

**Monaca Borough
Workshop Meeting
November 6th, 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- present
Mrs. Majors - present	Mr. Blanarik- present
(Vacant)	Mr. Michel- absent
Mr. LaPearle- present	Vice President Shotter- present
Mr. Wilson- present	President Booher- present

Others Present

Mayor Short; Mario N. Leone, Jr.;

List of Attendees: None

Manager's Update: Borough Manager Mr. Leone first gave a recap of the recent Duquesne Light Co. meeting that was held October 24th in regards to the new plan for utility cleanup for each side of the street along the downtown corridor. SGA Consultant Sean Garrigan was present and gave a summary of that meeting as well along with providing council with an updated proposal of \$32,000 for the utility cleanup. Mr. Wilson asked if they have a total cost from DLC for the project. Sean said no. VP Shotter also asked what the total cost would be for the Southside and Northside cleanup. Sean said the overall cost would be approximately be around \$3million dollars. He explained more in detail. Mr. Leone clarified the first strategy of undergrounding with DLC was unsuccessful due to funds not available. Now they are on to the next approach for utility clean up on North and South side of the corridor which the overall cost for the Borough would be around \$1million, pending the Borough receives the CFA grant, which they will hear in the next week or two. VP Shotter asked for clarity on the following: if they do the project from 9th to 15th St with the hybrid undergrounding approach for cleanup and get the CFA grant, plus whatever the Borough has right now, would it cover the cost of the project. Mr. Leone confirmed yes. VP Shotter confirmed if they do not get CFA monies, then the \$1.5million that they have now from HUD will only cover the cost of the sidewalks. President Booher and Mr. Leone both confirmed that is correct. Council posed a few more questions about the HUD money at hand and the timeframe in which they need to use it. There was uncertainty by Mr. Leone who stated he will reach out to the county and try to get this answered. Mr. LaPearle overall stated they are basically going around and around in circles and need to find a definite way to make this town better, and sometimes they need to take risks to do so to better this town. President Booher agreed. Mrs. Majors also agreed and stated they have to give more effort even if it amounts to taking risks. Mayor Short stressed over 10 years more businesses have been entering into the town, and it's the Borough's responsibility to clean up the town and give them a reason to stay. Sean suggested if the Borough gets awarded the CFA grant, the only thing the Borough should proceed with is the revised Work Order for \$32,000 because no matter what, the Borough still needs to see where they stand with this approach with DLC. He explained he came to this meeting to present the new proposal to Council, and when they get the notice of the grant, council will be prepared to take action accordingly. President Booher confirmed if they get the grant money, they immediately have to spend the \$32,000 to show they are moving ahead with the project. Sean added then SGA can put together a package to present to Duquesne Light. VP Shotter made a **motion** to authorize \$32,000 upon the positive award of the CFA-Multimodal Grant. Second by Mr. LaPearle. President Booher asked the audience three times if there was any comments in regards to the motion since it was not on the agenda. There were none. **Motion carried 6-1**, Mr. Wilson-No. Council thanked Sean for his time and patience. He was dismissed from the meeting at this time. Mr. Leone continued with his manager's report. He gave a quick recap on the Eco District conference he attended that week (Monday and Tuesday) in downtown Pittsburgh.

Items to Discuss:

- 1. Resolution 5-19 Fair Districts-** Mr. Leone explained a citizen by the name of Susan Fudurich, brought to his attention a Resolution in regards of gerrymandering of the districts. He explains the Resolution is advocating the legislator to try to make the process a little fairer for citizens. Susan Fudurich-923 Atlantic Avenue, Monaca PA- came up to the podium to explain her reasons to council and why she believes they should support the Resolution. President Booher added he and VP Shotter were able to talk to State Representative Matzie the night prior which he is a cosponsor of those two bills and in favor of passing this Resolution as well. Ms. Fudurich concurred and

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added Representatives Marshall and Berstine are also in favor.

Mr. Shotter **motioned** to approve Resolution No. 5-19 for Supporting a Citizens Commission for Legislative and Congressional Redistricting. Second by Mrs. Majors. President Booher asked the audience three times if there was any questions. There were none. **Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Wilson and VP Shotter asked if there was anything council would need to sign such as her petition. Ms. Fudrich said she didn't have the petition with her but will get it to them to sign.

2. **2020 Budget:** Mr. Leone and council discussed the 2020 Budget for the changes that were made from the last meeting discussion. Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Leone to explain the highlighted items that were now present on the budget that was given to council prior to the meeting. Mr. Leone said these were the changes requested by council and he explained where the adjustments were made. VP Shotter asked a question about the Police wages. Chief of Police Dave Piuri approached council and explained how the wages would balance out if Officer St. Clair becomes the School Resource Officer compared and if a new part-time officer comes on. The school resource officer was also discussed in further detail pertaining to the status of the current contract. Mr. Leone said the Solicitor is now getting clarity on the wages of the SRO. VP Shotter questioned why the requested \$15,000 for the VFD was not included in the budget. He mentioned this was previously discussed in a meeting with the Merger Committee including the solicitors that the Fire Department could get \$15,000 more and VP Shotter gave reasoning where the monies could be pulled from. Council and Mr. Leone discussed. After much was debated, Council agreed to the increase in the Fire Departments budget. Mr. Leone took note and said they will make the necessary adjustments with the Borough Treasurer. Mr. Wilson asked to confirm that Water and Sewer rates will not be adjusted next year. Mr. Leone said that is correct, they will remain the same. With the proposed changes, council is O.K. with having the 2020 budget advertised for public inspection.
3. **Garbage Bids-** Mr. Leone began by providing council a list of answers given by Waste Management pertaining to questions council posed from the last meeting. He first reiterated the prices for fully and semi-automated are the same price. He said WM recommends the Borough to restrict days of parking in downtown in coordination with the Mon-Tues. pick-up schedule which benefits both WM and the Borough. He then touched base on the larger carts for automated pickup and that there would be an option for smaller carts for those who would want them instead. Associated costs were discussed for additional bags and bulk items. Council compared costs of additional bags and bulk items in other areas of the county. President Booher asked about pick-up for houses that are in alley ways. There were some more questions council posed that they would like answered by Waste Management before they make a decision. Traditional pick-up was also discussed. Mr. Leone then explained the cost for traditional would be more than automated pick-up which would result in increased trash rates, should they go that route. Council debated the three different pick-up options and which option they would prefer moving forward. Mr. Leone announced they have sixty days to bid, the decision did not have to be made tonight. VP Shotter reiterated all the questions council wants answered from WM before they make a final decision. Mr. Leone said if they take the (fully or semi) Automated route, the transition of this would not take place until July 1st to give residents enough time to get educated on how the new pick-up system/schedule would work.
4. **Planning Commission Meeting-** Mr. Leone gave an update of the Planning Commission meeting that was held that Tuesday. One item was Dioguardi request for a subdivision of the Monaca Commerce Center (where the Metcon building is) to subdivide into two parcels where Colonna Transfer is going to take the portion of the building behind it. He said the Planning commission reviewed it and are prepared to make a recommendation to council. He then explained the Tokar/Krizan 3 Lot consolidation on Colonial hill. He said this one is pretty basic and the planning commission will be making a recommendation to council next meeting as well. He lastly brought up the Dioguardi request for Land Development along 17th Street. He explained there are a lot of pending issues they need to resolve and explained some of the issues. They are planning to come back to the Planning Commission in a couple weeks hoping to have some of those issues resolved so they can move forward. Mr. Leone stressed that there's a sensitive time frame to place the order for the building that will go on the land so the project can move forward smoothly according to their vision. President Booher reiterated it was discussed in that meeting about moving their building 70 feet so it would not interfere with Penn Dots plans in that location. Mr. Wilson stated for the record he was not a part of that meeting. Next he asked for clarification if drawings were submitted to Penn Dot for a "Round-About". Mr. Leone confirmed plans for Traffic Improvement was submitted to Penn Dot which they do have sufficient funds for. Mr. Wilson asked for a timeframe of when the Borough will know for sure what is going to be there. Mr. Leone said Penn Dot is actually in the process of putting out an RFQ/RFP to the consultants, which is now in the Que. Mr. Wilson asked once more if the project is specifically for a "round-about". Mr. Leone confirmed this was put out as a "Traffic Improvement" project. The recommended solution for that intersection is a round-about. Penn Dot will have to do their criteria for it if the Borough's consultant's recommendation meets their standards. Mr. Leone lastly explained the requested Land

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Development has many issues that they need to resolve before they can even begin to build. It was only the vision of the intersection by the Borough that was brought to the landowners attention. They were only asked if they could shift the building to help the ability of the project. If they are not able to do so, but their plans meet all zoning/building requirements, then they can still build but the Borough's vision will change for 17th Street. VP Shotter asked, of the many issues referenced, was this ever sent to the zoning consultant. Mr. Leone said no, there are far too many issues right now to bring to their attention. He then asked if Penn Dot is going to be apprehensive of approving any sort of HOP or curb cutting, etc. Mr. Leone said he cannot speak for Penn Dot. VP Shotter posed a few more questions which Mr. Leone said he will raise these to the Solicitor and wait on his legal guidance of what order they should follow to keep this a smooth process for this particular project.

5. **The school Resource Officer** was previously discussed during the budget discussion. President Booher reiterated this matter is pending from two weeks ago because they are still waiting on the Township's response. Mayor stated he does not understand what they need from the Township and what the verbiage means in the MOU. He states the dollar amount is not the issue. President Booher reiterated it is what they are adding into the pay. Mr. Leone reiterated that Mayor is asking what the definition is of "salary". Council discussed these questions and Mr. Leone said he has already e-mailed the Borough Solicitor and will wait on his response. He then gave council the overall wage of what they currently pay the officer they have selected for the SRO including hourly rate, FICA, Workers Comp, Pension, Healthcare, etc. Mr. LaPeyere reiterated the question at hand is why they are paying their SRO this rate and only going to pay our Officer this amount.

New/Old business: None.

Announcements: Mayor Short read the following announcements. Monday, November 11th the Borough office will be closed in observance of Veterans Day. That week only, trash pick-up will be on Tuesday, November Twelfth. Beginning now, Monaca Police Department will be accepting donations and nominations at the Borough office for their annual Santa Cops Program. Lastly, Leaf pick-up will continue every Monday until December Second.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: There being no further business, VP Shotter **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 9:48p.m. Second by Mr. Rebich. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brittany Bologna, Secretary