

MONROE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 11/06/2023

Location: Monroeton Library Meeting Room, 149 Dalpiaz Drive, Monroeton PA.

The regular meeting of Monroe Borough Council was called to order by Council President Dan Troup at 6:15pm, opening with the pledge of allegiance.

Present were Council President Dan Troup, Vice President Joan Grenell, members Bill Shaw, Brenda Munkittrick, Amy Calaman, Leo Wills, Eric West, and Mayor Seth Wills. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer Laura Hewitt, Ordinance Enforcement Officer Kurt Lafy, Borough Maintenance and Roadmaster Al Pronti, Chesapeake Representative Chris Lee, plus members of the public (listed on sign-in sheet.)

Minutes from the October 2nd and October 16th 2023 meetings were passed unanimously by a Shaw/Munkittrick motion.

The treasurer's report for October was approved, with a West/Wills motion to pay bills as presented. Budget vs Actual reports through October were distributed to Dan and Joan; September reconciliations/time sheets are still out for review, October reconciliations and timesheets were delivered to Amy this evening.

Correspondence received was reviewed. A projected 4.8% decrease in Bradford County's population over the next 30 years was noted in the **Rural PA Population Projections Report**.

Chris Lee explained **Chesapeake's** request to expedite a well permit; a West/Munkittrick motion passed unanimously to acknowledge receipt of the New Albany well plat and waive the 15 day objection period.

Public Participation: Rosemary asked about progress regarding trees under the bridge; Kurt had already passed along the concern to PennDOT with no response. Rosemary asked about the speed radar sign; a trailer needs to be purchased so it will be mobile.

Borough Reports:

Library: report submitted, on file. A concern was shared about someone bringing weapons into the library. Kurt will look at ordinances.

Fire: report submitted, on file. In response to a question relayed so Howard will have his annual report ready for the first meeting of the year, Council determined they will meet on the SECOND Monday of January instead of the first, since the first Monday is also January 1st, the New Year holiday.

Ordinance Enforcement: report submitted, on file. A repository bid was offered for the **Decker property**. In response to a request from the County Treasurer's Office, a Will/West motion was approved unanimously to submit a letter of consent for the repository sale of 362 James Monroe Ave, parcel 24-099-085-000, to Mr. Mike Balmer of York PA, with no objections. Kurt noted that Constable Savercool was called to investigate the '**mooring cow**', no one is responding to knocks at the door. There was discussion regarding a pile of **sand left on SR 414** after a truck accident and presumed not toxic. Mayor Wills will check with EMA to see if followup is needed. Fred McNeal phoned with questions regarding **zoning** on the same location, Kurt will be following up

with him. **Dandy Mini Mart** has ignored requests regarding signs and sight lines impaired by bushes, so violation notices have been sent.

Levee Project: Rep. Clint Owlett has agreed to attend the December 4th meeting.

Streets: Eric Casanave sent a Project Description for the **street paving LSA grant application**, and has begun sending to legislators for letters of support. (Laura will find grant time line and insert later.) The **speed radar sign** resolution passed at the Sept meeting requires a signed maintenance agreement to be attached and sent to PennDOT. Kurt provided a copy of that agreement tonite, so it has now been signed.

Al received an application for an additional **backup plow driver**. On Al's recommendation, Council approved hiring him. There was discussion about where **additional street lights** could be use, what it would cost to add. Al was asked to drive around town to identify the dark road areas.

Buildings/Grounds: we did NOT get selected for **CDBG funding; the Keystone Library grant** application was submitted on Oct 12 or 13, we will not hear results until after February 2024 (with a grant period of April 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.) Closing documents will be drafted for the new **borough property** after title searches are done (time frame unknown.) Dan will be the council's signatory. Via email, Jessie Fowler suggested meeting at the fire hall, and she can notarize, if that is convenient.

Vandalism – no new reports.

Fall Cleanup - was held October 6 & 7, and went well.

Public Utility - Joseph Lyons, Traffic Signals Supervisor, PennDOT, notified us via email that they are satisfied with the Stiffler/McGraw engineers report regarding SR 220 **Bridge Light Poles Inspection**. Lights are reported out at the library lot and the borough lot.

Water/Sewer (TMA) nothing to report

Finance & Insurance: After minor math adjustments, a Wills/West motion passed unanimously to approve the 2024 General and State Proposed Budgets to be advertised, with a vote expected at the December meeting.

New/Other Business: Joan noted that at last month's **Boroughs Association** dinner meeting, they determined to re-institute annual dues moving forward. Several new library books were displayed to make a selection for **Pete Bahr's memorial**. Ashley West is planning a **neighborhood "Winter Festival"** in December, and has volunteers lined up to help. Council agreed to allow use of the vacant corner lot on Spencer Drive & Laurel Street. Laura will check with Kilmer Insurance to be sure Council has no liability issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm by a unanimous Wills/Shaw motion.

(NOT OFFICIAL WITHOUT SIGNATURE AND SEAL)

Respectfully submitted by Laura H Hewitt, Borough Secretary