

Council Chambers  
Monongahela, PA  
August 10, 2016

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Monongahela, due notice of which meeting was published according to law, held Wednesday August 10, 2016 at 7 P.M. in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kepics who led in the pledge to the flag.

The roll was called and the following present:

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Mayor Kepics announced that those speaking in public forum will be limited to five minutes per subject.

Public Forum:

Chad DeSantis, Lawton Street, asked permission to close Sherman Street on October 2 for a Neighborhood Block Party. Chief Tempest said it would be alright if no residents objected and it was agreed that the time would be from noon until 5:00. He also said that the Mon City Scoop would be conducting a raffle fundraiser for the benefit of Clayton Bobnar who works with feral cats and asked for support of the chicken ordinance.

Dave Frye, 826 Lawrence Street, informed council he has almost been hit while attempting to turn onto 4th Street from Main Street and asked council if a turning lane would be established. Chief Tempest said that PennDOT has ruled that we cannot make a turning lane unless all the parking meters on the other side of the street are removed. Councilman Caudill asked that our solicitor look into the problem. Mr. Frye also asked about the chicken ordinance as he knows many residents who do not want them. Solicitor Bassi said there will be a second reading at this meeting.

Bud Cook, Coal Center, informed council about a program entitled "Marketing the Mon Valley" hosted by Donora Borough and invited all present to attend.

Terry Necciai, 400 Meade Street, gave an update on the Main Street Program which is celebrating its one year anniversary as a non-profit organization and has given their first approval for the Main Street Facade Program for Tom Ruschak.

Tom Ruschak, owner of 424 Main Street, thanked council for the opportunity to restore his building as a result of the city receiving a grant through the Washington County LSA Program. He said he hopes that many other businesses would take advantage of the program.

Alan Benyak, 29 Craven Drive, introduced himself as the democratic nominee for the State House of Representatives and just wanted to say hello and if elected his agenda will be for property tax reform.

Michelle Parnell, 31 Decker Street, asked for support of the chicken ordinance and hoped for a resolution this evening.

Report of City Clerk:

Police Report

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Miller, the police report be approved, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Councilman Caudill asked for an update regarding Union Township. Chief Tempest said that four new officers have been put on the force and we are waiting for a contract to be drawn up. Once approved by both parties, the city would be providing protection there January 1.

Code Enforcement Report

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Veliky, seconded by Mayor Kepics, the Code Enforcement Report be approved, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

1st reading of Bill 3-2016 Second Street parking

Chief Tempest explained that the angle parking there would be eliminated and parallel parking on Second Street would start on Chess Street and continue to the top of the hill. This is necessary because it is hard to see for cars coming out of Chess Street and the problem in the winter for salting streets.

Report of Mayor Kepics:

Asked if there are any corrections to the minutes of July 13, 2016. There being none, the minutes were approved.

Announced that the beautification award was given to a property on Sixth Street.

Report of Accounts & Finance:

Councilman Caudill commented on the recent reassessments whereby it is not correct that everyone's taxes will double or triple for 2017. The Chief Assessor of Washington County will provide the final values as of November 15 and at that time the city will be required to decrease the 2016 millage rate as as not to create a "windfall" of cash. Therefore, most property tax increases could be minimal and in some cases there could be a decrease. Solicitor Bassi explained that the city has its own assessment and as a 3rd class city in the state of Pa. the tax assessments are done on a triennial basis so the next reassessment for the city won't be until 2017 so we will be one year behind the county and school district in terms of reassessing properties. It has not been determined yet if we will follow suit with what the values are that have been established by the county or if we will do a separate assessment.

Report of Public Safety:

2nd reading Bill 2-2016 Zoning Code Section 304.3(B)(1) & Section 502.3(F)

Councilman Kulak said that council had discussed options of putting this subject on a public referendum on a ballot. Councilman Caudill said the project has been ongoing with the Solicitor and the Planning Commission and he recommends to follow with the passage of the ordinance.

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Veliky, seconded by Mayor Kepics that Bill 2-2016 be adopted as read and become Ordinance 2-2016, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Nays

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Daryl Miller

Ken Kulak

Total Yeas 4  
Nays 1

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Veliky, seconded by Mayor Kepics, the application for the Monongahela Facade Grant Program for Tom Ruschak be accepted, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Councilman Veliky said he would like to purchase five tactical rifles for each of the city's police cars with the cost to be split from each department. Councilman Kulak asked if we really needed five and Chief Tempest said that other departments only have two weapons but it would be nice to have five.

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Veliky, seconded by Councilman Caudill, permission be granted to purchase five tactical rifles for each of the city's police cars and the cost to be split from each department, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Report of Streets & Improvements: None

Report of Parks & Property:

Councilman Miller announced that Praise & Worship would be at Chess Park August 13 & 14, the Clarks will be performing at the Aquatorium, the Marquee at the Aquatorium is fixed and the street department put up the basketball nets at Mounds Park.

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Kulak, that Terry Necciai be appointed to the Board of Directors at the Monongahela Area Library, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Miller, all properly and approved bills be paid, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

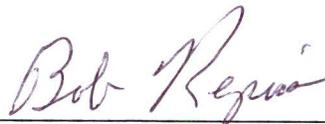
It was moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Kulak, council adjourn, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.



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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk