

Council Chambers
Monongehala, PA
September 13, 2017

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 September 13, 2017 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 asked for a moment of silence for the recent weather conditions in Florida and Texas.

Public Forum:

Terry Necciai, 400 Meade Street, informed council that the Main Street Program is in the process of cleaning up the Guttman Building located at East Main and Park Avenue and when finished, a mural will be painted on it. A contest is being held for the 11 planters on Main Street to select a favorite. Each vote costs a dollar with the funds collected to be used as start-up fees for next year. He thanked city council for the lamp posts being painted.

Anthony Necciai, East Main Street, questioned the status of the military banners and the condemned house on East Main Street. Mayor Kepics said it was too much work for the only person from the VFW who put them together and the lack of storage space, but it has now been determined that there is a space to store them. A block grant to tear down the condemned house will not be available from the county until Oct. or Nov. as the money was frozen by the state. Councilman Kulak said he has an issue in the city taking on responsibility of someone's negligence.

John Conte, Lawton Street, thanked council for having the burned house on Lawton Street secured and commented on the professionalism of Officer Fusco.

Corina Withrow, 401 Sycamore Street, New Eagle, updated council on the recent Mounds project and thanked the city for its monetary contribution. It is all completed with the exception of the painting inside the pavillion.

Michelle DEhosse, introduced the new Director of the Library and said the library has an issue with the company who maintains the paper retriever bins. The library has not received any money for over two years and would like to discontinue the bins. The Solicitor asked if the library had a contract with the company and said his office would help. The library is to contact the city or the Solicitor's office for this help.

Sarah O'Brien, Second Avenue, informed council that MARC is sponsoring a 5K race with the winner to be announced at the Halloween Parade. Applications are available at various businesses and online.

Laura DeMidio, owner of the new barbershop on Main Street, presented an idea to council for permit parking. She suggested stickers could be purchased and would be placed on the car windshield and would only be available to be used on the side streets. The Mayor said he would investigate her suggestion.

George Eckert, President of MARC, announced the annual town hall meeting would be held at the fire hall on Monday October 18 at 7 P.M. and the 5K race is being sponsored by Cox Market on September 30.

Chad DeSantis, Lawton Street, said that the City of Monessen has started a program whereby parking can be paid through an app on their cell phones and suggested the city look into this. He also asked what happened to the playground equipment donated to the city from the Ringgold School district which was to be certified. Councilman Miller said that he is in the process of getting the plans for the equipment from Ringgold and also Senator Bartolotta is writing to the company for more help.

Councilman Caudill recognized and introduced the new Librarian Amy Riegner.

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.

Code Enforcement Report

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Miller, 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.

Requests for refund:

Chess Enterprises, Inc.	\$6,638.81
Mon Vale Multiphasics, Inc.	\$4,097.18

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Caudill, seconded by Councilman Veliky, the request for refund 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.

Resolution 4-2017 LSA Application for \$62,500.00
Accessible Boat Launch Project

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Kulak, Resolution 4-2017 be adopted as read, 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 Mayor Kepics:

Acknowledged Connie Russell as the city's representative to the Sister City program in Italy.

Reported that Monongahela is ranked 126 out of 250 as the best city in the state.

The beautification award of the month is 94 Third Avenue.

The Chamber of Commerce annual fleatique is October 7

Halloween Parade October 25

Trick or Treat October 28 from 6-8

Asked for 1st reading making 5th Avenue one way. Councilman Caudill said he thought this needed to be reviewed. Solicitor Pappasergi said it could be reviewed at the next work session and then debated at the council meeting.

Said he is not satisfied with the report from the Aquatorium Innovations. Councilman Caudill said he did not realize the mayor's concerns but being a board member of Aquatorium Innovations, he would share those concerns with his colleagues.

Report of Accounts & Finance:

Councilman Caudill reminded council members to continue to watch their budgets.

Report of Public Safety:

Councilman Veliky reported there are many complaints about down spouts running into city sewers and the street department is currently testing these concerns. Solicitor Pappasergi said that the DEP is coming down very hard on authorities and municipalities for this.

Report of Streets & Improvements:

Councilman Kulak reported that the engineer has almost completed the engineering work on the two LSA projects, the accessible boat launch and accessible sidewalk projects. He also asked the Solicitor the status of the creation of a recreation board. The Solicitor said he has been researching example by-laws and plans to have something for review by next month.

Report of Parks & Property:

Councilman Miller thanked all the volunteers for their work at Mounds Park and also the city for its monetary contribution. He said he would like to work on Hillcrest Playground in the near future with cleaning and painting.

Report of Solicitor:

Solicitor Pappasergi explained there was an error on the tax sale of the former Monongahela Elementary Center and the sale has been postponed. The owner appealed the tax rate to the Ringgold School District but didn't make the same request to the city. Therefore, before a sale can take place, the parcels have to be corrected so they can be taxed at the correct rate.

Report of Chief Tempest:

Chief Tempest reported of a planned power outage by West Penn Power on September 16. City Police worked with the state police and the FBI and by working together many drug arrests were made.

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.

Mayor Kepics then declared council adjourned.

Mayor



ATTEST:


CITY CLERK