

WEB COPY MONROE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – January 6, 2025

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, Council members Brenda Munkittrick, Tim Kerrick, Leo Wills, and Eric West. Council member Bill Shaw and Mayor Seth Wills were absent. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer Laura Hewitt, Ordinance Enforcement Officer Kurt Lafy, Borough Maintenance and Roadmaster Al Pronti, and Fire Chief Matt Walker. No members of the public attended.

Dan announced an executive session would follow the regular meeting,

Minutes from the December 2, 2024 meeting passed unanimously by a West/Grenell motion.

The **treasurer's report** for December was approved, with a West/Munkittrick motion to pay bills as presented. Laura noted a shortfall in her timesheet which will be corrected next month. A West/Munkittrick motion was approved for the December 30 transfer of \$18,380 from PLGIT to the general checking account for the Gorski Engineering invoice. December timesheets, bank statements and reconciliations were given to Joan for review.

Correspondence: emails received in December were distributed to committee members as received; Laura also noted multiple emails regarding Comcast outages, and an increase in "SAM" registration due solicitations (though NOT due until March.) Financial Interest forms for 2024 were received and distributed to council members this evening. PennDOT 2025 bidding thresholds were received and are posted on the office bulletin board.

Public Participation: none

Borough Reports:

Library: A highlight noted in the December report was a new "chair exercise" class.

Fire: report was received and presented by Chief Matt Walter. Matt also presented the Annual Incidents Report, with expanded information and charts.

Ordinance Enforcement: Kurt provided some statistics on cases opened and closed in 2024, and fees collected. He reported that per a court agreement regarding 362 James Monroe Ave, roofing work is scheduled to begin on January 12th.

Levee Project: Cole Hilsher (DEP) is working on a Request for Proposals to revise easement documents, but cannot submit it until Council approves the Right of Way drawings. Laura will relay Council's concerns about gates added to the new drawings that were not requested and would add to costs and liabilities.

Streets: Tim noted problems with the **salt spreader** jamming frequently, resulting in using more salt. After discussion on the possible causes, Eric volunteered to check the spreader and wiring in hopes of effecting an easy repair. Laura was directed to order more salt.

Fifty **street signs** paid for by the county were received from Bradco Supply.

Buildings/Grounds: After our solicitor's review of the **brick pointing** contract, the contract was signed and first invoice paid.

The swing set to replace the one damaged in the **July storm** was delivered to Shaffer's Mill, with thanks to Karl Cook for helping the Borough with the equipment needed to offload it, and the storage space.

Vandalism: No reports.

Public Utility: Bridge lights are still out, and an additional light at West Laurel & Spencer is now out. Laura will report to Penelec.

Water/Sewer (TMA): Eric learned that regular meeting attendance will not be required; he will receive a schedule and notices as needed.

Finance & Insurance: no report

EMC: Laura contacted Franklin Township, they have no suggestions to fill the vacancy for Emergency Management Coordinator.

Mayor Seth Wills: not present, no report.

New/Other Business: Concerns were raised about potential consequences of gas industry water tanks if they are shifted by flood waters. While they are currently located in the township, what damage might be done to the bridge in the borough, who would be liable? Laura was directed to begin inquiries with PennDOT contacts for further discussion.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm by a West/Kerrick motion.

An executive session related to possible litigation followed, attended by Council President Dan Troup, Vice President Joan Grenell, members Brenda Munkittrick, Tim Kerrick, Leo Wills, and Eric West. The executive session ended at approximately 7:45 pm.

NOT OFFICIAL WITHOUT SECRETARY SIGNATURE AND BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted by Laura H Hewitt, Borough Secretary