

**Borough Of Munhall
Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of Council
June 19th, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the Munhall Borough Council was held on June 19th, 2013 in Council Chambers, Munhall Borough Building, 1900 west street, Munhall, PA 15120. This meeting was convened at 7:30 PM, with Council President Joe Ballas Presiding.

The Pledge Of Allegiance was led under the direction of Scout pack leader Kevin Scott.

The roll was called and the following members were present:

Joe Ballas, President
Robert Falce, Vice President
Richard Votedian, President Pro-tem
Dan Lloyd, Councilman
Harvey Inglis, Councilman
Bernie Shields, Councilman
Dana Ditillo, Councilwoman

Absent:

None

Also in attendance at the meeting were:

Raymond Bodnar, Mayor
John Leiendecker, Borough Assistant
Greg Evashavik, Borough Solicitor
Lindsey Jewart, Engineer
Larry Billy, Public Works
Joe Cibula, Acting Police Chief
Matt Pisarcik, Fire Chief

Preliminary Announcements:

None

Speakers:

Kevin Scott spoke on behalf of his scout pack, thanking the Munhall borough and its citizens for their support with the pack-to-pack operation. They then read letters of award from the state senator.

Dan Bobish spoke on the tax office. He asked about the extra fees for postage and sitting checks. He mentioned that he received one return phone call out of several

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made, and that it was at 7:30 pm on a Friday night. Council responded by letting Mr. Bobish know that they had chosen to have an audit done (independently from the borough or any yearly audit) to fix the situation. The Borough Solicitor said that he would consult with some different firms about the audit and let us know which one suited the tax office the best.

Freeman Bartek spoke on Behalf of the Hays mansion, he mentioned that they had secured funds from 26 different entities; he also referred to a couple similar locations in which historic homes were saved from the demolition list.

Cindy Dude spoke as a direct descendent from the hays family. She showed a historical book called Underground Railroad in Pennsylvania, which showed the hays mansion as a possible and likely location for the Underground Railroad.

Joanne Chamberlin joined in and also wanted to comment on the hays mansion, stating that it's the oldest structure in the borough and for that reason alone, it should be taken off the condemnation list.

Mr. Willy Hays spoke on behalf of Rebecca Sheldon, he gave a brief description of the work they had recently done on the house, mostly superficial work to the exterior, but a change in the outside that you can notice.

Scott Stevens spoke about the lack of procedure to produce his public record request. He stated that he had spoken with the department of Justice, and that he would prefer to discuss this in an executive meeting. He also stated that the MPD had an information leak from someone on the inside, and that his private information was being thrown around by that leak. Joe Cibula told him to come to the borough on the following day and he would have a meeting with him.

Petitions / Public comments on Agenda items:

Donna Dreshman asked if item numbers 2 and 3 had to be approved, She stated that she though item number 6 would be very helpful to Munhall.

The Mayor Said that he supported the hays family and that they had shown him enough effort to validate his approval, Councilman Lloyd suggested that the hays family escrow 30,000\$ so that if the project took a dive the borough would not be losing out on any money that the borough had received from the state. Councilman Falce said that he didn't think that would be necessary.

Mr. Ballas Moved, seconded by Mr. Falce to approve the May 15th, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes of Council. Motion carried unanimously.

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Reports From Borough Officials:

Mayor: Thanked all the people that assisted on Memorial Day. He stated to the public works director that Jacob way was like driving on a minefield. The mayor also inquired about the Kennedy park sign, and mentioned that it needs to be replaced soon. He then turned his attention to the Borough Solicitor, Greg and asked what they could do about club pink, because they had yet to assign the two police officers, as mandated by the Authorities. After wards he spoke about Matt Galla`s resignation, stating that he basically threw it back at him and told him he does not accept this. He said that matt was irreplaceable, and something has to be done. Bernie shields brought to attention that before Matt became manager an ordinance was passed taking away all authority but still leaving all the responsibilities on the manager. Rob Falce stated that regardless Matt should have approached someone directly with his problems.

Solicitor: Spoke with the mayor about club pink

Engineer: 2013 Paving project includes Andrew and East Eugene. She stated she was looking into preliminary costs for repair work needed on Ravine Street.

Director of Public Works: Nothing to report.

...Councilman Harvey Inglis asked about the large amounts of salt that had been recently delivered to the back lot. In the middle of June he stated was an odd time to receive such large shipments of salt. He stated that until we clarify where it came from that the bill was not to be paid.

Chief of Police: Joe Cibula as acting chief has submitted a written report, he wanted to highlight that he had put signs up in the borough lots allowing employees of the borough easier parking as well as the people who come in to pay their taxes. Bernie Shields stated that even if you see a council members vehicle in the parking lot, tag it, anything and anyone over the limit, tag them.

Harvey Inglis questioned the acting chief about the special rate in which police officers are paid for special/select duties, such as the most recent one done at the crossroads in West Mifflin. Mr. Lloyd interjected that the Borough Manager should be the one issuing any such contracts out. Joe Cibula said that he believed that whoever was in charge previous to him had not told Matt about the change in rates. Bernie Shields and The Borough Solicitor both agreed that Matt should have approved any contracts between anyone and the Borough. Mr. Evashavik then

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suggested that we set a flat rate for special/ select duties and go off that rate alone. Mr. Lloyd suggested that we do that with our school district here as well.

Fire Chief: The fire chief submitted a hand written report to the council.

Code Enforcement: Submitted a written report, Joe Ballas asked about the garage on 8th avenue with the collapsed roof. Mr. Cannon said that he is in the process of the courts with the owner of the building now.

Sewer Authority: absent

Item for Consideration:

Mr. Lloyd moved, seconded by Harvey Inglis to ratify the payment of bills for the period from May 7, 2013 through June 6, 2013 in the amount of \$213,856.83 and the breakdown for payroll in the amount of \$262,000.19 for the same period per the following breakdown:

Admin/Council/Mayor/Bldgs/Tax:	\$ 23,649.94
Police/Code/Dispatch/Sch Grds:	\$161,287.51
Sanitation:	\$ 8,510.40
Public Works:	\$ 49,933.45
Social Security/ Medicare	\$ 18,618.69

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Inglis Moved, Seconded by Ms. Ditillo to approve the expenditure of \$7,200.00 to the Community of The Crucified One, On the recommendation of the Main Street/ TIF Committee for landscaping services along 8th Avenue. These fund are not from the Borough General Fund. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Ms. Ditillo Moved, Seconded by Mr. Votedian to approve the expenditure of \$2,500.00 to young life, on the recommendation of the Main Street / TIF Committee for landscaping at various locations along 7th Avenue, Amity and the Homestead Grays Bridge. These funds do not come from the Borough General Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Falce Moved, Seconded by Mr. Shields to approve and execute a new mutual aid agreement by and among the municipalities of Braddock Hills, Clairton, Dravosburg, Homestead, Munhall, West Elizabeth, West Mifflin, and

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Whitaker to enter into a joint contract for mutual police aid and assistance.
Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda item #5 for the installation of handicapped parking signs at 208 Marion Street and 220 Marion Street was removed because of the moratorium placed on the handicapped parking signs at the previous meeting, until all signs in the Borough are cataloged and recorded.

Mr. Shields moved, Seconded by Mr. Falce to either remove from the condemnation list, the property known as Hays Mansion (parcel ID# 179-R-100) or to keep the property on the list for demolition. Mr. Shields stated that with this being such a historic sight he couldn't see why we couldn't give them a chance to bring it back to its former glory. Mr. Lloyd stated, "we asked for a plan/ agreement of sale, something and never got one". Mr. Lloyd said that he didn't feel like they would uphold their end of the bargain and Munhall Borough would be stuck with the bill. Mr. Falce spoke of how the property is around 200 years old, he feels like it could be a great thing for the borough.

Lloyd	Keep on	Inglis	Remove
Falce	Remove	Shields	Remove
Votedian	Remove	Ballas	Keep on
Ditillo	Remove		

Motion to Remove property from demolition list carried: 5 YES and 2 NO

Mr. Votedian moved, Seconded by Mr. Falce to authorize the Police Department to conduct a traffic study, on the recommendation of the mayor, for the installation of a 3-way stop sign on the corner of Caroline Street and Center Avenue in Munhall. Motion carried unanimously

Mr. Lloyd moved, Seconded by Mr. Inglis to accept the bid from Jack Cotter in the amount of \$925.00, the highest successful bidder, for the purchase of the 2004 Ford Explorer (VIN 90004) that was advertised for public sale. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Inglis moved, seconded by Ms. Ditillo to hire all 6 of the applicants, Austin Ditillo, Austin Wiehagen, Dylan Pisarcik, Cody Perlaky, Brendan Grueser and Norman Miller. Motion carried unanimously.

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Other Items:

Mr. Lloyd Commented about this being the first month in his entire career as a councilmen that he had received a written and detailed statement from the tax collector, although he said I could tell just by looking at it that it doesn't add up correctly. Mr. Lloyd states that the statement he had in his hands was off by more than 11,000 dollars. Not to mention he said that she signed the report to finalize it two weeks prior to the actual deposit date. Mr. Votedian asked where he got the 11,000 dollar figure from and councilmen Lloyd said that Matt had told him.

Mr. Rick Brennan commented on how the council conducts the meeting. He said that it wastes a lot of time and he feels things could be run more properly. Mr. Evashavik stated, that it was up to Mr. Ballas's or whomever is the president of council at that times discretion in how the meeting was run.

The Mayor mentioned that the civil service agreement is currently expired and that they will need a new one as soon as possible.

Mr. Votedian asked if the other council members thought an Audit should be done on the office, given the quick departure of the Borough Manager Matt Galla. Mr. Shields followed by Mr. Lloyd immediately turned down the notion, and expressed that there was no suspicion as to why Matt left, and that no suspicion should be cast.

Mr. Shield moved, seconded by Mr. Lloyd to adjourn, Motion carried unanimously. Meeting ended at 9:35 PM.