

Borough of Munhall
Workshop Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday
January 9, 2019 6:30PM

- **Call to Order – President Falce**
- **Pledge of Allegiance - Mark Fallon**
- **Roll Call: Councilman Ballas; Councilman Inglis; Councilman Petruzzi; Councilman Stein; Councilman Tichon; Councilman Votedian; President Falce.**

Preliminary Announcement(s):

- Borough Manager - Joe Varhola discussed the issue brought to the borough regarding lighting behind Crawford Street. He has investigated the existing poles and is also having a police officer look in the area after dark.
- Manger Varhola advised of a concern about horses being kept on Woodhill Drive. He and Dave Cannon have gone to see the horse area. Dave has researched ordinances and explained that there is no ordinance prohibiting the horses. The resident will be held to the same standards as any other animal within the Borough. If need be, he will address future issues if they arise.

Guest(s):

Council Item(s):

1. **Second Amendment Agreement for Waterfront Property** – Manager Varhola advised Nuvo needs additional time to complete their due diligence with the Waterfront Property. The extension would be until February 15, 2019. They will be attending an upcoming Waterfront District meeting to discuss their plans. Joe advised there will need to be a ratification, to the original agreement, at the next council meeting.
2. **Resolution in respect to reimbursements of temporary advancements for Capital Expenditures** – Joe Varhola explained the need for the resolution so that the Borough will be able to reimburse itself, for expenditures on the new building, from the Bond fund.

3. Advertise for the following boards and commissions

- A. Planning Commission – (3)
- B. Zoning Board – (2) – After a discussion, it was determined there are 3 open seats.
- C. MSSMA – (1) –
- D. SVEZ – (1) Council (1) Business
- E. Vacant Property Review Board

There were discussions regarding the various open seats and that there will be an advertisement listing the board, the number of seats available and how to submit a letter of interest. Lois Brenner gave secretary Becki Wirth a letter of interest for the planning commission. Becki will turn the letter over to the borough manager.

4. **Motion to Purchase 2019 Peterbilt 348 Dump Truck for \$ \$153,189 over 5-year lease period.** - Joe Varhola explained the current dump truck is not fixable and is requesting a motion to purchase the dump truck for public works. Supervisor Bob Biscey advised it is a 7-ton truck.

Additional Item(s):

- Manager Varhola advised there will need to be an exoneration, for Tax Collector, Donna Mercuri, in the amount of \$268,239.13. He explained the reason the borough needs to motion the exoneration and that the need for this is governed by the state. There were questions why Donna can not collect delinquent taxes and Joe advised that she is not governed by the Borough but by the state. That it doesn't matter what the Borough wants, its what the state allows and disallows.
- Mayor Brennan asked Manager Varhola to explain the need for the resolution regarding the reimbursements for the Capital Expenditures. Joe explained the bond reimbursements.
- There were conversations regarding the Homestead Cemetery conditions and the cell tower funds. Joe Varhola advised although issues with the tower or the cemetery are the boroughs to resolve, as they are privately owned, his understanding of what happened with the rights to the tower funds. Lois Brenner asked if taxes are being paid on the land the tower is sitting on. Joe Varhola advised no one can find a parcel listing for the tower property and the cemetery doesn't pay taxes as they are tax exempt. Mayor Brennan expressed his thoughts on past handling of the tower property and funds. He feels the tower money should be given to the cemetery. Dave Cannon explained he spoke to someone and they explained the tower land was sold in order to get money to pave the cemetery. Joe Varhola advised it is hard to get information on the tower as it is privately owned and per the owner's solicitor, they do not have to release information regarding the property. There was a question about a building permit for the tower and Dave advised he would look in to it. Mayor Brennan advised the Cemetery Board is close to having their tax-exempt status restored and they will address some of these issues soon.

- Maureen Fry asked if there have been meetings with architects for the Willis Center and Joe Varhola advised there have been. She also asked when the cleaning service will start for the current borough building. Joe advise they are scheduled to start the week of January 14th.

Adjournment:

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