

**Monaca Borough  
Workshop Meeting Minutes  
June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:00pm**

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- <b>absent</b>	Mr. Michel- <b>absent</b>
Mr. LaPearle- present	Vice President Shotter- <b>absent</b>
Mr. Wilson- <b>absent</b>	President Booher- present

**Others Present**

Mayor Short; Mario N. Leone, Jr.-**absent**

**List of Attendees:** Monaca Volunteer Fire Chiefs from stations #1, #4 and #5 were in attendance to update council on the Fire Department Merger and also present their wish-list items.

1.) **Chief Glen Rambo from #1** gave an update on the new fire truck they are receiving this October from the grant they were awarded in 2018. He explained the process. He then explained how each department gets an equipment allowance of \$5000 every year. He understands when all departments merger they will receive a total of \$15,000. President Booher believes this to be correct. Chief Rambo then asked if the new Fire Building/Municipal Complex is still happening. President Booher confirmed it is. Chief Rambo then states within the next two weeks the Borough will receive the lease for the Fireman's lot they had sold to the Borough. He explains if nothing is ever built on the lot it will be returned back to the Fire Department. Next, he is going to have the pump looked at and refurbished. He asked if the Borough is still interested in the Squad truck. President Booher said they are interested and explained the funds will come out of waste and water who will use this truck. Chief Rambo then asked if anyone knew who still does "Gold Leafing", a dying art. Mayor Short knows some people and will get in touch with Chief to add art work to one of the fire trucks to match the others.

2.) **Chief Mike Siegel from #4** came to the podium. He proudly announced they just had four members complete the first Essentials program in Beaver County that was hosted by Beaver County. They had a graduation ceremony which was the first. He said it was fantastic and was paid for by the Firefighter's Association. Next, he announced he was recently approached by Dave Halama who just bought a property on McClelland Street and would like to tear the building down to build another house. He approached the Fire department and asked if they were interested in doing a Burn Session on his property. Chief Siegel explained the Burn Session which is a 16 hours class where the fireman go into the house and practice putting a fire out. They can practice hose management, search it, etc. He contacted instructors from Beaver Falls and Rochester. They saw the property and said it is a good candidate for a Burn Session. Chief Siegel is looking at a September timeframe but they do need Council's blessing to move forward. He explained it's a very safe class and out of this they are doing a demolition for Mr. Halama and getting good training in for the Firefighters. Mayor and President Booher requested the Fire Departments to make sure Mr. Halama has all necessary paperwork through the borough first before anything else happens. Chief Siegel explained the process and said the time clock starts as soon as they submit their request to the Fire Academy, which usually takes about 60 days. Chief explained he just did all the classes through the State Fire Academy about two months ago on how to go about doing a Burn Session and all that is required so he is now a State Suppression Instructor and very aware of the method. Lastly, he updated Council on pump testing that needs completed for the year and equipment fit testing that they have never done before.

3.) **Chief Mike Ribar from #5** came to the podium. He gave Council an update on the current merger. All departments are working on getting the financial paperwork to their attorney. They are looking at January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 date where everything should be signed. He said VP Shotter has been doing a good job keeping them on track. Due to his department being the farthest out, they go to station 57 if they get a call since they have more volunteers there. To ease transition, he would like to slowly move # 5 into # 4. President Booher confirmed they were already told to put # 5 on the market. Chief Ribar said that's good news and they had already did a clean-out day at #5 building. He announced he has the oldest engine in town. Another fire department cannot purchase this with grant money but it can be personally bought since its open cab. He's requesting the Borough to help sell this piece of equipment in hopes to get the money to buy another piece of equipment, preferably something smaller like a pick-up truck that they can take, for example, to a flooded basement or a call similar to this. President Booher confirmed that he would have to get with Mr. Leone about this and he will also ask him if the sale of a fire truck money will go back to the Fire department. He is certainly not opposed but would prefer they wait for purchases closer to the completion of the merger in 2020. He then announced the Fire Departments are having a picnic, date and time to be announced, and have invited Borough Officials and Monaca Police officers to join. Lastly, Chief Ribar states Hose and Ladder testing will need done again this year. He will get a price to Mr. Leone as soon as possible. The Chiefs were thanked by President Booher and all VFD Chiefs were dismissed at this time.

**Manager's Update:** (absent)

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### Items to Discuss:

1. No Parking signs on the Streets- President Booher asked council to bring all questions to the next meeting as Widmer Engineer Tony Sadaka will be present to answer questions pertaining to narrow roads in the Borough and which roads should have a No Parking sign due to traffic issues.
2. Road Opening Ordinance-President Booher also reiterated to Council to read over the Road Opening ordinance that was in their packet since the Engineer will be in attendance at the next meeting to bring all questions regarding this to the meeting. Council briefly asked questions and discussed the verbiage and what they wanted changed. Mr. LaPearle also questioned the Street signs that aren't up in the down town area. President Booher gave an explanation and said this will need to go in the 2020 budget to complete this task. President Booher stated he would like to motion to advertise the Road Opening Ordinance at the next council meeting if all goes accordingly. They will then have thirty days to act and make changes before it gets adopted.
3. Planning Consultant Recommendation: President Booher briefly asked council's opinion on appointing the only applicants for zoning consultants which is D Martinak Planning Consulting and Strategic Solutions for Ordinance updates and revisions. Mr. Blanarik asked a simple question if the current prices that were given in the packet negotiable. Mayor wanted to know if there was a minimum price too. President Booher confirmed there is no rush on this but he will ask all questions to Mr. Leone and VP Shotter since they are more up on this item.
4. MVAH Housing Proposal- President Booher said they can vote next meeting on this if Council is for or against the new development at the old Library site. Council briefly discussed price of the property, appraisal and re-assessment value of the property. President Booher confirmed the DCED will make sure this is sold at a fair-market value. Mr. Blanarik stated he just wants to make sure they are selling it at the correct price, and he believes this will be a very good thing and is a "No Lose" situation. President Booher also confirmed there will be no tax abatement whatsoever. Mayor Short briefly brought up the parking situation at the property. President Booher stated he had already told Mr. Leone to tell the developers to get the parking as close to 1 to 1 as they could. Mayor Short strongly advised to start working more with developers and put all opinions aside and stop pushing businesses away, they need to start the growth in this town. Councilman LaPearle strongly agreed with Mayor on his statement. President Booher then explained the process of the DCED getting the grant and everything will be contingent and will not be a risk until it comes back to us. Mr. LaPearle reiterated the parking should be a done deal and quit talking about it. President Booher said the parking spot ordinance needs rewritten. Mr. Rebich said they need to process to flow to quickly get things marked off the list. They once they give their blessing, they should give revised parking Ordinance to Rich and go from there. Mrs. Majors also agreed with Mayor that they need to be more welcoming to these businesses/developers coming into town.

### Old/New Business:

Council/Mayor briefly discussed a few issues that need addressed in town such as "No Pets Allowed" sign that need put up at the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Playground, certain roads that need paved including Wagner Road that is deteriorating and a few properties that are in violation which they will follow up with the Borough Neighborhood Service Officer on.

### Announcements:

Mr. Rebich read the following announcements. Saturday, JUNE 22<sup>nd</sup>, registration for Monaca Mad Dash 5K Run/Walk at Antoline Park begins at 7:45AM; Race begins at 9:00AM. Ribbon Cutting ceremony will also take place at Antoline Park for the New Playground at 10:30AM. Beaver County Boom/Community Day Event located at Pump house/Riverfront Park will begin at 2PM followed by Zambelli Fireworks show ending the event at 9:45PM. Wednesday, JUNE 26<sup>th</sup> is the "Whine & Cheese about Monaca" event held at Antoline Park-Comfort Station from 6PM-8PM. Be sure to register online. Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> is Movies at Antoline Park/Comfort Station beginning at Dusk. JULY 5<sup>th</sup> is Monaca First Friday at Washington Plaza Featuring the Charlie Barath Blues Band beginning at 6PM

Executive Session: none

Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Rebich **motioned** to adjourn at 7:54pm. Second by Mr. Blanarik. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brittany Bologna, Secretary