

MUNICIPALITY OF MONROEVILLE

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 10, 2017

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Greg Erosenko at 7 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at this time and a moment of silence observed.

ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary, Sharon McIndoe, called roll and the following were present: Mayor Erosenko, Linda Gaydos, Nick Gresock, Ron Harvey, Jim Johns, Steve Duncan, Tom Wilson, Tim Little, Bob Wratcher, Paul Hugus and Joe Sedlak. Mr. Caliarì was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

No one came forward at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Council conducted an executive session for personnel and litigation reasons prior to Citizens' Night on January 5, 2017 from 6:30 to 7:05 p.m. and on January 10, 2017 from 6:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Council legislative action, if any, shall be taken at the January 10, 2017 Regular Council Meeting.

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY ADDRESS

Mayor Erosenko read into the record his State of the Municipality Address (see attached).

Mayor Erosenko briefly explained the media was present because the president of the school board reported that the municipal police department is not cooperating with the Gateway School Police. He corrected that it is untrue. He gave an overview of the inception of the school police department. He stated when the idea was first proposed he and Chief Cole offered their service to the school board and they were rejected. He reported at the one intergovernmental meeting he was yelled at and it was suggested the meeting was over. He indicated they approached them again and were turned down. He reported the school went through the court system and were denied. He stated they never shared any information with the municipality when they did get approval.

Mayor Erosenko explained when the Monroeville Police Officers were called to the school for the most recent incident there was no fight in progress. He reported it was requested that the Monroeville Officers issue summary offences. He explained it is standard operating procedure that the Monroeville Officers could not do that because they did not see the fight. He indicated the officers did

request information and summary offences will be issued if they are appropriate but it is currently under investigation. Mayor Erosenko felt the municipality and school board worked well together with the previous school board president. He reported intergovernmental meetings have been requested and he felt they should continue. He suggested currently the municipality is uncertain about what authority line the Gateway School Police have and just found out they cannot issue summary offences. He again stated none of that information was shared with the municipality. He was adamant that it is not true that the municipality and the police department would not help and assist the children. He stated under law the mayor is to keep the peace along with the police chief.

Police Chief Doug Cole agreed and stated the police department has not been officially informed and only received the information from the newspaper concerning the jurisdiction of the Gateway School Police Force. He indicated he contacted the Municipal Police Officers Training Commission and Pennsylvania State Police through the Clean System to determine what kind of enforcement powers they will have. He stated based on the court order published they have the authority to detain people, to carry fire arms and issue summary violations. He questioned whether they can only issue summary violations under the crimes code or the vehicle code. He was uncertain whether they are permitted to have law enforcement sensitive material because they are not considered a law enforcement agency per the State of Pennsylvania. He reported when the Monroeville Police went on the call for a school incident they were under the impression the school police were able to issue summary citations and there was no reason for Monroeville Police to be there. He stated the event was over and the appropriate action was taken by the school police to stop the fight and prevent any other injuries. He reported the people were detained, and they have administrative actions that the school district can take, and it was falsely reported that they had five days to file summary citations. He stated they have at least 30 days under the vehicle code and possibly two years under the crimes code in order to issue an investigation or process. He explained the Monroeville Police Officers were advised to get the information from the school district which will include video, reports, statements and names of individuals involved and do the appropriate investigative and enforcement action. He stated that may include summary citations or juvenile petitions and the decision will be made by the Monroeville Police Department with the District Attorney's Office. He felt this was blown out of proportion and he explained they will be able to provide some kind of direction as their enforcement powers become more concrete or approved by the state.

Mayor Erosenko pointed out that no matter what happens once Monroeville responds the Monroeville Police will do whatever is appropriate. He was adamant that there is no issue with Monroeville Police protecting children, teachers or visitors. Chief Cole agreed and felt this was an unusual event. He stated there is no other school district police department of this size being contemplated in Allegheny County. He indicated his department would work through it because no one wants anyone to be in danger. He reported this call came in as a juvenile problem and not a fight in progress and the officers were there to find out administratively what needed to be done. Mayor Erosenko inquired whether his account of the incident was accurate and Chief Cole answered affirmatively. He stated it was not an on-view crime and he explained that in law enforcement there are only certain types of levels that they can have arrest powers. He stated they can arrest under felonies

under probable cause but not misdemeanors which has to be filed through the court system instead of an on-view arrest. He explained the police can keep the peace but they cannot take a person to jail or Shuman Center. He stated they would be released because this process and all the charges will be done legally.

Mayor Erosenko inquired whether those retired officers should already know this information and Chief Cole was uncertain. He felt they do not understand their level of authority. He explained that whatever level of authority they have would have to be confirmed by the state with the appropriate documentation spelling out their authority and power. He stated once that is determined they will work together to move forward. Mayor Erosenko mentioned that the municipality has been open to discussion and information from the beginning and Chief Cole agreed. He suggested Gateway School District may have done this out of order because they did not anticipate how long it would take to go into effect and all the details. He was uncertain because he was not part of the discussion or given the information. He felt they did provide appropriate action by stopping the fight and preventing injuries but the enforcement of it was an issue. He reviewed some of the investigation process. He agreed that the Monroeville Police will respond appropriately to these events and ensure that the proper law enforcement and safety of the public is ensured.

Mayor Erosenko asserted politics is not involved and the children's safety has to be provided and to make sure they have a safe environment. He recommended the intergovernmental committee meet regularly and he reported it has been in existence for more than 15 years. He felt it should be used more to deal with these types of issues. He suggested this would not have happened if the intergovernmental meetings were held. Chief Cole agreed and suggested the school district did not expect it to take this long to get the authority. He reassured the public that the police will respond appropriately to these events. He reviewed when the information is available the appropriate steps would be taken.

Mayor Erosenko reassured the public that the police department is doing their job every day and he referred to the crime report. He commended the police department for all their hard work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, additions or deletions of the minutes of the Continued Budget Hearing of November 9, 2016, Citizen's Night Meeting of December 8, 2016, Council Work Session of December 8, 2016 and the Regular Council Meeting of December 13, 2016, a motion was duly made by Mr. Wilson to approve them, as submitted, and Mr. Johns seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE REPORT OF TAX COLLECTIONS

There were no comments or questions concerning the Report of the Tax Collections. Whereupon, Mr. Wilson duly made a motion to approve them, as submitted, and Dr. Gresock seconded it. Upon a roll vote, the motion carried unanimously.

LIST OF BILLS, BUDGET TRANSFERS AND PAYROLL

Council then considered approval of the List of Bills in the amount of \$506,132.95, Budget Transfers and Payroll in the amount of \$1,529,983.63 for the month of December 2016. Whereupon, a motion was duly made by Mrs. Gaydos and Mr. Johns to approve the payroll, list of bills and budget transfers. Mr. Wilson seconded it and upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND AUTHORITIES

LIBRARY BOARD

Mr. Duncan inquired whether his nomination to the Library Board rescinded her letter. Mr. Little answered affirmatively and explained she requested her name be removed from consideration for the library board.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Whereupon, Mr. Harvey duly made a motion to appoint Mr. Daniel Alexander from Ward Three to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Mr. Johns seconded it. Further discussion ensued. Dr. Gresock duly made a motion to approve and Mrs. Gaydos seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Further, Dr. Gresock duly made a motion to appoint Mr. Gordon Conn from Ward Two to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Mrs. Gaydos seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Furthermore, Mrs. Gaydos duly made a motion to appoint Mr. Andres Wilkins from Ward One to the Police Civil Service Commission for the term of January 2017 to December 2021. Mr. Johns seconded it and upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

BIDS AND PROPOSALS

STORM SEWER PROJECT

Mr. Little reported one bid was received for the Dahilia and Gard City Drives Storm Sewer Lining Project in the amount of \$212,408. He stated administration recommends accepting the bid and reported it is lower than initially bid.

There being no discussion, Mr. Wilson duly made a motion to approve and Mrs. Gaydos seconded it. Mr. Harvey pointed out there is a \$200,000 grant for this so the municipality will only have to pay \$12,000 and Mr. Hugus concurred. Mr. Wilson requested a brief explanation of this project for the residents. Mr. Hugus explained there is an existing storm sewer that varies in size from 42 to 48 inches in diameter and it is a corrugated pipe that has deteriorated. He stated this is a basic liner system

put into the pipe to strengthen and rehabilitate it. He further explained how this process would eliminate the restoration costs because the pipe line goes under driveways, fences, pools and roads. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

MOTIONS

MOTION

A motion to accept Sean Lally's resignation as chief financial officer.

Whereupon, a motion was duly made by Mr. Johns to approve and Mrs. Gaydos seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

A motion authorizing the advertisement for a Community Planner/Zoning Officer.

There being no further discussion, a motion was duly made by Mr. Harvey to approve and Dr. Gresock seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Pursuant to the Civil Service Rules and Regulations, Section 5.5(e), a motion to appoint Police Chief K. Douglas Cole, Mr. David Palermo and Mr. Thomas Fitzgerald to the Civil Service Oral Board.

Mr. Little reported this is due to the civil service commission meeting on January 9, 2017 and the possibility of hiring two police officers at the beginning of the year.

Whereupon, a motion was duly made by Mr. Wilson to approve and Mrs. Gaydos seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE

An ordinance authorizing the proper officials of Monroeville to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Monroeville Police Department from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2018.

There being no discussion, a motion was duly made by Mrs. Gaydos to approve and Mr. Wilson seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL STAFF

REPORT OF MUNICIPAL MANAGER

HOME RULE CHARTER REVISION

Mr. Little reported that he would continue to have the Home Rule Charter on the agenda throughout the year to allow for any comments or questions from council or residents.

Dr. Gresock apologized for any oversight when the presentation of the Home Rule Charter revision was made last month to recognize Mr. Robert Gordon. He explained Mr. Gordon was a very active member of the committee and the first person to volunteer. Again, he indicated it was an oversight and apologized. He thanked him for his service to the committee.

TAX COLLECTOR COMPENSATION
AND OFFICE PERSONNEL 2018-2021

Mr. Little mentioned this is for council's information for the Tax Collector Compensation and Office Personnel for 2018-2021. He indicated if council wants to make any changes in that area it should be done at the February meeting before anyone files to run for the office of tax collector.

Mayor Erosenko inquired whether anyone interested should contact him and Mr. Little answered affirmatively. He again stated this is for any changes in that area of the tax collector's compensation or office personnel should be done before anyone files to run for that office.

Mr. Wilson questioned whether there is a proposal for the compensation program and Mr. Little answered negatively.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY SANITARY AUTHORITY

Mr. Little reported the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) has launched its clean water assistance fund to help families pay for the ALCOSAN bills. He read it is available to low income residential customers and some of the other details. He indicated he would have the flyer from ALCOSAN available on the website or residents can contact his office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – ANY MUNICIPAL ITEM

DAVID BEISTEL

Mr. David Beistel, a resident, came forward to express his concerns. He reported that he attended a meeting in October requesting council work with the school board because he was adamantly opposed to the arming of the guards. He stated he was in favor of the security and he was concerned that everyone is discussing who is responsible for writing a citation. He reported there was a school fight and everyone is fighting about who is going to issue citations. He felt this was a rush to judgement and pointed out there was no community input on this police force. He reported they lost an appeal and he requested the school board not make the appeal. He pointed out they went from civil court to criminal court and Judge Manning approved the arming of the police guards. He discussed this with members of the school board that he felt it needs 16 officers instead eight or nine. He felt the children are at danger when they go to school in the morning and when they leave so eight officers a shift would be good. He recommended only four officers be armed instead of all of them and they should be vetted by the Monroeville Police Chief. He mentioned how one police officer quit because he did not feel safe without his gun in an elementary school and he felt it was dangerous to have armed officers in elementary schools.

Mr. Beistel disagreed that it was not political and pointed out how the new president does not want gun free school zones. He also mentioned how the City of Pittsburgh has gang members and neighborhood feuds but they do not have armed policemen. He was concerned about the chronic enrollment and attracting people to Monroeville and the Gateway School District. He explained how he moved here so that his daughters could attend a diverse school district. He could not understand how the school system would be attractive with armed officers in every school.

Mr. Beistel reported he received a text with a video of the fight and another text that there were six or seven school policemen in the building but none in the cafeteria where the incident occurred. He questioned why they were not in the cafeteria and why they were in other parts of the building and about their chain of command. He felt this is only bringing more bad publicity to Monroeville.

Mr. Beistel reported the school board president referred to Monroeville as a soft target and he explained a soft target is a target that is susceptible to a military or terroristic attack. He disagreed that Monroeville is in danger of a terroristic attack. He suggested the mall and Kmart are soft targets.

Mr. Beistel felt council and the school board need to stop fighting about who has jurisdiction and fix the problem. He suggested Judge Manning should vacate his order because he did not think the community and the whole school board have been involved and it is dangerous. He expressed his concern because there is a dispute about who should issue a citation to a teenager for doing something he did not like.

Mayor Erosenko suggested that if there had been ongoing meetings none of this would have been an issue. He wanted to get the intergovernmental meetings started again. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Beistel felt this problem goes back to the issue about who was going to pay for the school resource officer. He pointed out there is \$100 million between the school board and the municipality and this is about the salary of one policeman. He was appalled at what is going on and it was unfortunate that the fight happened. He reported he read about the armed guards in the newspaper. He again indicated he requested that they consider what they were doing before a vote was taken.

JANETTE BEIGHEL

Ms. Janette Beighel, a resident, came forward to express her concerns for the University Park Crossing Guard and reported it is not on the website. She indicated there was no police officer on duty in the area that day. She also stated the security officer was not there to walk their children across the street so they are left to their own devices. Mayor Erosenko referred her to the non-emergency number for the dispatch center if there is no officer.

Mr. Beighel explained she has two children in elementary school and she mentioned the incident at Sandy Hook Elementary. She was relieved to find out there would be armed officers at Gateway. She stated no one wants anything to happen to the children and they are targets and she feels her children are safer with an armed guard than not. She was hopeful that between council, the school board and the police department that this issue can be resolved. Mayor Erosenko indicated the

president of the school board has requested a meeting between the municipality, police department and school board. Mr. Beighel felt as parents they are on the outside and it appears that everyone is standing on a soap box jockeying for position. She stated she is upset when her children are at stake and requested everyone work together. Mrs. Gaydos contended that council did not have a voice in forming the school district police department. Ms. Beighel agreed things could have been done differently and she suggested moving forward with the issue and get it done right. Mayor Erosenko indicated there will definitely be a meeting. Ms. Beighel inquired whether it would be open to the public and Mayor Erosenko was hopeful that it would.

CHAD STUBENBORT

Mr. Chad Stubenbort, resident, came forward to address comments made earlier. He referred to a statement about the school board turned down the SRO. He indicated that he begged at several meetings that it be reconsidered at \$50,000 and there were many heated exchanges. He corrected they did request to have it as part of their budget but requested the school district's portion go from \$75,000 to \$50,000 without a five-year contract from the municipality. Mrs. Gaydos contended that the municipality countered to give them \$10,000 which was refused.

Mr. Stubenbort felt the incident at the school kind of got lost in the media. A brief discussion ensued. He explained there was an incident at the school and he thanked Judge Manning and District Attorney Steve Zappalla for supporting the petition that was signed. He indicated with that they have the power to carry fire arms, detain and to issue up to summary offences. He explained an Originating Agency Number or ORI Number is needed to issue summary offences which is a process through the state and it will take three to five weeks to receive it. He again stated they cannot issue citations until they receive the number so they called the Monroeville Police Department who responded. He reported they watched the video at the school and started to interview people. Mayor Erosenko disagreed. Mr. Stubenbort felt an internal investigation is needed. He reviewed the information given to him that took place.

Mr. Stubenbort referred to the comment about not doing a meet and greet. He stated he had several email requests for the school district supervisor and the police chief to schedule a meeting. He stated there was one intergovernmental meeting held in the COG Office but the chief of police and the supervisor were not in attendance. He reported they have been asking for the meeting and he supported moving forward with that meeting.

Mr. Stubenbort felt that political games cannot be allowed to get in the way of public safety which is the number one priority. He referred to a post on the Monroeville Police Department's Facebook page where it had an event the day after Christmas of a fight where the four individuals were arrested and issued disorderly conduct citations. He felt that was all that was requested for similar actions. He looked forward to working with everyone and he suggested for the community's sake everyone needs to move past this issue. He suggested the perception of the public is that crime is not down in Monroeville.

Mayor Erosenko agreed the school board requested the SRO be decreased to \$50,000 and the municipality took it down to \$35,000. He mentioned the Pitcairn Officer and an issue with the union. He pointed out school district police need to get approval from ORI and he mentioned the summary offenses. He disagreed that the incidence at the mall was similar because the Monroeville Police were directly involved in that fight. Again, he explained there was no fight in progress when the Monroeville Police got to the school. He briefly reviewed some of the information that was related. He hoped that there would never be political games where public safety is concerned and that the intergovernmental cooperation meetings would resume. He thanked him for his comments and encouraged everyone to work together.

Mr. Stubenbort disagreed that if the Pitcairn SRO was fired the amount would go to \$35,000 because they would have to hire two additional police officers. He suggested it is not a give or take. He explained how they got to a Pitcairn SRO is that the municipality offered them a SRO at the junior high for free. He reviewed the history behind it.

Mayor Erosenko felt any issues should be discussed at the intergovernmental meetings and he thanked the other school board members for scheduling it. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Stubenbort requested the whole issue at the school be reviewed and Mayor Erosenko indicated it will be investigated. He was uncertain whether the school district police department gave Monroeville Police the requested information.

MARY BETH CIRUCCI

Ms. Mary Beth Cirucci, a resident, came forward to apologize to the mayor for yelling at him at the intergovernmental meeting. She explained that she is a passionate person and she will not apologize for being passionate about the students, her children, the Gateway School District and the safety of them. Further discussion ensued. Ms. Cirucci briefly reviewed how the school board tried to schedule meetings with council to discuss the issues in May and Dr. Gresock indicated that at that time he suggested an intergovernmental meeting be scheduled. Ms. Cirucci explained how she tried to reach out to council to discuss other options of having everyone involved in the process and mentioned how they wanted it included in the home rule charter but the solicitor advised that it was improper. Mayor Erosenko pointed out the police chief tried to schedule meetings.

Ms. Cirucci reported setting up a police force was discussed and after many discussions the cost was a factor. She reported the SRO costs \$150,000 which the municipality pays half. She pointed out that they can hire retired law enforcement officers which is done in other counties and the cost is \$18-20 per hour or approximately \$37,000 for the position. She stated there are so many because they job share. She briefly explained the reason they had to go with the school police force is because that was the only way they could mandate their officers be retired law enforcement or otherwise it would be open to mall security guards and Act 235 Clearances. She indicated they wanted to make sure they had the best qualified individuals protecting their children. Again, she stated it was done to ensure they had high quality individuals on staff. She asserted the school district wants to work with the municipality and have a team environment. She suggested that she tried to explain that it was not a personal thing

at the intergovernmental meeting but was doing what they felt was in the best interest of the taxpayer and protecting all of the schools, students, faculty and at a good cost and having well qualified individuals. She was proud of the program and felt the biggest obstacle in being part of the committee and setting up the police was working with council and the Municipality of Monroeville.

VALERIE WARNING

Ms. Valerie Warning, a resident and a member of Gateway School Board, came forward to express her concerns. She mentioned there has been discussion about the way the police department was set up and she wanted to focus on the issue that just happened and the issuance of citations. She explained how she reviewed documentation and the resolution approved on November 15 which requests a new petition be filed with the court of common pleas authorizing the arming of school police officers, issuance of summary citations, and detaining students until the arrival of local law enforcement but eliminating the power to arrest as originally sought on a previous petition. She reported she along with the solicitor felt the Gateway Police were able to issue citations but then found out that the application for the ORI was submitted on January 7, 2017. She reported everything the school district has is being turned over to the Monroeville Police who will do an investigation within the time period of 30 days to two years to file charges. She was hopeful that the communication between the school board and the municipality will be done. She suggested a meeting the fourth week of January.

Mayor Erosenko inquired whether all of council should attend the intergovernmental meeting since all the school board members were in attendance at the last meeting. Mr. Wilson explained the intergovernmental committee is for the small group of the school board and council to discuss the issues then the representatives relate the information. Mr. Duncan inquired whether council members are permitted to attend the meetings. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Wilson explained what happened at the last intergovernmental meeting and recommended only the representatives attend to discuss the issues to work out a compromise. Further brief discussion ensued regarding past meetings. Dr. Gresock also pointed out the meeting would have to be advertised if all of council or all of the school board members attended because there would be a quorum. Mr. Duncan indicated he was not informed of a lot of what was going on and Dr. Gresock felt multiple meetings need to be held in different venues with both intergovernmental meetings and public meetings with both entities and residents. Ms. Warning again stated she was desirous of improving the communications between the two groups because everyone is working for the same reasons, the students. Dr. Gresock felt sometimes information does not get spread to all council members or all the school board members. He suggested the information needs to be disseminated better.

HEATHER BACHE

Ms. Heather Bache, a resident and Gateway Middle School teacher, came forward to express her concerns about pulling the SRO from the middle school because he is a Pitcairn officer. She felt he knows their school, the staff and the children and it would be detrimental for him to be removed. Further discussion ensued. Mrs. Gaydos added that is how she felt about the Gateway SRO leaving, that he was familiar with the school and students. Further discussion ensued.

GEORGE LAPSOVICH

Mr. George Lapsovich, a resident and member of the Gateway School District, came forward to express his concerns. He requested that everyone work together and bring back harmony. He suggested the politics be kept out and to remember the kids.

JOSH MARTIN

Pastor Josh Martin from Grace Life Church came forward to report that they routinely come to the council meetings to offer a blessing for council and the community and a word of encouragement. He welcomed anyone that would like to participate in the Lord's Prayer. He reported that he was excited for 2017 and to be in Monroeville. He suggested the municipality will encounter more things in the future with greater success. He felt God would provide the resources and wisdom and comradery between government and business communities needed to make things happen. He read from James 1. He encouraged everyone to proceed and move forward with the belief in each other that everyone desires the same end solution. He said a brief prayer and then led in the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

REPORT OF COUNCIL MEMBERSFIRST WARD COUNCILWOMAN LINDA GAYDOS

Mrs. Gaydos reported the first birth in Allegheny County took place in Monroeville at the Forbes Regional Hospital. She also looked forward to mending fences with the school board and everyone working together for the same thing. She commended the senior center for doing a great job last year and their annual attendance increased over 7,000 and the memberships increased by 727 in a year and the fitness center has also added an additional 225 members. She felt that reflects the hard work of the staff.

SECOND WARD COUNCILMAN NICK GRESOCK

Dr. Gresock clarified that even though the salary of the SRO is paid 50 percent from the municipality and 50 percent from the school district it is all Monroeville resident's taxes. He briefly reviewed the numbers and percentages and felt the 50/50 split for an SRO was fair. He had no comment about the school district forming a police force. He suggested it has to be determined who has the authority to take what actions and felt everyone wants to get it worked out. He recommended meetings will be scheduled. He stated there are a lot of good people that want to get involved to make this a good community. He looked forward to the meetings and everyone working together.

Dr. Gresock sent birthday wishes to his daughter, Hannah, on Friday who turns 12 years old.

THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN RON HARVEY

Mr. Harvey expressed his concerns that the school police started as a political issue because of Mr. Stubenbort. He explained how it began when the municipality disagreed when Mr. Stubenbort wanted half the money for the second SRO that would be at the school seven to eight months a year.

He stated then they hired a Pitcairn Officer who does not have any police powers there. He reported then suddenly there was not enough money to pay the one Monroeville SRO at the junior high but they had enough money to start their own police department. He pointed out there was a disagreement about 70 to 50 percent for one salary and then they started their own police force. He felt it was started hastily and these issues would not be discussed if the proper steps would have been taken to plan with someone knowledgeable with the laws like Chief Cole.

Mr. Harvey explained the Monroeville Police Officers cannot issue a citation and he referred to the Rules of Criminal Procedure where under state law the officer has to see the event to issue a summary citation or an investigation has to be done and then filed. He was adamant that no one researched the issue before coming forward concerning the Monroeville Police issuing citations and took issue with suggesting the Monroeville Police were at fault for not making arrests when the Gateway Police process was done piece meal with no forethought or review. He stated the Monroeville Police followed the law exactly by making an investigation then filing the citations. He again stated they could not issue a citation because it was not an on-view arrest and again referred to the Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. Harvey suggested all of this happened because the intergovernmental meetings should have taken place months ago or long before this police department was submitted for licensing. He suggested it would have worked smoothly if everyone would have worked together but instead it started political. He reported this all started over how much money would be paid to the police officer to be at Monroeville Middle School and then there was a rush for the school to have their own police department. He mentioned how the school could not afford the 50 percent for the SRO salary but then had \$300,000 for a police department. He felt it was rushed and there was no public input concerning whether they wanted armed officers or to spend tax money in that fashion. He reiterated it was done hastily because their police department cannot issue citations and there is no coordination with the municipal police officers or chief. He agreed maybe this is the right idea and it is time to regroup but stated the Monroeville Police Department acted properly on the summary offence issue.

Mr. Harvey inquired whether council wanted to put an ad in the Gateway High School Yearbook. Whereupon, Mr. Wilson duly made a motion to approve the authorization and Dr. Gresock seconded it. After further brief discussion, Mr. Harvey duly made a motion to approve a half-page advertisement and Mrs. Gaydos seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Harvey reported the public safety committee will meet this month to continue their work to redesign the radio communications for the police department and the emergency services.

Mr. Harvey reported he received an email from the Cohen Law Group that represented the municipality on radio towers and cell phone transmitters. He read the letter concerning the wireless industry drafting a bill to eliminate zoning of towers and antennae in public right-of-ways. He referred to the bill as the Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Act which would prohibit municipalities from using their zoning authority to control the construction and location of towers in right-of-ways. He explained the municipality's zoning authority is an important tool to control development with the right-of-ways

being the most important physical assets. He stated if the state legislature and governor eliminate the zoning authority over wireless facilities then other portions of the zoning code could be next. He reported if the power to manage the right-of-ways are controlled then the municipal powers could be in danger. He encouraged everyone to call their state representatives and the governor to oppose the bill because it would eliminate the municipality's zoning powers and the right-of-ways. He reiterated that it is the Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Act which means they can place them in any neighborhood and the only thing currently controlling it is the zoning laws.

FOURTH WARD COUNCILMAN JIM JOHNS

Mr. Johns reviewed the events scheduled for the Convention Center as follows: Pittsburgh Boat Show, January 13-15, 2017 and January 20-22, 2017; Monroeville Home Show, January 27-29, 2017; Show Master's Gun Show, February 4-5, 2017; Steel City Kitties, February 11-12, 2017; Greensburg Train Toy Show, February 11-12, 2017; Allegheny Sport Travel and Outdoor Show, February 17-19, 2017 and the Pittsburgh Golf Show, February 24-26, 2017.

SIXTH WARD COUNCILMAN STEVE DUNCAN

Mr. Duncan was hopeful that the council and school board can work together to get this issue resolved in a timely manner.

SEVENTH WARD COUNCILMAN TOM WILSON

Mr. Wilson thanked the school board members that came forward expressing their willingness to work together to resolve these issues.

Mr. Wilson thanked the mayor for his State of the Municipality Address and pointed out the print is larger now than when he started nine years ago.

Mr. Wilson reported he failed to acknowledge the people that served on the home rule charter committee. He felt they did a tremendous job in a remarkable period of time. He reported the chairman was David Kucherer and the other members were Ed Diel, John Ritter, Bob Gordon, Dave Palermo and Kathy Svilar. He thanked them again for bringing the municipality into the 21st Century.

MAYOR EROSENKO

Mayor Erosenko also thanked the school board directors that showed up and he was hopeful that the issues could be worked out.

Mayor Erosenko reported the municipality will schedule some meetings for public input for the home rule charter. He was hopeful that some of the issues could be addressed on the November ballot. He suggested it would be a couple of election cycles before all the changes can be done to bring the home rule charter up to date.

Mayor Erosenko sent happy New Year's wishes to everyone and hoped it would be safe, healthy and prosperous.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before council, at this time, Mr. Johns duly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. and Mr. Duncan seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Little
Municipal Manager

TJL/sam