

Borough of Munhall
Virtual - Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 18, 2020 7:00 P.M.
Meeting ID: 89549198867 Password: 471614

I. Call to Order – Based on Governor Wolfe’s Disaster Proclamation, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom Cloud Meeting. – President Inglis called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Councilman Falce; Councilman Fallon; Councilman Ondo; Councilman Petruzzi; Councilman Stein; Vice President Votedian; President Inglis – All present.

II. Public Comments on Items for Consideration – Questions were submitted prior to the meeting via email to info@munhallpa.us, regular mail or fax 412-464-0462. President Inglis will address, or appoint someone else to address, any questions submitted.

Secretary Becki Wirth read questions submitted by residents and Manger Varhola addressed the questions.

Maureen Fry – 124 West Virginia Ave - Mrs. Fry asked for the protocol for leaf pick up within the Borough. Manager Varhola advised. Mrs. Fry asked for an update on 1860 West Street. Manager Varhola advised Engineer Lampark will address this during his report. She then asked for the amount spent to date and Manager Varhola advised \$497,810.58. Mrs. Fry asked about public view of the 2021 Budget. Manager Varhola advised Council is reviewing the budget at this time. Mrs. Fry asked website postings and asked who maintained the site. Secretary Wirth advised she maintains the site and appreciates anyone’s friendly reminder about updates. Mrs. Fry asked why old business is not discussed at meetings. President Inglis advised old business monthly. She asked about a contractor listing request submitted via Right to Know. Manager Varhola advised he is responsible for sending the information and advised it had been sent twice. Mrs. Fry then wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Carol Swetz – 3316 Grace Street – Mrs. Swetz asked about a house on Ravine Street that had been demolished and if it is being paid for. Manager Varhola advised if she is speaking of the last house demolished on Ravine, it has been paid by the family of the deceased. Mrs. Swetz next asked if there is a timeline for section completion at 1860 West Street. Manager Varhola advised there is not a timeline but mentioned the roof completion. Mrs. Swetz said she would like an update on the land at the Waterfront. Manager Varhola advised there is no update as it is still for sale. She then asked about the horses in Munhall. She asked if they were still in Munhall and what animals are permitted. Manager Varhola explained and advised Mrs. Swetz to contact the Borough administration office

with concerns. Mrs. Swetz asked if the monthly manager reports can be posted on the borough website and Mr. Varhola advised they can take that request under consideration. Mrs. Swetz then asked where people will be parking once the Batch Foundation project is complete. Manager Varhola advised her to contact the foundation.

Reports:

Mayor – Mayor Brennan commented on the Main Street lines and paving. He advised he does not think the paving is done well. Fire Chief Pletsch advised the gas company will be doing additional work on old pipes from Wolfs pub past the high school, so there will be additional work going on. Mayor Brennan discussed a dangerous situation and a need for signage or cones for the 22nd Avenue crossing. He advised he would be speaking with Chief Campbell and Manager Varhola about making the crossings safer. Chief Campbell advised he has safety devices he can have deployed. Councilman Petruzzi said he would check on the crossings and find out what needs painted.

Solicitor – Solicitor Evashavik advised he has prepared Ordinance 1603 creating and dedicating Raymond Bodnar Way, he reviewed and approved a resolution for Council regarding the plan revision, required by the EPA, for the Batch Foundation and reviewed the Climate Action plan resolution. He stated there were several personnel matters addressed as well as other Executive session matters. He discussed and explained the ongoing assessment appeals and their affect on revenue for the Borough. He states it is an unfortunate side effect of Covid19.

Manager – Mr. Varhola advised the budget is in Councils hands and needs work. He discussed COVID-19 and current risks.

Engineer – Engineer Colin Lampark discussed the progress on the 1860 West Street and advised the project is about 18% complete. He spoke about catch basin project and block grants that have been applied for. He states we were awarded \$200,000.00 2019 Small Water and Sewer grant to replace sewers along Main Street. He advised that will be used for camera inspections of storm sewers and it should start in the first quarter of 2021. He advised the Borough also applied for and was awarded the GDTF (gaming funds) grant in the amount of \$125,000.00. Mr. Lampark stated this grant will be used for 1860 West Street.

Public Works Supervisor – Mr. Biscey was not in attendance. His report was submitted to Council.

Police Chief – Chief Campbell read his report. He then discussed the increase in calls for people with mental illnesses because of the stresses of COVID-19. He advised the department had two officers in quarantine because of exposure at a training class at the Police Academy. They will be tested, and Chief Campbell is working with Karen Beck at Optimus Risk (the Boroughs medical professional).

Fire Chief – Chief Pletsch will provide his report to Council. He advised there is a plan in place if anyone or any station has an outbreak. He states the numbers from Allegheny County are very high. He also advised of an upcoming replacement of a vehicle for Fire Station #2. Councilman Falce advised there are three people within the Courthouse with COVID-19 and asked everyone to please stay safe and social distance. President Inglis asked about a recent vehicle purchased by Fire Station #5. Chief Pletsch explained the purchase and resale of that vehicle. President Inglis asked why Station #2 cannot buy that vehicle and Chief Pletsch explained it is a different vehicle than what Station #2 needs.

Code Enforcement – Dave Cannon advised he submitted his report and asked if there were questions. President Inglis asked him to read the report.

Finance Chair – Councilman and Finance Chair Jason Stein stated the month of October had a cash inflow of roughly \$906,000 and outflows of roughly \$1,215,000.00 with a negative flow of roughly \$300,000.00. He advised of four lease payments that were made in October of about \$105,000.00. Councilman Stein also stated the Borough is “in the black” from year over year comparisons since the first week of June. He attributed this to the spending controls in place. He also mentioned the 2021 budget and the fact that the new building does not have anything to do with the budget work that needs done. He attributes the increase in expense as the reason for being behind. He advised if the Borough would have stayed in the current building, those costs would have been even higher. He advised we must find a way to control costs even more. He agreed with Manager Varhola and said Council needs to look at the budget and make some hard decisions.

Councilman Ondo advised Len Cole and Dave Kasiorek took the military flags down from the West Street Memorial to preserve them. He advised he is working to receive a donated flag for each branch of the military.

III. Items for consideration:

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 1603 changing the road between 1860 and 1900 West Street to Raymond Bodnar Way.
Motion: Councilman Falce; Second: Councilman Fallon;
Question on Motion – Councilman Ondo asked what happens if there is no ordinance to make this change. Manager Varhola explained.
Vote: Unanimous
2. Motion to authorize the Borough Manager to start process on Tax Anticipation note with Brentwood Bank.
Motion: Councilman Stein; Second: Vice President Votedian; Vote: Unanimous

3. Motion to authorize transfer of \$624,360.63 (**Corrected amount is \$618,330.63**) from the Municipal Building Capital Fund account to the General Fund account for the following expense:

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|---------------------|---|
| Triton | \$ 6,306.22 |
| Hatch Engineering | \$ 12,015.00 |
| TKA Architects | \$ 24,461.51 |
| Digital Assurance | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Franjo Construction | \$ 574,047.90 |
| | <u>\$ 618,330.63</u> (Corrected) |

Motion: Vice President Votedian; Second: Councilman Falce; Vote: Unanimous

4. Motion to pass resolution 2020-7 a plan revision for new land development for Best of the Batch Foundation sewage facilities planning module, which was approved by Hatch Engineer, Colin Lampark, P.E.

Motion: Vice President Votedian; Second: Councilman Stein; Vote: Unanimous

5. Motion to ratify the hiring of Gloria Spears as a substitute crossing guard at \$12.00 per hour.

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

6. **TABLED:** Motion to approve running an ad for a new Crossing Guard.

Motion: _____; Second: _____; Vote: _____

7. Motion to approve the minutes for the October 21, 2020 meeting.

Motion: Vice President Votedian; Second: Councilman Stein; Vote: Unanimous

8. Motion to pay bills for the period October 21st, 2020 through November 10th, 2020 summarized as follows:

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|----------------------|----------------------|
| Administration | \$ 22,836.38 |
| Police: | \$ 20,619.62 |
| Fire: | \$ 90,143.29 |
| Health & Sanitation: | \$ 64,567.68 |
| Public Works: | \$ 71,192.59 |
| Recreation: | \$ 2,203.57 |
| Miscellaneous: | <u>\$356,163.41*</u> |
| TOTAL: | \$627,726.54 |

*Includes new building expenses, the new building bond and borough insurance.

Motion: Councilman Falce; Second: Vice President Inglis; Vote: Unanimous

9. Motion to approve Payroll for the period of October 29th and November 12th 2020.

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|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2020: October 29 th | \$ 138,916.39 |
| 2020: November 12 th | <u>\$ 314,895.09**</u> |
| TOTAL: | \$ 453,811.48 |

** Includes Police Longevity and Holiday Pay

Motion: Councilman Stein; Second: Councilman Falce;
Comment on Motion: Councilman Stein explained Holiday and Longevity.
Councilman Falce advise it is in the contract.
Vote: Unanimous

Councilman Stein acknowledged Public Works employees Bob Smith, Dylan Pisarcik and Tim Augustine for their assistance helping a resident find her lost dog.

IV. Adjournment:

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

There were several wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving.



Harvey Inglis – President of Council