

**Borough of Munhall
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 18th, 2019
Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.**

- I. Call to Order – President Falce**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance - State Representative Austin Davis**
- III. Preliminary Announcements –**

Roll Call: Councilman Ballas (present); Councilman Inglis (present); Councilman Petruzzi (present); Councilman Stein (present); Councilman Tichon (present); Councilman Votedian (present); President Falce (present).

State Representative Austin Davis presented Councilman Tichon and Councilman Ballas with proclamations for their service to Munhall and to the Mon Valley.

President Falce presented Councilman Tichon and Councilman Ballas with proclamations for their service from the Borough.

Mayor Brennan introduced and swore in Junior Councilman Trevon Epps.

President Falce welcomed Councilmen elect Kevin Ondo and Mark Fallon to the meeting.

- Opening of BIDS for Munhall Borough Parcels for Council to consider selling. The bids were opened by Councilman and Finance Chair Jason Stein and Manager Joe Varhola. The bids and seed monies are as follows:**

Parcel	Address	Name	Bid Amount	Hand\$
181-E-100	E James	James Konesky	\$ 500.00	\$ 25.00
179-N-148	Creek	Ryan M. Perhac	\$ 501.00	\$ 25.05
181-A-205	Charles	Robert Rosato	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 1500.00
181-A-081	Mary	Kenneth Lockhart	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 90.00
182-A-010	Virginia	Gregory Baranowski	\$ 1,760.00	\$ 88.00
182-A-008	McWhinney	Gregory Baranowski	\$ 2,260.00	\$ 113.00
181-A-205	Charles	Barry Hoffman	\$ 64,600.00	\$3,230.00
181-A-205	Charles	Ralph Pepper	\$100,100.00	\$5,005.00
181-A-205	Charles	Tracy Wallace	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 0.00

Solicitor Evashavik advised Council the bids will remain open for 60 days and that they can motion to refer the bids all information to the Borough Manager for review. He will then bring all the information back to Council to vote on whether they want to accept the bids.

Motion to refer the bid information to the Borough Manager for review until the January 2020 Council meeting.

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

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):

Maureen Fry – Borough business – Mrs. Fry asked about what is happening at 1860 West Street. Engineer Colin Lampark updated Mrs. Fry about demo and abatement. Mrs. Fry asked if the Bond is approved. Manager Varhola advised it is being worked on. Mrs. Fry asked about Turtle Creek and their commitment to be a renter at 1860 West Street. Manager Varhola reminded Mrs. Fry of the meeting that this was discussed. Mrs. Fry asked about Code Red and Manager Varhola advised this was discussed in with our police, fire and other municipalities and the decision was made to remove it from the budget. She thanked everyone for a copy of the managers reports.

V. Reports from Borough Officials:

Mayor – Mayor Brennan voiced his concerns about the budget and the programs removed from it. He also felt there was not an agreement from Turtle Creek to rent at 1860 West Street. Mayor Brennan stated his concerns about the matching grant not being mentioned in the budget. He then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and to be safe as well as thanking Public Works for another great job.

Solicitor – Solicitor Evashavik advised Council he received a letter of real estate tax exemption from the Homestead Cemetery. He has provided Council with a copy of the letter as a courtesy and advised Allegheny County will make that decision. He also wanted to add language to Motion 4 to approve the easement agreement with Peoples Gas being “subject to Solicitors approval”. He stated the current agreement is missing some critical wording and he wants to make sure that critical wording is added. He wanted Council to be aware that he prepared the agreement for Motion 5 and that agreement will be between the Borough and the contractor(s) as well as all parties, including the

Steel Valley Youth Baseball Association, signing off on the project. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Manager – Report submitted and Agenda items only.

Engineer – Report submitted. Advised of Small Water Sewer and Water Grant submitted for \$300,000.00

Public Works Supervisor – Report submitted. Mr. Bicsey was out on the roads with snowplows and President Falce thanked them for a job well done.

Police Chief – Report submitted.

Fire Chief – Report submitted. He also advised everyone in attendance of the boot drive for the number 4 fire station to raise money for firefighters with cancer. Councilman Votedian confirmed the oldies dances will resume on March 7th at the Palisades in McKeesport.

Code Enforcement Officer – Report submitted and there will be demolition of a house on 21st Ave where bricks have fallen.

VI. Public Comments on Items for Consideration:

Councilman elect Mark Fallon asked the Borough Manager about the cost of Code Red and Mr. Varhola advised \$2500.00 per year. He also said that several personnel tried Code Red and found out that they already have processes in place for those things. Mr. Fallon also verified that the Trautman program President Falce previously spoke of was referring to the summer program. Mr. Varhola confirmed.

Maureen Fry discussed the availability of the 2020 budget advertisement and for view. She said she had the Valley Mirror from December 5th and the budget did not appear. Mr. Tichon asked Mrs. Fry if she felt deceived and she said she was looking for clarification. Secretary Becki Wirth advised there were ads that did not make it in the Valley Mirror. She advised she did not check the paper when it came out. The budget did not make it to the paper and the borough office was not aware it wasn't there. Mrs. Wirth took responsibility for the ad not being there and that she will run the ad in the Post-Gazette in the morning. Councilman Stein thanked her for bringing it to her. Mrs. Wirth advised she has a proof of ad that it would be run and took responsibility again for it not having run and will be sure to check the ads going forward. Manager Varhola advised her to make sure to advertise there will be a special meeting on December 30th at 6pm.

Michael Capp asked about the bond money not showing up in the budget. Manager Varhola advised it will show up in the reserves once it comes through. It will show in the Surplus. Manager Varhola explained the Bond amount process and limit.

Bill Hannah asked about operating expenses for 1860 West Street and 1900 West Street. Manager Varhola explained how the new building will be much more efficient than the existing building. Mr. Hannah asked if the building will be certified efficient and Colin Lampark advised there may be a small overlap in 2020 and his opinion it wouldn't have much impact on the 2020 budget.

VII. Items for consideration:

1. TABLED – This will be voted on December 30th at 6 pm.
Motion to adopt 2020 Budget at \$8,790,000.00.
Motion: _____; **Second:** _____; **Vote:** _____
2. TABLED – This will be voted on December 30th at 6 pm. Motion to approve Resolution 2019-7 setting 2020 millage rate of 10.75 with no increase.
Motion: _____; **Second:** _____; **Vote:** _____
3. Motion to approve application for and acceptance of tax anticipation loan for year 2020 from Brentwood Bank in the amount of \$1,000,000 at 2.25% fixed interest payable in full by December 31, 2020, total fees of \$2500, subject to final approval by Bank and completion and execution of all necessary documents.
Motion: Councilman Tichon; Second: Councilman Ballas; Vote: Unanimous
4. Motion to approve agreement with Peoples Gas to have easement for valve behind Trautman Field subject to Solicitors approval.
Motion: Councilman Inglis; Second: Councilman Petruzzi; Vote: Unanimous
5. Motion to approve agreement for renovations at Trautman Field conducted by Steel Valley Youth Baseball Association and funded through Campbell Education and Community Foundation.
Motion: Councilman Ballas; Second: Councilman Stein; Vote: Unanimous

6. Motion to pay bills for the period November 20th, 2019 through December 17th, 2019 summarized as follows:

Administration	\$	29,469.49
Police:	\$	13,355.28
Fire:	\$	18,394.12
Health & Sanitation:	\$	41,330.98
Public Works:	\$	37,811.75
Recreation:	\$	14,364.39
Miscellaneous:	\$	<u>54,777.75</u>
TOTAL:	\$	209,503.76

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

7. Motion to approve Payroll for the period of November 14th and November 28th, 2019.

2019: November 14 th	\$	140,760.82
2019: November 28 th	\$	<u>124,730.45</u>
TOTAL:	\$	265,491.27

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

Other/Additional Matter(s):


Carol Swetz asked about the animal ordinance. Solicitor Evashavik advised about the drafted ordinance that he will check on.

Dave Kasiorek discussed items he has from his Grandfather that could loan the Borough for display.

Carol Swetz asked the balance after paying the bills for the month and Manager Varhola said in the neighborhood of \$910,322.34.

VIII. Adjournment:

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


Rob Falce – President of Council
HARVEY INGLIS