

Borough of Munhall
Workshop Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday,
May 10, 2017 6:30PM

- **Call to Order**
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Roll Call: Councilman Brennan; Councilman Inglis; Councilman Votedian; Councilman Stein; Councilwoman Fleming-Salopek; Councilman Tichon; President Falce.**

Preliminary Announcement(s):

Guest(s):

Council Item(s):

- Ordinance 1587 – First Amendment to the Police Pension Plan – Council discussed (and the Solicitor confirmed) that this Ordinance brings the Borough in line with what is already in the contract.
- Resolution 2017-4 – Opposing Elimination of the Community Development Block Grant Program - The State is asking for each municipality to support them fighting the elimination of the CDBG grant.
- COG – Discussions regarding the CDBG paving bids – COG is working to see if they can have their fees and Chester engineer costs included in the CDBG grant.
- DLC Street light conversion (\$1090.00) – Duquesne Light is asking for the Borough to pay \$1090.00 to take down the old lights and add 10 new LED lighting starting at Paws in the Family on Main Street.
- West Field organizer/security firm – Several conversations regarding security on West Field. There were Councilmen who wanted to offer the positions to our current School Crossing guards. Others suggested hiring a security firm and others discussed other employees. The position will be posted in the Valley Mirror. There were other conversations amongst Council about different uses for the field. Councilman Brennan advised we should possibly start leagues and that he felt the Parks and Recreation committee should be

more involved. Councilman Stein advised we should invest in a facility scheduling computer program.

- Matt Galla – Rob Falce explained the \$20.00 per month the Borough is receiving.
- 539 E. 9th Ave – Joe Varhola is asking if we indeed need a hearing because it is in the historical district. They will talk to Greg. Mayor Bodnar said that he can indeed request it be brought down as a nuisance. Colin Lampark, the Borough Engineer, advised that he visited the site and feels it is too dangerous for anyone to enter the building. There were discussions about an asbestos survey and Dave Cannon, the Code Enforcement officer, commented that it is too dangerous to ask someone to go into the building.
- Pension Board appointment – Council talked about appointing new people to the Pension Board. Andy Votedian wants to step down. Currently the board stands as Bob Biscey and Gene Doyle as representatives for the Public Works department and Andy Votedian, Nick Havrilla, Scott Snyder, Joe Cibula, Dave Smoley and Tom Fullard are the representatives for the Police department.
- Delinquent Tax Database –

Municipality	Number of properties	Total Delinquent Taxes	Average Delinquent Tax
Munhall Borough	1,026	\$870,514	\$848.45

Resource: Pittsburgh Post Gazette, 5/08/2017

Munhall is #5 in Allegheny County. Councilman Stein asked what the process is for collection. Joe Varhola will reach out to An Lewis at the COG and see what our options are. He will invite her to the next Economic Development and Blight meeting. Mayor Bodnar advised that they can also attend the COG meetings that take place the 1st Thursday of each month. Councilman Brennan advised he learned a lot at the Seven Springs Conference regarding this issue. He said that the CONNECT program has a lot of information about this issue and that he wanted to address Allegheny County about his concerns for the lengthy Sheriff Sale process. He said he spoke to the state representative Mark Gergley regarding the process and that Munhall cannot afford to take down 300 properties. Chief Campbell spoke of a Munhall resident who bought a property on Larkspur and would probably buy 6 more if the taxes would be waived. President Falce said that the school district would have to agree. Councilman Brennan also stated that land banking may be okay but we may only get one chance once a year. Councilman Stein agreed that we need to get An Lewis involved. Mayor Bodnar asked Jason to join the COG board and he agreed.

Additional Item(s):

- Ultimate Frisbee League – Councilman Stein discussed the Bettis company frisbee league. They are playing behind SV high school.
- Council discussed the possibility of signage for West Field. Possibly a digital sign. Joe Varhola to look in to the practical options.
- President Falce asked about responses to the posting of the Kick Ball Tournament. Becki advised there haven't been any. He said he may postpone it.
- Councilman Brennan asked about the possibility of bringing the Munhall races back (they used to be like the Pittsburgh 5K). Joe Varhola said maybe we can do a color run through all three Boroughs. President Falce stated that all three Boroughs would have to agree.

Adjournment: Motion: Councilman Stein, Second: Councilman Votedian.