

**Borough of Munhall
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 17, 2019 7:00 P.M.**

I. Call to Order – President Falce

II. Pledge of Allegiance – Kevin Williams

III. Preliminary Announcements

- President Falce wanted to clear up rumors regarding and things he saw on Facebook. He advised as stated in February 20th meeting minutes, as the Engineer suggested, an updated environmental study should be done on Willis Center. Whether the Borough will occupy the building or whether the Borough will sell the building, it will need to be done. He stated the demo and abatement was discussed at the Workshop meeting and the advertisement was in the Tribune Review online and the Pennysaver. Manager Varhola advised the Engineer had received feedback that there wasn't enough time to submit bids, so the bid process has been extended until June 7th. President Falce advised the Borough is in good financial shape and the infrastructure plan is going well and more roads and alleys are being paved than ever before. Vice President Votedian thanked Councilman and Finance Chair Jason Stein for his work and for keeping Council informed. Mayor Brennan stated he has a few questions regarding the bid from Hatch regarding Willis Center. He said it was never voted on the expenditure. He stated it was not done legally. President Falce per his recollection everything was done legally. Mayor Brennan said it is not a budgetary item and therefore should have been discussed and voted on. Councilman Tichon asked for Solicitor Evashavik speak to the situation and Mayor Brennan said he didn't care about Mr. Evashavik's opinion. President Falce wanted to hear Mr. Evashavik's opinion. Mr. Evashavik advised Borough Council does not vote on every expenditure nor on all business that is conducted. If a bid is received, then that bid information would go on the agenda and therefore can be discussed. President Falce stated Council has advised the Engineer to conduct the bid search for demo and abatement. Mayor Brennan said the report is in-depth and asked if there was a charge for the report. He asked the Borough Engineer Colin Lampark if there was a charge for the report and Colin advised there was. President Falce advised Mr. Lampark was not on trial. Solicitor Evashavik advised he performs several tasks for the Borough monthly and his invoice is not voted on separately and within the bills that are approved monthly. Councilman Ballas stated everything doesn't have to be voted on. Councilman Tichon advised Mr. Evashavik had already answered and that Mayor Brennan should accept his answer. Mayor Brennan advised he did not. Councilman Tichon told Mayor Brennan he was mistaken. Mayor Brennan said "I'm always mistaken" but the report was advertised and should have been voted on. He stated it was an illegal act and if not by Council then whomever had it done. A resident said he is accusing someone, and Mayor Brennan said it was not an accusation but the truth. It was never voted on; it was never approved, and no one was able to ask a question about it. He asked how there would be a demo without a plan. Borough Manager Joe Varhola advised Mayor Brennan an advertisement had been placed to take bids on what the cost of a demo might be. He advised there has been no approval because there hasn't been a bid. None were received. Mayor Brennan said that doesn't matter if he didn't get any bids. He advised they had gone through the process and not approved anything and never allowed the residents to ask questions about it. Mr.

Varhola reminded the Mayor that the Engineer, in February, advised the Borough to get an updated environmental study done whether the Borough moves into the building is, or it is sold. He advised Council agreed. Mayor Brennan stated that it was not done in public and Joe reminded him it was discussed and agreed upon at the February meeting which was a public meeting. Colin advised it is the same as a paving project. A report is requested by his company to put specifications together, there is a cost to the report but there is no vote to approve the report. The vote happens when the bids are received. Mayor Brennan inquired "You don't vote on the streets you want to get paved?" Colin advised that the streets are discussed amongst Council but not voted on. Solicitor Evashavik said everything done was legal, he has seen it done over 33 year. He understands that Mayor Brennan doesn't accept that, and Mayor Brennan advised he did not accept it. President Falce advised he doesn't have to accept it, but he does. Mayor Brennan then said his next question was about TKA Architects who he believes Council has hired to look at doing the process of Willis Center. He asked Colin Lampark if TKA had anything to do with the environmental study. Colin advised they were not. Mayor Brennan said at the February meeting, he listened to what Colin had to say about needing a new study and he agreed but it was never voted on. He advised Mr. Varhola didn't vote on Borough money being spent to have a study done, he just did it. President Falce stated they were advised they didn't need to vote on it. Vice President Votedian asked Mayor Brennan why he is always against anything Council does. Mayor Brennan said he is not against everything Council does, but this was done improperly. Mr. Votedian said, "you won't listen to the Solicitor or the engineer" and Mayor Brennan said because they are wrong. Councilman Tichon said "We listen to our professionals. Not you." Mayor Brennan reminded him he was speaking with Councilman Votedian. Councilman Votedian stated he feels Mayor Brennan doesn't want to discuss things privately but wants to wait until he is in a public meeting to argue about things. Mayor Brennan said, "don't tell me that". Councilman Votedian said he has never asked to sit down and talk and that he never does. Mayor Brennan asked why he should. Councilman Votedian said because he wants the questions answered. Mayor Brennan said the talks should be done in a public forum and not behind closed doors. President Falce interjected and said there are no meetings behind closed doors. Mayor Brennan then advised he didn't understand and wanted to ask a question. President Falce advised the insinuation by Mayor Brennan "really burns him up and there are no secret meetings" Mayor Brennan asked what he had done to make President Falce mad and President Falce replied "the accusations and he is fed up to here (gesturing to his forehead)" Mayor Brennan then asked why Council would only interview one architect when there are 50 in the surrounding 20 mile area. He said TKA was hired because, as Councilman Stein said, "I liked what he said". Councilman Tichon said "We vetted him." and advised they built the new international airport. He advised Mayor Brennan that he wanted them to waste time instead of hiring the talent, which is what they did. Mayor Brennan said he would have done his due diligence and interviewed more than one. President Falce advised TKA has worked with Charlie Batch and that the Engineer said the price was good. He asked Colin to confirmed and Colin shook his head yes. Mayor Brennan said that the Engineer had given an estimate of 9 million dollars to do the work on the current Borough building. Colin advised it was a preliminary cost estimate. Mayor Brennan then said Colin had given the figure of 2 million to do the work on Willis Center. Colin advised the Mayor was comparing "apples to oranges". He advised the Mayor is comparing a number with a contingency added to one with no contingency added. A low ball and high ball. Mayor Brennan said "that's what you guys did. You low balled and high balled". President Falce again interjected and advised the Engineers "integrity is being questioned". Mayor Brennan said he was not questioning his integrity but when he put 2.5 million dollars on window treatments and furniture for the

current building as well as the square footage of the building being listed as 35,000 sq. ft. and there is not 35,000 sq. ft to this building. He also mentioned there being a 2.5 million-dollar, 15,000 sq. ft addition added to the current building when there is no place to do so, he considers that playing with numbers. Colin Lampark advised he has explained these numbers before, and these numbers are an "order of magnitude cost". He advised he himself as well as an electrical engineer and a mechanical engineer have gone through the building and have used rough numbers. He also said calculating the square footage of a building is an easy exercise. He said the numbers can be adjusted and again are an "order of magnitude cost" and his professional opinion. Mayor Brennan said he wasn't saying anything bad about Colin, he is just questioning the numbers. Colin advised he has spoken to and he is sure Council has spoken to professionals and the consensus is the current building would be more costly to renovate than the Willis Center. Mayor Brennan said the Willis Center report doesn't mention window replacement, asbestos abatement, roof replacement and there is no mention of Turtle Creek taking the 3rd floor. He said this "should have been advised to us by the Solicitor" and by not mentioning this, he feels mislead. He feels by being told he "had access to this contract. You should have read it." He said this is not his job and the job of the Solicitor is to tell him what's in the contract and it is the job of the Solicitor and Council to tell him what is in the environmental report. Solicitor Evashavik advised Mayor Brennan that he knew how to read. Mayor Brennan advised he is not an attorney and doesn't profess to be one. He advised he is not an engineer and doesn't profess to be one. He stated the professionals are supposed to give the overview and no one ever gave an overview. He mentioned that he was never told, until the meeting when he asked, that Turtle Creek doesn't have an obligation to take the 3rd floor. Councilman Inglis advised the only reason we would go over to Willis Center "If we go over there" is because of the Police Department. He asked Mayor Brennan if he has spoken with the Police. He advised the reason we would move is because of the police department. Mayor Brennan said, "so we are moving into the Willis Center because of the police department?" Councilman Inglis advised "Yes we are." Councilman Inglis said "We are talking Willis Center. On June 1st, 2016, Councilman Brennan said, at a new committee meeting, take all the buildings." Mayor Brennan said "Absolutely. I did say that". Councilman Inglis said "You did say that. August 2016, Sgt. Fullard talked with a Monahan from TCV about going over there because the police have no room. February 17, 2017, Joe Varhola, Pat Campbell and Monahan discuss TCV about over there. Police involved all the time. He said, "on June 1st" Mayor Brennan interjected saying "Who was the Mayor then?" Councilman Inglis said "You was on Council then." Mayor Brennan again asked, "Who was the Mayor then?" Councilman Inglis again said "You was on Council then. You were on Council then. You okayed all of this." Mayor Brennan responded "Okay. I okayed it all" Councilman Inglis said "I know you did. I sat beside you over there (pointing to the opposite side of the Council table). New building meeting, there was Joe Varhola, Rob, Rich, Jason, Rick, Pat, Dave and Bob discussed various things and to take all three parcels. Did you not?" Mayor Brennan replied "I agree. I concur." Councilman Inglis said "Councilman Brennan, September 13th, Councilman Brennan says with the property down the Waterfront, I think we should put new the Borough building down there" Mayor Brennan replied "I thought it was an idea. It could work. We could still do it. Why don't we?" Councilman Inglis said "We're talking about Willis Center" Mayor Brennan "Why don't we build a new building down there?" Resident Chris Fassinger "What about this historic building? There's a contradiction here. You're bringing up this historic building and how we need to save it but as a Councilman you talking about moving it to the Waterfront? I think what's going on here is they're exploring all their options. And when you have three different options of what you can do, this building vs moving somewhere else, it's their due diligence to get all the information and facts so that we know what the numbers are, how

much it's going to cost to go over there, or how much it's gonna be to stay here and expand upon it." Mayor Brennan said "So let me answer you. I did do my due diligence. I did go through this building. I went completely through the Willis Center building before we took it over. I did go down to the Waterfront property and surveyed the whole Waterfront property, so I've done my due diligence. So, don't question me about that. And I did talk to the police officers." Greg, who owns and currently runs the Bike Rentals from the Waterfront Property voiced his concerns about his business and what is happening with the Waterfront Property. Councilman Inglis said "We're not even talking about that. We'll get to that." Mayor Brennan said, "Can I talk?" Councilman Inglis "Everything I read, did you not say to take all three properties and to go down there?" Mayor Brennan replied "Absolutely I said let's look at all three properties. Absolutely. And I did look at all three properties. And when I did that, and I looked at this building properly and I know the right move is to stay in this building because there is plenty of space in this building to be used." There were several who spoke up along with Councilman Inglis and asked "Where?" Mayor Brennan replied "This discussion never took place. You guys went and took it. There's all of space in this building. There's garage space in this building. There's a whole basement downstairs that's not used. There's a police range down there. A police shooting range. There's bathrooms, showers, locker rooms that are not used." President Falce asked "You know why they're not used?" Mayor Brennan said "Can I talk? Cause you guys love to tell me when the hell to shut up." President Falce replied "You can't go on and on." Mayor Brennan "I'm not going on and on. I'm answering his questions (motioning to Councilman Inglis)." Councilman Inglis said "Go right ahead." Mayor Brennan said "So I did look at all three properties and I did talk to the police officers about this building. I was the Mayor when I talked to them. I asked them, every one of them, I know exactly what they need. I know what deficiencies there are. And I spent a good three of four hours walking through the building with them. In the police department mainly. We still could do this. Save our borough building. We could build a brand-new fire hall in the back there and use the area the fire hall is in, but no one's ever talked about that. No one has said what can we do with our building. Why can't we preserve it? It's always been let's move over to the Willis Center. I went and looked through the Willis Center and it's a mess over there." Councilman Inglis said "I walked through too. Where'd you ever hear that we was going over there?" Mayor Brennan said, "Many times I've heard that" Councilman Inglis said "We've talked about taking over the building." Mayor Brennan said "Don't play that with me. Don't play that game with me." Councilman Inglis said "Pardon me?" Mayor Brennan "This whole intention has been to move over into that building. So, don't play that game that you guys don't have every intention to move over there." President Falce used the gavel and clarified that the only decision that has been made is to take the building not to move over there. Mayor Brennan replied, "Well then what is your intention on taking those buildings for?" Councilman Tichon said "We're still examining the possibilities. Does that answer your question?" Mayor Brennan "No. I don't accept that as an answer." President Falce "Maybe we want to see what is worth." Councilman Inglis said "Just like the land down there." Mayor Brennan said, "What are you going to do with the land?" Councilman Inglis said "We're not going to put in a park." Mayor Brennan said, "That's our loss." Councilman Inglis said "That's our loss?" Mayor Brennan said, "That's our loss." Councilman Inglis commented "They might not be able to build a building there and you wanna put a park there?" Councilman Ballas stated "I have questions for you. A few times you've talked about a 5-year plan. Do you have a plan?" Mayor Brennan said "I can put the 5-year plan together. I can get it for you." Councilman Ballas replied "That would be great." Mayor Brennan said, "I can get my engineer to work on it." Councilman Ballas "You do that." Councilman Votedian said "I have something to say. I am from the #1 fire station and we had that building made a historic building. It

took us 2 years because the paperwork goes through the different agencies. Senators. Congressman and quite a few others. And that fire station was always there. The first borough building was down on 8th Ave and Andrew St. This is the second one which I don't know would consider as a historic building." Mayor Brennan stated, "I think this building would absolutely be considered a historic building." Councilman Tichon said "I tend to agree with the Mayor. This building has some historical significance." Councilman Votedian said "It has but trying to meet some of the historical criteria. It might look historic but that don't mean its historic. This is the second building. The original building was on 8th Ave and Andrew St. That building may be historic. And this building isn't in the historic district. "Councilman Tichon asked where it stopped "10th or 9th? Well that's another roadblock." Mayor Brennan said "There are a couple things I want to talk about while we are on the subject, okay? West Mifflin doesn't have a building like this. West Mifflin does not have a historic building like this. Homestead doesn't have a historic building like this. West Homestead doesn't have a historic building like this. West Mifflin is a much larger community, they have a beautiful building like this. They don't have a sidewalk they can walk up and down like Main Street where you can walk down and talk to your neighbor. Like outside here (gesturing to the sidewalk outside of the borough building) where you can walk right up and talk to your neighbor there. This is a close-knit community and we need to have some pride in our town. And in our municipal building. And it's about time you Councilmen, would one of you agree with me on something about keeping this building. Because I have a little pride in it. I think you guys should have a little pride in it. I don't think it should be knocked down and put the wrecking ball into it. What do you think?" President Falce replied "Cost is always the bottom line. We need to hold the line on taxes. I've said all along, I will do what's right to hold the line on taxes. I will not put this borough in jeopardy of what we've accomplished since 2016. What we've accomplished as a council. What we've accomplished. The gains we've made. I'm not gonna jeopardize that and have it going the other way. So, the bottom line is fiscal management and that's the way I look at it." Mayor Brennan replied, "That's a bunch of nonsense." President Falce said "No its not." Mayor Brennan again said, "That's nonsense." President Falce exclaimed "You say you're being bullied, that's bullying me! Do not bully me! Do not bully me Rick! You like to talk about" Mayor Brennan interrupted saying "There's no pride in this borough building at all." Councilman Tichon said "Then you must not have it." Mayor Brennan continued "Because you guys wanna just...you say its 9 million dollars to fix this building up. I disagree 100%. If you want to go with fiscal numbers, get some true numbers." Councilman Ballas asked "What are you basing your estimate on?" Mayor Brennan said, "I've had other people look at the building." President Falce said "Show us. Show us." Councilman Tichon stated "Let's move the meeting along." President Falce asked for additional preliminary announcements. Councilman Stein stated it had been brought to his attention that Mayor Brennan had posted a video last Wednesday and there was something in the video that he took personal exception to. He said at the 4 minute and 27 second mark there was a comment made "if you want the videos from the last couple of months and even tonight, Council is not very friendly to me, they treat me not to nice, they are ignorant to me." Councilman Stein wanted to point out that he hadn't been in attendance the previous week and furthermore, if anyone does watch the videos for the last couple of months or as long as he has been on Council, he does not treat the Mayor badly and it is a personal pride of his that when someone else is speaking, even if he disagrees with them, he will give them the floor, pay attention to what they are saying. He asked the Mayor, going forward, to please choose his words more carefully because comments like "Council or you guys" is a blanket statement that is unfairly labeling people. Mayor Brennan apologized and said he didn't mean for it to be a personal statement to him and asked Councilman Stein to please accept his personal

apology. He added though he has “not been treated too well or too fair”. He advised he is challenging Council “every one of you” because he feels “vehemently that this is the wrong move for our borough. And I think, with what’s transpired, the way that this has evolved, with us not getting the information” Councilman Tichon said “That’s bull.” Mayor Brennan “It’s true so don’t make your snide comments Mr. Tichon” Councilman Tichon said “I say that’s incorrect. We have all the information we need and we’re going to do the astute thing” Mayor Brennan said, “That’s what you say.” Councilman Tichon “We’re going to do what we think is best. We still don’t know.” Mayor Brennan replied “That bullshit doesn’t go with me. And I’m done with your smart remarks. I’m over it. I’m just talking. I’m the one here that seems to be the only person, other than the public, that wants to keep this building.” Councilman Inglis said “You wanted to move the building.” Mayor Brennan replied, “No. no.” Councilman Inglis said “In 2017 you wanted to move the building. You did.” Mayor Brennan said “Excuse me. We talked about looking at the building.” Councilman Inglis said “You said you wanted to move it.” Mayor Brennan said “No. no.no.” Councilman Inglis said “Did you or did you not say you wanted to take all 4 buildings?” Mayor Brennan replied, “I did say that.” Councilman Inglis said “Now you want to change your mind.” Mayor Brennan asked “Did you...well you changed your mind. Did you not want to sell the property down there? Or is it sold or not sold?” Councilman Inglis said “Not yet.” Mayor Brennan said, “So don’t put words in my mouth.” Councilman Inglis asked “Did you not say take it down there? Did you not say take the Borough building down there?” Mayor Brennan replied “No. I said we could move the new Borough building down there.” President Falce used the gavel and stated the meeting would need to move on. Mayor Brennan said “And secondly, for that matter, I said we should look at all three of those buildings” President Falce advised the meeting needed to move on and this matter should be discussed civilly, and Mayor Brennan said, “ it should be but we can’t civilly talk.” Councilman Ballas asked if he could say one more thing. He addressed Mayor Brennan “You say you have an opinion about the cost. Everyone is allowed their own opinion. This is America and we are allowed our opinion. But the facts say something different. There’s only one set of facts and the only facts I’ve ever seen are in that report. 9 million vs 2-3 million. If you guys are voting on anything, you want to vote on raising your taxes. If we go the 9 million route, we are probably going to have to raise taxes 1 or 2 mils. I’m just telling you that’s the way it is. I mean, his opinion is he can do it allot cheaper. A 5-year plan, I haven’t seen any. You say you have one, I’d really like to see it. I would enjoy looking it over. But that’s your opinion. The facts say something different. Thank you.”

Roll Call: Councilman Ballas; Councilman Inglis; Councilman Petruzzi; Councilman Stein; Councilman Tichon; Councilman Votedian; President Falce

NOTICE TO ALL PUBLIC SPEAKERS ADDRESSING COUNCIL

- **COMMENTS WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES**
- **MUST AVOID REFERENCES TO PERSONALITIES AND PERSONNEL RELATED ISSUES.**

IV. Speaker(s):

- **Michael Capp** – 243 Gates Dr – Parking for TCV and Code Animals – Mr. Capp asked about the section of the agreement with TCV regarding the parking lot. Manager Varhola advised the parking lot only needs to be built if no one moves in to the building. The concern was that everyone would have sufficient parking. Mr. Capp advised he read the agreement to say that the changes would need to take place within one year of the agreement. Mr. Varhola advised this is only if someone moves in to the building. Mayor Brennan asked Solicitor Evashavik to confirm this information and he advised he would like to read the contract over again, but that Mr. Varhola was correct. Councilman Stein asked Solicitor Evashavik to confirm his understanding that if the Borough sells the building, the Borough will not be obligated to pave/paint the other parking lot. Mr. Evashavik replied that the agreement was made to pave/paint the additional lot when the building became occupied creating a shortage of spaces. He agreed there is a one-year statement within the agreement, but he doesn't feel they will "hold our feet to the fire" if no one is in the building thus creating a parking shortage. He advised Mr. Capp he is reading it correctly. Mr. Capp asked Mr. Evashavik if the Borough decides to sell the building, can TCV come back and say that the Borough still owes them a parking lot or an they take back the donation. Mr. Capp then asked about a resident who previously asked about animals within the Borough and asked if Council is looking in to an ordinance. Solicitor Evashavik advised Council has asked him to look in to a proposal regarding limits to owning animals and he is looking in to that. Mr. Capp asked if he would add something to the code regarding the animals be healthy. Solicitor Evashavik said that is not something he has been looking in to but can do so.
- **Maureen Fry** – 124 W Virginia Ave – Willis Center architect report, Turtle Creek M/R intentions for the 3rd floor of Willis Center, plans for waterfront property – Councilman Tichon apologized for calling Mrs. Fry by the wrong name at the last meeting. Mrs. Fry asked Council to speak in to the microphones in front of them and she was advised they do not work. She then asked if the Borough has received a report from the architect for Willis Center and if so, what did they find out. Manager Varhola advised the architect said they should have a report with financial estimates by the end of the following week. The engineer Colin Lampark advised he had the draft report, but it does not have financial estimates. He said he will be reviewing the report and make sure the proper people at the Borough review it with all his comments. Mrs. Fry then reminded Council that there was a previous request to have public meetings so that people could be informed of what is going on. She advised they were told there are already two public meetings one being the workshop meeting and the other being the regular council meeting. She feels like the residents just want to know what's going on while Council just wants to tell them what went on. She addressed Engineer Lampark saying she feels during a workshop meeting there should be input from him and from the residents. She said these kinds of meetings may stop Council from feeling like they are being picked on and the residents from feeling they are not being informed. She said she feels like everyone wants what's best for Munhall and it doesn't always go down like that.

She mentioned TCV and the third floor of the Willis Center but understands that they are not obligated to move in so she moved on to say her third question was what the plans are for the 7.5 acres of Waterfront property but understands there will not be an information from Nuvo until May as they have asked for an extension. Manager Varhola advised Nuvo is currently waiting for the Waterfront Business Association to tell them they are okay with them moving ahead with their plan. He said as he understands, it is in the WBA's attorneys' hands for review. Mrs. Fry then asked David Cannon what is going on at the old driving range on Homestead Duquesne Road. Dave advised they have a permit to move dirt, a grading permit at this time and that is what they are doing. Councilman Tichon said they are making allot of noise. Dave advised they have a 5-phase grading permit. He said because there is a creek involved the DEP is involved as well. Mrs. Fry then asked if the cameras on Main Street had been fixed. Mr. Varhola advised electrical work is needed. President Falce said he introduced himself to the electrician and believes that the project is on the schedule but doesn't know when it will begin. Mrs. Fry then asked what Councils intention was regarding the payment of the remaining \$5000 to MAPs. Mr. Varhola advised this amount was a donation and in return for that donation, we asked for certain things. He said when we receive those, we'll pay them. Mrs. Fry said, "So we say we are going to pay them and if nobody asks about it or questions it, they won't get paid and everyone is okay with that?" Mr. Varhola asked Mrs. Fry if she understood that the borough already gives them a building. One of the residents said that they paid for the building and Mr. Varhola advised they did not. Councilman Ballas advised they paid for the renovations when they moved in, but they don't own the building. Councilman Stein explained that there was a previous meeting with MAPs. He advised MAPs asked for more money and were given stipulations giving them \$2500 up front, that there would be another \$2500 payment when they showed their books to make sure they are solvent and not in arrears any way and the last \$2500 would come when someone was added to their board. He advised it didn't have to be someone on Council but a resident. He stated no additional money was given because they refused to show their books. Resident Mike Sarriano advised all members of their board except one are residents of Munhall. He advised they are a political and therefore cannot have an elected official on the board but if Council wants to meet with them and go over their finances, they would be happy to do that. He advised they are very solvent, but it wouldn't take much to have a problem if they had two trucks go down. He confirmed that the building does belong to the Borough and they do not pay rent. Manager Varhola reminded him that the Borough paid their utility bills for over 20 years and Mr. Sarriano agreed. Council Tichon motioned to pay the remaining donation of \$5000 to MAPS.

Motion to pay the remaining pledged donation of \$5000.00 to MAPS.

Motion: Councilman Tichon; Second: Councilman Stein

Comment: Donna Dreshman feels this is a very nice gesture. She asked how many in the room donated to MAPS via their yearly subscription. Several hands were raised. Council Votedian asked Mike Sarriano what percentage of subscriptions are returned. Manager Varhola said 17% and Mike confirmed and said it is very low in Munhall. Councilman Ballas asked Mr. Sarriano to confirm he did agree to allow someone to visit to see the books and Mr. Sarriano agreed. Mr. Ballas advised this being the first time that was offered. He stated it is a good gesture and thanked him. President Falce stated this is long overdue and thanked Mrs. Frye for bringing up the matter.

Vote: Unanimous – Councilman Tichon asked when Mike would receive the check. President Falce advised Mike he would have it before the end of the month.

Mrs. Fry asked if there is a borough credit card that is used. She questioned who went to the recent Seven Springs conference, who paid for it was and what was learned at the conference. There were several who raised their hands. President Falce said everyone went and Mayor Brennan was supposed to go but had a death in his family. He said Mayor Brennan is set to go to the Hershey Mayors Conference. Manager Varhola advised the Borough paid for the conference and the value of the conference to him is the networking that happens throughout the entire weekend. He stated how invaluable it is to him and mentioned how he uses that networking on a regular basis. Councilman Ballas advised he attended the Allegheny County Emergency Response Seminar and the chief is from Munhall, Matt Brown. He said they are in the process of moving the 911 command center. Councilman Votedian said everyone should take time to tour the new center. Councilman Ballas said there was a meeting with Jefferson Borough who has a fully solar, zero energy, borough building. Manager Varhola advised Jefferson Borough made money because they sold back excess energy. President Falce advised gathering together is about discussing things that may be an issue for many boroughs or townships. He advised medical marijuana was one of the big topics at the conference. He advised there were pros and cons from both sides and was very interesting.

- **Gary Morgan** – Longfellow Drive - Handicapped Parking – Not in attendance
- **Joe Cehok** – Longfellow Drive – Handicapped Parking – Not in attendance
- **Jason Carter** – Borough concerns - Asked residents if anyone was in attendance because of a shooting the evening before. He was frustrated because of things happening in the Borough but the only subject seems to be the Borough building. He said the building doesn't mean anything to him but should spend more time fixing the community and not focusing in on the building.
- **Jamie Salus** - Ravine Street. She voiced her concerns about her mother in laws property that has fallen into the creek. She is asking that the creek be fixed. Council did not disagree that there is an issue there. Manager Varhola advised he, the Borough Engineer and Bob Bicsey from Public works have been working to try to get something done but the problem isn't with the Borough but with the DEP and the Army Corp of Engineers. They have met with Senator Costas offices and

Representative Austin Davis' office and they are aware of the situation on Ravine Street. He advised they met with the DEP and PennDOT at 801 Ravine Street and they have escalated the situation, because of a letter from Joe, to Harrisburg's Waterway and Wetland group. They replied the homeowner(s) need to get a survey completed on their property and contact a contractor regarding repairs. He advised if the contractor needs to get into creek for those repairs, the contractor will need to contact the DEP for a permit. Mrs. (Spelling) said she spoke with Costa's office and was told the same thing but even if the homeowner fixes their property and the creek is not fixed, they will be "throwing money down the creek". Engineer Colin Lampark advised even improving the waterway will not protect the properties because of the 100-year floodplain. Manager Varhola advised the Borough has done everything they can to get answers or resolution for the homeowners. President Falce advised the answer will have to come from the state and federal government. Councilman Inglis advised her to continue to contact Senator Costa's office.

V. Reports from Borough Officials:

Mayor – Mayor Brennan asked for a moment of silence for Ed Corey. He advised there will be a meeting at Carnegie Library, in the shuffleboard room, on May 6th, from 6pm to 8pm. He advised while visiting Park School he spoke to Katie Pugh about changing the date of the student meet to a separate night or even earlier on the same night. He said he told her he would speak to Council and he advised it would be a meeting created and structured for them. He feels its not appropriate for the children to conduct a meeting where discussions and votes are taking place regarding borough business. President Falce advised he spoke to her as well and she would like to have the meeting on the same night but change the parade to Thursday the 16th. Mayor Brennan said he is okay with whatever is decided and asked to be made aware of what that decision is. He then asked about paving of McClure Street. He advised the Munhall Borough half is worse than the Homestead Borough half and he feels we should add our half to the paving list for 2019. Councilman Stein said they had approached Munhall about paving McClure, but we advised paving McClure is not in our budget for this year and they were asked why they wouldn't focus on West Street, which is a main artery for them, and they chose to still do McClure. Councilman Tichon said he agreed that West Street is bad. Mayor Brennan agreed it is bad but was under the impression they received a grant. There was a discussion amongst Council and Manager Varhola about the paving company that worked for Homestead. Mayor Brennan then asked Mr. Varhola how he keeps track of cost spent at the Willis Center. He mentioned several professionals and our public works department. Mr. Varhola advised there is a chart of account code that keeps track of all monies spent.

Solicitor – Solicitor Evashavik explained the municipal lien process that takes place when the Borough is forced to cut grass at an abandoned property and that he filed a lien against 1220 Margaret Street.

Manager – Mr. Varhola advised Council of the GIS electronic open enrollment process that took place over the last few weeks. He thanked Pat Campbell, Bob Bicsey and Becki Wirth for their work on this project. He then advised 930 Ravine Street will be demolished the following week. He also thanked Bob Bicsey and the work of his team, for their work to put in a catch basin on Gates Drive. Mr.

Varhola will be meeting with Bristol Metals about the possibility of adding a new mill in the Waterfront. He feels they really want to put the mill in Munhall instead of North Carolina. Mr. Varhola stated he has gotten a quote to replace the roof at Trautman field for \$2375.00.

Motion to authorize the Borough Manager to proceed with the repairs on the garage roof at Trautman field in the amount of \$2375.00.

Motion: Councilman Petruzzi, **Second:** Councilman Votedian

Comment on the motion: Donna Dreshman – Who is the quote from? Mr. Varhola advised Cotuce Remodeling. She also asked what the warranty is? Mr. Varhola advised 20 years. She asked if another roof would be more efficient? Dave Cannon advised that Pennsylvania “Lifetime” warranty is 20 years. She asked if a metal roof would be more efficient. Mr. Varhola advised it would be more expensive. She advised it would last longer and he said he would look into it. President Falce explained this roof is on the building that houses their mowers etc. and he doesn’t feel there should be a big expense for it.

Vote: Unanimous

Joe advised Council the Borough audit is over and thanked Becki Wirth for her work in the audit. Mr. Varhola advised he received a call from Allegheny County as they had received a call from a concerned citizen of Munhall about asbestos in the Willis Center. She asked Joe to read a statement assuring the residents of Munhall that there is no danger regarding asbestos in the Willis Center or the current borough building. There is no danger to the community.

Engineer – Colin Lampark advised Shady Ave and Harvey St contractors are moving on to Harvey. He also said an addendum has been issued for the asbestos abatement giving additional time to gather information for bids. It has been pushed back to June 7th. Mr. Lampark stated the paving contract has been awarded and they will be scheduling meetings shortly. Mayor Brennan asked about the catch basin project. He said there is a gentleman on Mercer who has called him for several years. Colin advised the Borough has been replacing them. Mayor Brennan said he saw the catch basin project from Colin’s report and wanted to mention this resident. Colin stated the project is grant money applied for and the grant process requires specific catch basins listed in the application. Those funds must be used for the specific basins mentioned in the application. Mayor Brennan said he understood. A resident asked Mr. Lampark about his report that mentions Shady Ave and asked if the street on the other end will be paved. Mr. Varhola stated they have held off on that as a paving project as Munhall may pave it themselves. He said the borough may try to “piggyback” off the utility companies doing work in the area. He mentioned the borough has over \$700,000 in infrastructure projects going on. Councilman Ballas stated the utilities have paved several streets to date (mentioning Shady, Ellsworth and Superior). Mayor Brennan asked about Boone Way and asked if the Borough would be able to pave it themselves. Colin said they have not given up on grant money for this project. Mr. Varhola advised Wellington Strategies is working on it as well. Mayor Brennan asked if the Borough would be able to pave just enough to make it easier on the residents using the alley. Mr. Varhola advised it would need to be milled. Mayor Brennan advised it is a mess. President Falce advised it might kill a grant.

Public Works Supervisor – Report submitted. Mr. Bob Bicsey told Council about the water break at the old #3 Fire Station. Councilman Votedian asked Mr. Bicsey to check a sewer on 14th and Louise as it isn't taking in water.

Police Chief – Report submitted. Chief Pat Campbell went over his report. He advised the previous month was a big training month and the new clerk is working out well. He discussed handicapped applications for Longfellow Drive and that going forward anyone from Longfellow will need to go to the Co-op, they will deem it necessary, they will sign off and reach out to Officer Williams. Councilman Inglis asked Chief Campbell in comparison with other areas around Munhall, how many handicapped applications are received. Chief Campbell advised the average in the surrounding area is 6 per year and Munhall receives 6 per month. Mayor Brennan asked Chief Campbell about the article in the paper regarding Whitaker Borough. Chief Campbell advised Munhall gave them an offer and they never responded. He discussed the details with Mayor Brennan who asked the Chief to open dialog again and followed up with a conversation about who the current Mayor is and who is on current council.

Fire Chief – Report submitted. Chief Ed Pletsch went over his report. He also asked for volunteers to put out the Veterans Banners on April 11th at 10am.

Code Enforcement Officer – Report submitted.

VI. Public Comments on Items for Consideration:

Donna Dreshman – Motion 1 – How many hours per week with the Mr. Tirpak be working. Mr. Varhola advised 40 are available but he will not be paid if they do not work. Motion 4 – What does this include? Mr. Varhola advised the annual payment to Carnegie Library. Donna asked if the crack in the concession stand can be fixed and put under the recreation budget. Mr. Varhola advised the crack has been there from the time of construction. He said he called the contractor who never showed up to fix it and is now out of business. Dave Cannon advised its safe and can be used. Mrs. Dreshman then asked for the remaining balance after bills and payroll are paid. Mr. Varhola stated \$1,168,259.32.

Mrs. Ondo asked for an update on the website. Mr. Varhola advised we are in the process of changing website designers and Becki Wirth is working with the new designer. President Falce stated Mr. Quayle told Council it wouldn't take long once things get underway.

Councilman Ballas told Mrs. Dreshman this time in 2017 the balance was \$785,000 and now it is \$1,168,259.32. He reassured the residents that the Borough isn't falling apart.

VII. Items for consideration:

1. Motion to hire Jonathan Tirpak as a Summer intern from the Local Government Academy at \$9.00 per hour.

Motion: Councilman Tichon; Second: Councilman Stein; Vote: Unanimous

2. Motion to approve the placement of a handicapped sign at 4620 Woodhill Drive per approval by Officer Williams and Chief Campbell.

Motion: Councilman Ballas; Second: Councilman Stein Vote: Unanimous

3. Motion to approve the March 20th, 2019 minutes.

Motion: Councilman Votedian; Second: Councilman Petruzzi; Vote: Unanimous

4. Motion to pay bills for the period March 20th, 2019 through April 16, 2019, summarized as follows:

Administration	\$ 22,134.51
Police:	\$ 48,588.34
Fire:	\$ 6,000.26
Health & Sanitation:	\$ 23,545.08
Public Works:	\$ 94,555.91
Recreation:	\$ 126,593.92
Miscellaneous:	<u>\$ 19,949.68 *</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 341,367.70

Motion: Councilman Inglis; Second: Councilman Ballas; Vote: Unanimous

* \$15,490.40 Borough Insurance

5. Motion to approve Payroll for the period of March 7th and 21th, 2019

2019: March 7th	\$ 143,094.03
2019: March 21st	<u>\$ 159,883.37</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 302,977.40

Motion: Councilman Stein; Second: Councilman Tichon; Vote: Unanimous

Other/Additional Matter(s):

Councilman Inglis asked Mayor Brennan if he advised a lady who fell on Main Street to sue the Borough. Mayor Brennan advised no and asked if someone had told him so. Councilman Inglis said yes but not the lady who fell.

President Falce discussed Community Days meeting which will take place at Carnegie Library in the meeting, 2nd floor, at 6pm on Monday the April 22nd.

Mayor Brennan asked about Government Days. President Falce advised the students will come as usual and lead the 7 pm Council meeting. He reminded Council about Barrett School being brought up at the last meeting. President Falce said a teacher at Barrett to head up the program.

VIII. Adjournment: Motion: Councilman Tichon; Second: Councilman Votedian; Vote: Unanimous

Robert Falce – President of Council