

**Borough of Munhall
Regular Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, September 18, 2019 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **Call to Order – President Falce**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance – Boy Scout Troop – Joseph Michaels and Nathan Collins**
- III. **Preliminary Announcements**

President Falce discussed Community Days and Munhall being chosen as #1 Safest City in Pennsylvania.

Special Guest – TKA Architect Felix Cardella – 1900 West Street – Mr. Cardella presented TKA's recent study of 1900 West. For detailed presentation and discussions, please see the website video located at www.munhallpa.us, Government and Council Meeting Videos. Both Mayor Brennan, Council and the residents thanked Mr. Cardella for his work on the project.

Mayor Brennan introduced Trevon Epps who will be sworn in at a later date as a Junior Councilman.

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

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):

Regina Skeels – Borough Business – Mrs. Skeels discussed her concerns about speeding on Shady Ave.

Jim Barca Jr. – Code Enforcement – Not present.

Maureen Fry – Borough Business - Mrs. Fry asked Council about the cameras on Main Street, the microphones in Council chambers, financial issues, thanked Mr. Cardella for his presentation, the ordinance process, Main Street businesses and the Guardian Storage shredding event.

Mark Locher – Summerfield – Mr. Locker addressed Council about paving on Summerfield.

V Reports from Borough Officials:

Mayor – Mayor Brennan advised he attended Mayor Betty Esper's recognition as Mayor of the Year. He discussed motion 8 on the agenda and advised of the information involving the Mobile3Cam and its benefits to the Borough. He then spoke about the rezoning of 9th and 10th Avenue and the lack of resolution. Solicitor Evashavik advised he would be available to speak to the Planning Commission, their public hearing and their recommendation to Council.

Solicitor – Nothing to add to agenda items.

Manager – Mr. Varhola advised of the yearly MMO funds needed. He sent Local Government Academy information to the newly elect Councilmen. He advised the Proposed Budget Formulation Schedules are in Council's packet and there will be an emergency meeting at ALCOSAN regarding the consent decree. Mr. Varhola stated County Councilman Paul Kline delivered certificate of recognition, which he will present in October, for Pennsylvania's safest place to live. He added that the 2020 Banner Community application is being worked on.

Engineer – Mr. Lampark discussed NUVO and their reason for backing out of the bid on the Waterfront property. He advised the Borough now has the report regarding the property and that the potential cost to develop the site. He suggested a high-level construction plan to address regulatory issues before moving forward with any future projects or proposals for the site. Mayor Brennan advised he would like a copy of the report.

Public Works Supervisor – Report submitted. He mentioned Community Day and base repair on Valewood.

Fire Chief – Chief Brian Verbanik attended and read the fire report. He also advised October is Fire Prevention month and they will be spending allot of time with the schools. On October 10th they will be at St Therese School, Kindergarten through 3rd grade, doing a presentation. On October 11th they will be doing their annual program at Park Elementary school and will be spending the day with the students. He added that St Therese and Park high rises will be later in the year.

Police Chief – Report submitted.

Code Enforcement Officer – Report submitted.

VI. Public Comments on Items for Consideration:

Donna Dreshman – Motion #4 – Mrs. Dreshman asked how many properties are on the list and Mr. Varhola advised 9 plus the #3 fire station. Motion 6 – How many parcels? Mr. Varhola explained what ProChamp can do for the Borough. Solicitor Evashavik explained how they will help with foreclosed properties. Motion #7 – Please explain. Manager Varhola explained issues taking place managing West Field and the costs to the Borough. There were lengthy discussions amongst Mayor Brennan, Council, the Borough Manager and residents about past meetings with SVSD and regarding possible future meetings to address the issues.

VII. Items for consideration:

1. Motion to accept Travelers payment of \$23,375.00 for PA American Water Washington Street water break.
Motion: Councilman Ballas; Second: Councilman Petruzzi; Vote: Unanimous
2. Motion to advertise Ordinance 1597. An ordinance amending the code of ordinances; providing for additional means of enforcing its various ordinances; providing for the imposition of fines.
otion: Councilman Votedian; Second: Councilman Stein; Vote: Unanimous
3. Approve payments for MMO – Police defined benefit - \$346,052.00, Munhall Retirement defined benefit - \$137,191.00 and Munhall Retirement defined contribution - \$44,790.00.
Motion: Councilman Stein; Second: Councilman Inglis; Vote: Unanimous

4. Motion to authorize Solicitor Evashavik to move forward with process for unused Borough properties.
Motion: Councilman Ballas; Second: Councilman Votedian; Vote: Unanimous
5. Motion to begin RFP process for towing.
Motion: Councilman Stein; Second: Councilman Votedian; Vote: Unanimous
6. Motion to advertise ordinance on foreclosures, vacant property and rental ordinances (ProChamp).
Motion: Councilman Petruzzi; Second: Councilman Inglis; Vote:
7. Motion to authorize Solicitor to send offer letter to Steel Valley School District for leasing of West Field. **REMOVED PER COUNCIL – Councilman Petruzzi requested a letter be sent to SVSD regarding this matter. Mayor Brennan advised he would be sending one as well. Manager Varhola advised he would write the letter for Mayor Brennan and give it to him to sign. Mayor Brennan agreed.**
8. Motion to purchase 2 Mobile3Cam at the cost of \$34,880.00 to be purchased from asset forfeiture funds.
Motion: Councilman Inglis; Second: Councilman Votedian; Vote: Unanimous
9. Motion to approve a handicapped sign to be placed at 255 E Larkspur per approval by Sergeant Williams and Chief Campbell.
Motion: Councilman Ballas; Second: Councilman Petruzzi; Vote: Unanimous
10. Motion to approve a handicapped sign for 206 E Larkspur St as approved by Sgt Williams and Chief Campbell.
**Motion: Councilman Petruzzi; Second: Councilman Ballas; Vote: Unanimous
Councilman Inglis and Chief Campbell discussed the volume of handicapped requests he processes monthly.**
11. Motion to approve the August 21, 2019 minutes.
Motion: Councilman Votedian; Second: Councilman Stein; Vote: Unanimous
12. Motion to pay bills for the period August 13, 2019 through September 16, 2019 summarized as follows:

Administration	\$ 27,703.55
Police:	\$ 61,328.50
Fire:	\$ 27,836.48
Health & Sanitation:	\$ 35,360.48
Public Works:	\$ 50,745.27
Recreation:	\$ 2,141.44
Miscellaneous:	<u>\$ 2,227.52</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 207,343.24

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

13. Motion to approve Payroll for the period of August 8th and August 22nd , 2019.

2019: August 8 th	\$ 135,359.09
2019: August 22 nd	<u>\$ 133,568.81</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 268,927.90

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

Councilman Inglis stated he would like to add a motion as the figures of 16 million for 1600 (meaning 1900) West Street and 5 million for 1860 West Street were received from TKA. He stated there they have been going back and forth for over a year. He added motion #14 below.

14. Motion to move forward with the renovation of either 1860 West Street (Willis Center) or 1900 West Street (Current Building).

Motion: Councilman Inglis; Second: Councilman Ballas

There were discussions on the floor about the motion and Mayor Brennan stated he felt a decision didn't need to be made. Councilman Inglis disagreed.

Question(s) on the motion:

Donna Dreshman discussed Homestead Borough building a new building and the possibility of applying for grants. Manager Varhola explained the grant process. Mrs. Dreshman then stated she felt a decision didn't need to be made that evening.

Mayor Brennan addressed Councilman Inglis asking if he believed 1900 West would cost 12 million dollars and said that he doesn't believe it. He said he didn't believe 1860 West would cost 5 million and that he felt that it would be at least 8 million by the time the project is complete. Councilman Inglis asked Mayor Brennan why TKA was hired and Mayor Brennan said he didn't know but that someone should have spoken to him. He stated he didn't think Council should vote on it that evening. He feels that there are alternatives that can be done. He feels there should be more discussions. Councilman Inglis said that it has been a discussion for 3 years and Mayor Brennan disagreed and feels the decision was rushed. Councilman Inglis disagreed. Mayor Brennan explained his reason for not wanting to move to the Willis Center and again said he feels Council is rushing. There were several residents who voiced their thoughts and concerns about the move and Mayor Brennan feels the numbers don't include things such as parking lots, etc. President Falce said the numbers were on the building and not the parking lots. Resident advised the project can be broken up into phases. Councilman Stein advised the Borough Engineer gave rough estimates on the current building and the Willis Center and he was told the numbers were inflated. Council then hired a very reputable company, TKA, to give an apples to apples assessment of both buildings. He stated before the primary election, there was an ad placed, in the Valley Mirror, that was an inappropriate lie about Council pursuing a 9-million-dollar bond and if the residents didn't want another Penn Hills on their hands, they should vote out the incumbents. He agreed they, Council, do not want a 9-million-dollar bond nor will he pursue 16 million. Mayor Brennan stated it was not a lie and that they did apply for a 9-million-dollar bond. Councilman Stein disagreed. Mayor Brennan said he saw the paperwork. Councilman Stein said Mayor Brennan was continuing to lie. Mayor Brennan told Councilman Stein not to call him a liar. Mayor Brennan said he saw the application. Borough Manager Varhola advised he did not and President Falce advised they filled out an application to see what the Borough would qualify for. Mayor Brennan asked if the Borough can afford a 5-million-dollar project and Councilman Stein advised it can afford a 4.7-million-dollar project. Councilman Elect Ondo voiced his concerns about West Field and the Willis Center and said that everyone he spoke to didn't want the new building. Councilman Stein stated everyone he spoke to did. There was a conversation about grant writing. Manager Varhola explained the process. A person continued discussion about why the decision needed to be made now and Mayor Brennan stated because they have the numbers. This person stated it is a stupid decision that is on video. Maureen Fry voiced her concerns about the motion and Mayor Brennan stated he was making a motion to vote Council out. President Falce said he took offence to that statement as the Mayor walked out of Council chambers. He said he hadn't voted yet because he is allowing everyone to speak. He advised he would be making a statement and asked for someone to ask the Mayor back into chambers. Mrs. Fry feels there needs to be a town meeting. President Falce advised he respects TKA and he believes the numbers, but he isn't ready to vote on the matter. Mrs. Fry thanked President Falce. Another resident asked questions about the plans for the fire department and the current

building. Mrs. Brennan voiced her concerns about fiscal responsibility from Council and the decision without resident input. Councilman Stein advised one of the biggest reasons for the move is for the Police Department. Mayor Brennan said "Bullshit!" Chief Campbell explained it is not only the department that is falling apart. Councilman Stein agreed but feels it is most important to address the Police Department spacing issues. He addressed the comment about fiscal responsibility by saying that spending 15 million dollars to fix a building because of nostalgia is irresponsible and that he is okay getting his hands dirty making tough decisions. Mayor Brennan asked Councilman Stein if he'd seen the plans before. Councilman Stein responded, "Not before today". He feels the changes can be done differently than presented and that maybe there could be a new building (newly constructed). President Falce called for the roll call vote. Secretary Becki Wirth clarified the voting. Solicitor Evashavik stated the motion is to move forward with the renovation of either the Willis Center or the current building and explained the process to vote.

Roll call vote for which property each Councilman chooses to move forward with.

Councilman Ballas	1860 "the Willis Center"
Councilman Inglis	1860
Councilman Petruzzi	1860
Councilman Stein	1860
Councilman Tichon	Absent
Councilman Votedian	1860
President Falce	Neither

There were several loud comments and conversations that could not be added as people were speaking on top of one another.

Other/Additional Matter(s): None

VIII. Adjournment: No official adjournment


Robert Falce - President of Council