

**Monaca Borough
Workshop Meeting
October 1st, 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- absent	Mr. Rebich- absent
Mrs. Majors - present (Vacant)	Mr. Blanarik- present
Mr. LaPearle- present	Mr. Michel- present
Mr. Wilson- present	Vice President Shotter- present
	President Booher- present

Others Present

Mayor Short; Mario N. Leone, Jr.;

President Booher first stated, due to a couple cancelled Council meetings, the items under New Business was added to tonight's workshop meeting for approval. He asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or concerns regarding the motions. None were given, the meeting continued.

List of Attendees: Scott Adamson was present as the Borough's 2019 Insurance Rep from Yorke Agency. He handed out the renewal documents to Council and was there to answer any questions or concerns on behalf of the renewal costs for the Borough Insurance. Mr. LaPearle asked why liability went up in cost. Scott explained this was due to heavy rains within the year and water run-offs. VP Shotter **motioned** to approve the Insurance Renewal for Property, Casualty, Workers Compensation and Automobile. Second by Mr. Blanarik. Motion carried unanimously. (Scott was dismissed at this time.)

Manager's Update: Borough Manager Mr. Leone gave the following updates. First, he mentioned the Duquesne Light Co. meeting will be held October 24th, 2019. He also mentioned a training he was recently at in Moon TWP by the DEP called "Black Sky". The main focus was *what to do in a power outage within the municipality and what utility is most critical*. Mr. Leone said water is most needed but electricity is actually the most critical to make sure the water is maintained for proper use. He said the presentation was about how municipalities should look into Solar as a power back-up source and he explained ways to do so. He was happy to announce the presentation that was given during that training was based upon an article from Monaca Borough and that the Borough should be proud that they are "Leading the Way" in other communities as well as their own. He then proceeded to tell Council the 2020 budget is approaching and a budget meeting will need held. President Booher said he preferred to do this during a workshop meeting. Mr. Michael asked about Black Sky. Mr. Leone went into detail how solar could help in an outage. Mr. Blanarik asked about the budget if they are keeping it within the confines of 2019 budget. Mr. Leone confirmed there will be no water or tax increases. Mr. Blanarik suggests roads to be paved should be on the 2020 budget. Mr. Leone took note. Mr. Leone continues that he is attending the PSAB Fall Conference at Penn State Main College next weekend but will leave a couple days earlier and stop in Harrisburg to do some lobbying at a few meetings that he mentioned. Mr. LaPearle stated they should have a plan together before going to the DLC meeting on October 24th. Mr. Michel then asked if they are doing poles or sidewalks first for streetscape project. Mr. Leone said poles first. He also stated that Widmer Engineer Tony Sadaka recommends they incorporate the Waterline project into the Streetscape project. Council discussed the specifics of the corridor and the projects at hand. He had nothing further to report.

New Business:

1. President Booher said for the record that Phat D. Phan was sworn in as a Part-Time Police Officer by Honorable Mayor Short last week due to a cancelled council meeting and Chief needing him on the schedule. Mr. Blanarik added Mr. Phan goes by the name Anthony and he had him as a student in High School. He said he is a great kid, part of the ORTC program and will be a great asset to the Police force. VP Shotter **motioned** to hire Phat D. Phan for Part-Time Monaca Police Officer. Second by Mr. Blanarik. Motion carried unanimously.
2. (motioned earlier in the meeting for Insurance Renewal)
3. **Reservoir Tarps-** Before the next item was motioned Mrs. Majors stated she abstained from any remarks, votes or anything on this motion due to her financial interest with Mesta Contracting. President Booher asked if Widmer

Engineer was brought into this to see if there was an alternative to fix the tarps. Mr. Leone said unfortunately there is no quick fix for these. He explained. Council discussed the cost and the long term fixes for the Reservoir tarps. Mr. Leone confirmed there is no quick fix for the tarps. He confirmed there is a 5 year warranty on the patches that Mesta Contracting will fix. President Booher and VP Shotter both agreed there needs to be a permanent solution instead of investing so much money into these that will no longer be here. Mr. Leone agreed the long term solution needs to be looked at, but for now, there are leaks and the holes need fixed to be in compliance with the DEP. Mr. Wilson said he wants to see the tarps repaired but they could at least start figuring out numbers to replace them. Council discussed and gave a few long term suggestions. Mr. Blanarik **motioned** to approve Mesta Contracting to repair the Large Reservoir tarp in the amount of \$9,900.00 and the Small Reservoir Tarp in the amount of \$6,900.00 per Water Plant Operators recommendation. Second by Mr. Wilson. Mr. Shotter asked if there were any violations against this same corporation with the Borough being that they own many properties in the Borough. Mr. Leone was not certain and didn't know any off hand as they are large property owners but will speak with the NSO officer to make certain if there were any. **Motion carried 5-1, VP Shotter-No; Mrs. Majors abstained.**

>It was then recommended by President Booher and **motioned** by Mr. Michel to have Widmer Engineering start looking into an alternative solution for the reservoir. Second by Mr. Wilson. President Booher asked the audience three times if there were any questions in regards to the new motion. There were none. Mrs. Majors thought she had to abstain but she does not due to not having financial interest with Widmer Engineer. She was in favor. Therefore the motion carried unanimously.

4. Mr. Leone explained the following motion. He confirmed Widmer did the final inspection. Mr. Wilson **motioned** to approve remaining payment to CTM Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$6,080.13 for the CDBG Project. Second by Mr. Blanarik. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Mr. Leone gave a brief summary of the Minimum Municipal Obligation and why it gets approved every year. VP Shotter **motioned** to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligation Worksheet (MMO) for the Monaca Borough Uniform and Non-Uniform Pension Plans for 2020. Second by Mr. LaPearle. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Council discussed the yearly donation toward the Monaca Library. After much was discussed and debated about the consistent contribution of \$15,000.00 given each year. VP Shotter **motioned** to approve a donation to the Library in the amount of \$10,000.00. Second by Mr. LaPearle. Mrs. Majors said she is yes for the donation but she states she believes the donation is too low and it should be for \$15,000.00. President Booher reiterated the other \$5,000.00 is under consideration, but the Library will have to prove to the board why they should receive the extra five grand before the end of the year. One more comment was given by VP Shotter. He reiterated the Library should also do purchase orders for any purchases going forward. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Chief Piuri was in attendance and came to the podium to discuss the Police Armor Vests that expire every 5 years. These vests are necessary per the bargaining agreement. They went through a process with the Department of Justice that has a grant that will pay \$900.00 toward the cost of each vest. Chief and the other officers narrowed it down to one vendor they all like. He said there is a bill from the vendor that supplies the vests and we will be getting a reimbursement for a portion of that. Mr. Leone had the purchase order/bill in front of him and announced the total cost would be \$13,356.18 for eleven vests. Chief explained out of those eleven, two are part-time police officers. The Part-time officers will pay for their own vests and will work it out with the Borough Treasurer for payroll deduction. Council and Mr. Leone discussed the breakdown of the cost of each vests. If the police would get the grant, the Borough would only pay around \$2,000.00. Mr. Leone reiterated regardless, the overall cost of the vests were already incorporated into the Police budget. Mr. Wilson emphasized how important the vests are to their job and the Part-timers should not have to pay for their vest out of pocket. Chief and council discussed and came up with a resolution. After one full year employed, the Borough will reimburse the part-time officer for what they have paid within that year for their vest. VP Shotter **motioned** to approve purchase of Police Armor Vests in the amount of \$13,356.18. Second by Mr. Wilson. President Booher asked the audience if there was any questions/comments regarding the motion. None were given. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Chief Piuri then asked Council if they would consider promoting an officer to Corporal to add another chain in command for the Police Department. The responsibilities of the Sergeant and himself are becoming a bit overwhelming and another layer of chain in command would help out greatly and free them up to do other tasks. The Corporal can take some of the weight off their shoulders of the everyday secretarial duties as well. Chief announced Officer Gene St. Clair has passed the Corporal exam and he would like council to consider promoting him to the position. He did reiterate the Borough would not be paying more for this position. Council briefly discussed their contract is near approaching for negotiations, which includes wage. Chief said he understands and this would be a promotion but for now, pay would remain the same. President Booher asked Chief to gather all

necessary legal documents and this will go on next meeting agenda. Chief thanked the board and was dismissed at this time.

New/Old Business List:

Mrs. Majors asked if Antoline Park repairs could be added to the 2020 budget. Mr. Leone reiterated the park is already on the schedule for repairs this year before winter hits. Mrs. Majors also commended Angel's work she does at the park. She said it looks amazing.

Mayor Short proudly announced the CDC is now at 5013C status and is officially a non-profit organization. He then stated he is getting some complaints about the Pennsylvania Avenue project and the flaws on the street. Mr. Leone said he will follow up with those in charge of the project.

VP Shotter announced the Stop, Drop & Run 5K Race will be held October 12th -volunteers are welcome. And October 26th is Halloween Movie at Antoline Park playing Hocus Pocus along with S'mores station directed by Gabby and Brittany.

Mr. Blanarik said "kudos" to Jake and his crew for all their wonderful work they have been doing around town.

Mr. Michel then asked about the vacant council seat and where it stands. President Booher said no names can go on the ballot and the seat is in the hands of the Court or Vacancy Board, which can only make the appointment. Lastly, Mr. Michel asked about the lines painted specifically on 9th Street. Mr. Leone confirmed there is no more parking on 9th Street and yellow lines were painted today to reflect this.

Lastly, President Booher asked for an update on the Recourse Officer. Mr. Leone had nothing to report at this time.

Announcements: Mr. Michel read the following announcements. October 10th is the last Food Truck Thursday Event of the year. The line-up can be found on the Borough Website or Mobile App. Fall Leaf Pick-Up will begin October 7th and continue every Monday until December 2nd. Biodegradable bags can be purchased at the Borough, 5 bags for \$2.00.

Executive Session: Mrs. Majors **motioned** to go into Executive Session for potential litigations at 8:46pm. Second by Mr. Shotter. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Shotter **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:54p.m. Second by Mrs. Majors. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brittany Bologna, Secretary

