put it out for rebid.
2. Pres. Booher explained the Tow-behind vehicle and the borough his responsible for 10% which is \$8,391.00. Mr. Blanarik **motioned** to approve purchase of Tow-Behind vehicle from A&H Equipment in the amount of \$83,912.00. Second by Mr. Michel. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Chief Piuri said June 21st would be the next K-9 class. Mrs. Majors **motioned** to approve purchase of a K-9 dog (Officer and training). Second by Mr. Wilson. Mr. Michel asked Chief if records could be kept going forward. Chief Piuri explained all deployment of the K-9 will be kept to keep accurate records. Pres. Booher added to the motion the cost would be \$15,000 for the purchase of k-9 dog and training. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Mr. Michel **motioned** to authorize the Civil Service Commission to create an eligibility list for full time police officers. Second by Mr. Wilson. Mr. Blanarik asked Chief Piuri if they needed to hire another fulltime police officer. Chief said no, they just want a list to work off of moving forward. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Council briefly discussed. Mrs. Majors **motioned** to approve SGA Work Order # 2021-10 for redesign of 12th/Pennsylvania Ave. not to exceed \$23,918.00. Second by Mr. McLaughlin. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Council discussed briefly request from the Legion to have the Memorial Day Parade on May 31st this year. Council did not find any reason not to have it. Mayor suggested just spacing out a bit more at the ceremony. Mr. Michel **motioned** to approve Memorial Day parade on May 31st. Second by Mr. Blanarik. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Mr. Kramer said the three bids were received for materials suggested by Widmer Engineer for Pacific Avenue waterline replacement project. They were from National Road, Pipelines & LB Water. Lowest bid was from National Road in the amount of \$77,743.66 for ductile pipe. Pres. Booher explained bid went out for ductile and plastic. Plastic is not available in the time they would need it, even though it's cheaper. Mr. Blanarik asked if this affects the budget for the project. Pres. Booher said no. Mr. Wilson asked if they have all three bids and what the difference is in price. Mr. Kramer said Pipelines was \$83,725, LB Water was \$82,310. Mr. Wilson said because CoSTAR's price they didn't have to take the lowest. Pres. Booher confirmed that is correct. Mr. Michel **motioned** to approve bid for Pacific Avenue/Wahl Street waterline replacement project materials to National Road Utility in the amount of \$77,743.66. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens: None

Announcements: Mayor Short read the announcements: Leaf Collection has begun and will end April 30th. Residents are to call the borough office to schedule pick up. Biodegradable bags can be purchased at the borough office upon appointment during normal business hours. **April 15** through **May 1st**, Monaca CDC is proud to present "Arts in Monaca Walk-by Art Exhibit" featuring past and present artists from Monaca. Locations: Along the business district and Monaca Library. **April 24th**, "Children's Story Walk" sponsored by Monaca Library located at George Washington Plaza, refreshments at Monaca Library after. **April 24th**, Bulk Item and Yard Waste Collection Day at Road Garage, 9am-2pm or until dumpsters are full.

Executive Session: Mr. Michel **motioned** to go into Executive Session for Property matters at 8:38pm. Second by Mr. Blanarik. Motion carried unanimously.

*Due to being unable to let the Public back into the Zoom meeting, the Executive Session and meeting of **April 13th, 2021** was continued to the next regular meeting of **April 20th, 2021** council workshop meeting which a quorum was present. Mr. Blanarik **motioned** to adjourn Executive Session and returned to regular session of April 13th, 2021 meeting. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Michel **motioned** to re-advertise the Jackson Avenue Bid. Second by Mr. Wilson. Pres. Booher asked the audience three times if there were any questions regarding the motion. There were none. Motion carried 8-1, Mr. Blanarik NO

VP Shotter **motioned** to adjourn April 13th, 2021 meeting at 7:04pm on April 20th, 2021. Second by Mr. Blanarik to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Bologna, Secretary