

MONACA BOROUGH
Telecommunications via Zoom Application
Council Meeting Minutes
February 9th, 2021 at 7:01pm

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	Mr. McLaughlin- present
Mr. Mitchell- present	Mr. Blanarik- present
(Vacant)	Mr. Michel- present @ 7:13pm
Mr. LaPearle- present	Vice President Shotter- present
Mr. Wilson- absent	President Booher- present
Mayor Simon D. Short-present @ 7:10pm	

Others Present

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

Visitors: SGA Consultants, Sean Garrigan and Gary Liester III were in attendance to discuss 12th Street intersection improvements. Drawings were shared on the screen by Sean. Sean and Gary both went over the new improvements. Council discussed and asked questions. The most concern council had was utility placements, in looking at a drawing at Rebecca Millers building, question: should they relocate the pole at this location closer to Rebecca's building such that when they go to make intersection improvement, they're not working with DLC again to try and move that pole. Gary answered he would suggest moving it during 12th Street improvement because they do not know the geometry, once geometry of intersection is figured out, and penn dots backing, DLC would be forced to move it because Penn Dot is brought into the geometry. VP Shotter asked if there is any way to move this pole so they only have to deal with DLC once, so he thinks this is something that should be addressed today. Sean Garrigan said they would express this to DLC now, which they may be receptive to moving it, and he gave DLC's standard policy. Pres Booher said it needs to move because it's in a bad place, which is why they would request a study be done now. Sean said they will pursue it. VP Shotter & Pres. Booher had a couple more questions pertaining to one way exit and entrance from Pennsylvania Avenue onto 12th Street to get to Pacific Avenue. Mr. Blanarik asked questions regarding timeframe of the project and the the \$1.5 million grant since council just asked for a design change. Both Sean and Gary answered accordingly. Pres. Booher said they are actually at their limit but were graciously granted a bit more time. Mr. Blanarik added time is of the essence. Mr. Michel also commented and said maybe its best they leave the design as is. Pres. Booher reiterated they won't be spending barely any time on this except looking in to see if they can do it or not. Discussion ended at 7:34pm.

Communications: None

Minutes: Mrs. Majors **motioned** to approve January 12th, 2020 **Virtual Council** Meeting Minutes. Second by Mr. Blanarik. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. LaPearle **motioned** to approve January 19th, 2020 **Virtual Workshop** Meeting Minutes. Second by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal and Contractual- VP Shotter **motioned** to approve the monthly bills. Second by Mrs. Majors. Mr. Michel asked about AFLAC bill and who pays. Mr. Kramer said this is paid by the borough employees. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayors Report- Mayor Short gave his report for the month of January 2020.

Citations and Parking Tickets: **87**

Criminal Arrests: **21**

Call For Service: **466**

Total Miles patrolled: **2,592 miles**

Managers' Report: Mr. Kramer gave a brief update on salt. They have a low supply and already ordered 140% of what the bid was through COG. So they reached out to COSTARS and were able to go through their contract for the year, which we ordered 400 tons. KSA update regarding RCAP. Next round grants available which they wanted to see if

Monaca was interested. Mr. Kramer said yes and the meeting will be coming up if you want to sit in on the meeting. TIF- he met with BC Economic development rep. They will meet with school board committee at the next school board meeting to discuss the TIF. Water interconnect update- they asked Monaca to draw up a letter of support so they can move forward and secure grants. Earth Day April 22nd he states they are reaching out to Waste Management to have try and have a day set at a designated location in the Borough for residents to get rid of “hard-to-dispose-of” items. Municibid- Mr. Kramer announced they have multiple vehicles they are trying to get rid of and off road garage property. Plan is they still have to put on a few more vehicles. Bids will end February 23rd. He will bring bids and up to council to approve and accept bids. Mr. Michel asked about the leaf machine. Mr. Mitchell stated he hasn’t looked at it yet. Mr. Michel asked more detail about the leaf machine. Mr. Kramer answered accordingly.

Solicitors Report: Solicitor Urick gave his report. Ed Becker zoning change request. Mike Jones is working on that and sent down a summation of what he would do with that, Ed was copied in on that. Council will also have to look at that. Next, he brought up other zoning change request in respect to medical marijuana dispensaries in core commercial district. He sent a rough draft to Mr. Kramer. He received a check from the Oxendine case, he will mail that off tomorrow. He also received the Parking Authority Deed which will be recorded this week. He also pulled the subdivision plan for Halama property in regards to vacating parts of the streets in the 3rd Ward, which he’s still looking deep into. Lastly, he brought up the auditor general who brought to the publics attention finally of the embezzling of money within the Monaca fire department that happened in the summer that everyone is already aware of. He states the public needs to be made aware that this is not something involving borough funds; not something borough workers are accused of doing, nor borough management or borough council was involved with. It’s a separate matter involving that volunteer fire company. He stated out loud that the fire members should always follow the rules for the finances and what the auditor general recommends because they will follow up and will make sure these policies are being implemented. Mrs. Majors asked does Federal laws supersede State laws. Solicitor Urick said sometimes. He states Federal law is currently prohibiting the sale and dispensing of medical marijuana. Mrs. Majors asked if a dispensary is in violation of Federal Law, and the borough approves a dispensary, can the federal law come back on the Borough of Monaca. Solicitor Urick said if they did, he would fight that because the Borough’s a creature of the State government, and the Borough acts under the state law. So if the state allows it, then he would fight it.

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

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

Monaca Recreation Report- Mr. Blanakik had nothing to report.

New Business:

1. Mr. Blanakik **motioned** to approve National Road Utility Quotes in the total amount of \$15,293.92. VP Shotter asked if they received any other bids. Mr. Kramer said they did and LB Waters’s price was close. Second by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Mr. LaPearle **motioned** to approve Ray Hall Plumbing Quote in the amount of \$4,200.00. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Mr. Michel **motioned** to approve Resolution No 1-21 Authorizing Tax Collector Certification Fee. Second by Mr. Blanakik. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Mr. Blanakik **motioned** to appoint **Christopher Shotter, Jr.** for Police Pension Committee for the year 2021. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.
5. VP Shotter **motioned** to appoint **Justin LaPearle** for Police Pension Committee for the year 2021. Second by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carried unanimously.
6. VP Shotter **motioned** to appoint Officer **Jeff McConnell** for Police Pension Committee for the year 2021. Second by Mr. Blanakik. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens: Mike Grant, 631 McCoy Avenue- was in attendance to let council know his concern with the drain near his house that is always clogged with leaves. Mr. Kramer responded and said he will let the Road foreman know of this to take a look at it.

Announcements: None

Executive Session: VP Shotter **motioned** to go into Executive Session for Legal matters at 8:09pm. Second by Mr. LaPearle. Motion carried unanimously.

*Due to being unable to let the Public back into the Zoom meeting, the Executive Session and meeting of **February 9th, 2021** was continued to the next regular meeting of **February 23rd, 2021** council meeting which a quorum was present. Council voted to adjourn Executive Session and returned to regular session at which a motion was made by VP Shotter and second by Mrs. Majors to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Bologna, Secretary