

Borough of Munhall

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

The September 12, 2023 Workshop meeting of the Munhall Borough Council was called to order by Mr. Brennan at 6:30 pm in Council Chambers. President Brennan called for a moment of silence in honor & memory of all who were impacted by 9/11.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Present:

Richard Brennan, Council President  
William Hanna, Council Member  
Kevin Ondo, Council Vice President  
Jason Stein, Council Member  
Richard Votedian, Council Member  
David Younkens, Council Member

Absent:

Maureen Fry, Council Member

Others:

Seth Abrams, Borough Manager  
Diane Altland, GPI, Engineer  
Bob Bicsey, Public Works  
Dave Cannon, BCO/Code/Zoning  
Glenn Coles, Fire Chief  
Greg Evashavik, Solicitor  
Thomas Fullard, Chief of Police

**Reports**

**Manager's Report:** Mr. Abrams's report is on file. He provided a playground update, indicating that the construction is progressing and that the work should be substantially complete by the end of September. Mayor Falce asked about safety and the inspection of the equipment. The equipment was installed by a certified installer/inspector and all of the equipment is wrapped in caution tape to try to prevent use of the equipment until the safety surface is installed.

Radar speed signs are installed and preliminary data shows individuals are slowing down for the most part. President Brennan asked if the units were portable. Mr. Abrams explained that the units can be moved by moving the bracket. The process is fairly easy.

Police contract meetings are progressing. The Borough has applied for an advance on the DCNR grant and the funds for the radar signs have been received.

Mr. Ondo asked if funding to repair the monuments is still moving forward. Mr. Abrams explained that it is, and that quotes are being solicited for the re-casting of the missing piece along with other cleanup activities.

President Brennan thanked Mr. Abrams for all of his work on the police contract and the budget so far.

**Code Enforcement Report:** Report is on file. Houses are continuing to sell at high prices

**Public Works Report:** The report is on file. President Brennan asked how the Homestead refuse collection was progressing. Mr. Bicsey indicated no issues. Mr. Abrams added there was only one complaint in the first two weeks.

**Engineer's Report:** The report is on file. Robinson Pipe should be starting the sewer exploration in the next two weeks. The LiDAR portion of the roads study is complete. Data will be processed and is expected by mid October. Other projects are progressing.

**Fire Chief's Report:** The report is on file. Chief Coles stated Fire Prevention Week is the week of October 9<sup>th</sup>. Activities are planned at the schools and the Library.

The ISO evaluation, which helps determine residential homeowner's insurance, was completed. The department raised its score and moved up a classification to level 4 (Levels are 1-10). The department just missed achieving the level 3 classification.

**Police Chief's Report:** Report is on file. The chief read the arrest and activity statistics. Crossing guard interviews will take place on Thursday. The three new vehicles have been delivered. There is still some technology installation to be completed, but 2 of the vehicles can be used as of today.

The Chief and Mayor asked for a civil service exam to be offered again so that there are available candidates should there be a need to hire officers. Mr. Younkins asked about potential retirements. Chief Fullard responded that 3 officers are eligible in the next year. Mr. Abrams asked if offering testing now, due to the low number of applicants and the cost associated with the test, made sense when there is no current need.

Mayor Falce brought up the question of changing the zoning ordinance or having a referendum to prevent bottle clubs. Further discussion needs to take place, including research and recommendations from the Solicitor.

**Item for Consideration:**

1. Authorize the Borough Manager to execute grant documents and contracts to accept a \$19,500 grant from the USDA towards the purchase of a police vehicle.

This item is a time sensitive vote and authorization must be given for the Manager to accept the grant on behalf of the Borough.

Motion made by Mr. Ondo, seconded by Mr. Younkins. Motion passed 6-0.

**Items for consideration for the Regular Meeting:**

- a. Ratification of telephone votes:
  - i. Approve sale of the Borough's old woodchipper to South Versailles Township for the amount of \$2,000.
  - ii. Approve the application to the Keystone Communities Grant for \$100,000 for the Main St. reconstruction project.

- b. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough and the Steel Valley School District for School Resource Officers.
- c. Approve the placement of ADA parking in front of 244 W. Larkspur St. and 707 E 17th St.
- d. Approve a resolution appointing \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as delegates to the Southern Tax Collection Commission of Allegheny County.
- e. Approve the concurring resolution to apply to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County for \$500,000 and authorizing the Borough Manager to serve as the authorized official to file all applications and documents on behalf of the Borough.

**Public Comment:**

Alice Dunmire, Vine St., spoke about concerns with blighted properties. She provided the list to Mr. Cannon to review.

Mr. Votedian asked about the possibility of moving a trash pickup for a resident who does not have alley access.

Mayor Falce requested that Council appropriate \$1,000 for Munhall CARES to offset costs for the Mark Night events.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Stein made a motion to adjourn at 7:33 pm. Mr. Younkings seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Abrams  
Borough Manager