

MUNICIPALITY OF MONROEVILLE

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 9, 2017

MINUTES

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary, Sharon McIndoe, called roll and the following were present: Mayor Erosenko, Linda Gaydos, Nick Gresock, Ron Harvey, Steve Duncan, Tom Wilson, Tim Little, Bob Wratcher, Josephine Rock, Paul Hugus and Paul Whealdon. Messrs. Johns, Caliri and Sedlack were absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Council conducted an executive session for personnel and litigation reasons prior to the meeting from 6:45 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. Council legislative action, if any, shall be taken at this May 9, 2017 Regular Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

DOREEN VARULO

Ms. Doreen Varulo, a resident of the Glenwood Plan, came forward to express her concerns. She stated she is the President of the Glenwood Condominium Association which represents 200 owners of townhouses located on Old William Penn Highway. She introduced the residents that were in attendance.

Ms. Varulo clarified that Glenwood is not against new business development on Old William Penn Highway but they do have a concern about the new proposed development. She pointed out that they supported Bruster's, Johnny Mac's, the Giant Eagle Shopping Center and Giant Eagle. She stated they are concerned about the lack of parking at this proposed development and she stressed they are especially concerned because there are only 65 parking spaces. She reported it is a 7,500 square foot social hall with four retail spaces with employees for the retail, customers, guests attending the functions, cooks, bus boys, and waitresses all parking in the 65 parking spaces. She stressed they are aware that the plan was reduced to a 90-person occupancy in the social hall which makes it 3,000 square feet. She pointed out the plan calls for 14 tables with six chairs per table and she explained how their 54-inch round tables at the Glenwood Social Hall fit eight people. She felt 3,000 square feet is a very large area to have 84 guests to accommodate a function. She explained that according to the guest

capacity calculator which social halls and restaurateurs use 3,000 square feet can seat 250 guests at 54-inch round tables.

Ms. Varulo questioned how anyone would know that there are 84 guests in this large structure and she mentioned how it would be self-regulated by the owners which she felt was not very realistic because it allows for abuse. She inquired whether the owner would be present at every function and who would enforce the maximum capacity regulation. She suggested no business owner would turn down a function of 100 people because they could only accommodate 84 people. She felt it did not make good business sense to have a 3,000 square foot business inside a 7,500 square foot building and only seat 84 people.

Ms. Varulo reported that she inquired about the fine for infraction of this self-regulation and never received an answer. She stated they are concerned about the safety on Old William Penn Highway and mentioned how the guardrail abuts the street. She stated that Glenwood was a sidewalk to nowhere when it was built and she explained how all new businesses have to build them. Again, she stated it is a dangerous road and felt people would walk up and down the road in order to use this proposed facility. She inquired whether the parking would remain at 65 spaces and stressed how there were no changes to the footprint only a change in the occupancy permitted. She urged council to deny the project because of the limited parking and the safety issues on Old William Penn Highway.

PATRICIA WEHN

Ms. Patricia Wehn, a resident of Shackelford Drive, came forward to express her concerns. She explained she lives above Old William Penn Highway and the current traffic is horrendous. She reported her neighbors are opposed to this proposed project and she submitted a petition of resident's signatures in opposition. She felt there is already too much traffic and too many vacant store fronts in Monroeville. She reported they have had flooding in the area and a woman had to be rescued from her car in front of the Get Go because of flooding as a result of heavy rain fall. She showed a photograph of the property from her deck showing that it was covered with trees which she felt helps retain the storm water that flows down onto Old William Penn Highway. She inquired whether there are any pending approvals from the county for the developer like the occupancy permit, the storm water compliance and the highway permit. She pointed out that it would not help the value of her property. She explained how there is another property directly below hers and she felt it is a total disaster for the entire area.

JEFF SCHLAFFER

Mr. Jeff Schlaffer, a resident of the Glenwood Community in Monroeville, came forward to echo some of the previous concerns. He explained how Glenwood is a well-respected community but the demographics are changing. He was concerned about the safety because Old William Penn Highway is a dangerous strip of road. He feared that the overflow parking will use Glenwood. He suggested that there was not enough research or study of this proposal. He agreed that it would not help the property values. He reported this community based its reputation on cleanliness and holds the property in high esteem in terms of its physical plant. He was concerned with certain individuals coming into the community. He mentioned how Glenwood experienced a rash of burglaries a few years ago and the

police claimed it was done by outsiders and he did not want to bring outsiders into a controlled community. He requested the proposal be considered carefully before it is approved.

JOEL STAFFLENO

Mr. Joel Staffleno came forward from the Glimcher Group which owns the Giant Eagle and Gander Mountain that is located in the area. He reported they are very pro-business but was concerned about the impact this proposal would have on the store drainage with the expansion of the property and potentially paving a lot of it. He explained how a large culvert collapsed a few years ago and the engineers informed them that part of the problem was from their property, some of it was from the buses but a big part was from the adjacent property draining through the same culvert. He did not want to add any stress to the area since it has been repaired. He was also concerned with the proposed use and the overflow parking which would park on their property that could extend to overnight parking with a potential negative impact on their business for the next day. He reported they have struggled to keep their center full and they want to stress that they are pro-business but they do have concerns.

PRESENTATIONS

TOUCH-A-TRUCK EVENT

Mrs. Debbie Iszauk, resident, came forward representing the Spectrum School. She explained Spectrum School is located on Northern Pike and they are sponsoring a fun, family, community activity called Touch-A-Truck. She reviewed how they have several trucks available for the children and various activities planned for outdoors and a Be Well Family Expo for indoors. She mentioned the canine officer will also be available and she encouraged everyone to attend. She reported it will be held on May 13, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is free to the public but there will be fundraising activities. She was proud to report that Spectrum School is being recognized by Allegheny County as a partner with the Live Well Program and will be at the event. She invited all of council to attend their presentation at 1:15 p.m. She stated it will be held at Gateway No. 4 Fire Hall and encouraged everyone to attend.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES

BANNER COMMUNITIES

Ms. Crystal Sickles, Director of Communications and Events with the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM), came forward to explain their mission is to foster local government in Allegheny County and Western Pennsylvania by encouraging elected officials to pursue professional development and education and intergovernmental cooperation. She stated that is done through the Banner Community Program and they have 51 local communities in Allegheny County and it recognizes municipalities that exemplify good government, sound fiscal practices and educated elected officials. She was happy and pleased to have Monroeville involved because the council members are good stewards of the community and involved with the association. She explained this year ALOM secured sponsorships of the program and they are going to reinvest their resources into the community by providing scholarships to five municipalities to attend their spring educational conference. She announced Monroeville has been awarded one of the scholarships and she presented a certification to the municipality as a result of the Banner Community Status. She expressed her gratitude for

Monroeville's participation, stewardship and leadership as a good governing municipality in Allegheny County.

PROCLAMATION FOR MELLON PLAN'S
100TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. Mary Lou Easha, a resident, came forward to report she has been a resident of the Mellon Plan for over 60 years. She also mentioned how her husband was the honorary mayor of the Mellon Plan named by the municipal workers and the members of the No. 3 Fire Hall. She explained what a nice area it is and how proud the residents are of it.

Mayor Erosenko reported this is the 100th Year Anniversary of the Mellon Plan and gave a brief history of how it got started. He then read a proclamation into the record and presented it to Mrs. Easha.

Mrs. Gaydos thanked Mr. Little, Mayor Erosenko, Mrs. Debbie Hyzy, the historical society, the Monroeville Public Library and everyone that was instrumental in putting together the information for the proclamation. She explained how the information was not as easy to find as anticipated. She expressed her excitement at being able to celebrate 100 Years for the Mellon Plan and council appreciates their residency.

Mrs. Debbie Hyzy, a resident of the Mellon Plan, came forward to give a brief overview of the area and some of its residents. She mentioned Tony LaGorga and his wife and how there were many couples that became friends and then married. She reviewed the history of several couples. She also mentioned how there were many families that stayed there for several generations and briefly reviewed some of its history.

Mrs. Hyzy introduced Ms. Diane Banks who lives on "the island" in Mellon Plan. Ms. Bank explained she is Diane Bill Banks and is related to the Lesters. She reported that she is part of the family of the third generation in Mellon Plan. She explained her grandparents purchased the property from the Galbreaths in the late 1930s and moved into the home in 1940-41 which included 11 acres. She pointed out that they are the 500 Block of Thomas Street and she briefly explained it. She reported that she was raised here and she bleeds Monroeville and Gateway. She is proud of her neighborhood and she felt fortunate that there are good neighbors. She indicated it is a wonderful environment for children to be safe and she mentioned Officer Markel living close by. She pointed out her daughter who is proud of her roots in Monroeville. She stated the people here are kind and compassionate and she felt this is a wonderful community and with a history to be proud of.

Mrs. Hyzy suggested Tony LaGorga was a pillar of the community and a councilman and reported the late Kathy Milton from WTAE News also lived in the neighborhood. Mrs. Gaydos reported how she spent a lot of time in the Mellon Plan when she was a child and her parents were confident that she was safe. She agreed it is a wonderful, safe environment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes of the Citizen's Night Meeting of April 4, 2017, Council Work Session of April 4, 2017 and the Regular Council Meeting of April 11, 2017, a motion was duly made by Mr. Wilson to approve them, as submitted, and Dr. Gresock seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously with five affirmative votes.

APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS OF THE TAX COLLECTIONS

There being no comments or questions, Mrs. Gaydos duly made a motion to approve the Reports of Tax Collections and Mr. Wilson seconded it. Upon a roll call 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 \$2,151,317.70, Budget Transfers and Payroll in the amount of \$849,462.69 for the month of April. Whereupon, Mr. Harvey duly made a motion to approve the payroll and Mrs. Gaydos seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

There being no questions concerning the List of Bills and Budget Transfers, a motion was duly made by Mrs. Gaydos to approve them, as submitted and Mr. Harvey seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND AUTHORITIES

Mrs. Gaydos inquired whether the resignation letter for the finance authority was accepted and Mr. Little answered it is on the agenda.

LIBRARY BOARD

Whereupon, Mrs. Gaydos duly made a motion to nominate Mr. John Shea from Ward One as a member-at-large for the Library Board and Mr. Duncan seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDANEW BUSINESSRESOLUTION 17-16SITE PLAN 16-5-STVASA ENTERPRISES

The applicant is requesting site plan approval to construct a 15,000 square foot building for retail shops, rental hall and associated site amenities. The property is located at 4678 Old William Penn Highway in the C-2, Business/Commercial Zoning District.

Mr. Ray Gusty, Landscape Architect from Fahringer, McCarty and Grey, came forward representing the applicant Dr. Balu. Mr. Gusty gave a brief overview of the property location and explained that they are proposing a two-story building. He stated the lower level would be 6,000 square feet of retail and the upper level would be the Vasa Rental Hall. He reported they are providing 30 parking spaces for the retail area or one space per 200 square feet. Mrs. Gaydos questioned whether each level was 7,500 square feet and Mr. Gusty explained there is 6,000 square feet of retail space and 1,500 for the mechanical room and storage on the lower level. He pointed out they comply with the ordinance with one parking space for every 200 square feet. He explained there is one space for every three seats in the rental hall and they have 30 parking spaces for 90 people by ordinance. He reviewed the elevations of the building with the four retail units on the lower level with the mechanical and storage area on the end and the upper level would be the rental hall. He stated the rear elevation would be the entrance to Vasa Hall and he reviewed the floor plan of the rental hall with the highlighted area as the seating area of 3,200 square feet. He added the rest of the floor consists of restrooms, warming kitchen, the manager's office, dressing rooms and handicapped accessible restrooms. He reported the applicant stated at the planning commission meeting that he would sign an agreement with the municipality limiting the capacity of the rental hall to 90 people if it was required and he would have to advertise the rental hall with the 90-person maximum capacity. He briefly explained how other facilities advertise their capacity.

Mr. Wilson inquired about the number of parking spaces required for 90 guests and Mr. Gusty answered it would be one space per three people or 30 parking spaces. Mr. Wilson inquired about the maximum parking spaces for the entire property and Mr. Gusty answered 65 parking spaces. He explained how parking is required for the storage area which is two spaces for the mezzanine and two spaces for the storage. He stated they need 64 total parking spaces and they are providing 65 total.

Mrs. Gaydos questioned what has changed in the building from the previous occupancy that required 95 parking spaces. She stated the building size has not changed but now they only need 65 parking spaces. Mr. Gusty answered the ordinance does not stipulate anything for a rental hall and the problem was trying to determine how many parking spaces were actually needed. Mrs. Gaydos clarified that the building has not changed at all from when it was required to have 95 parking spaces and Mr. Gusty answered affirmatively. He explained the rental hall is determined by the size of the retail. Again, Mrs. Gaydos stated the building size has not changed from the originally submitted plan that required 95 parking spaces but now it is going to be limited to a capacity limit of 90. Mr. Gusty was uncertain about the 95 parking spaces.

Mayor Erosenko inquired how many different stores or shops would be located in the 6,000 square feet retail space and Mr. Gusty answered four. Mayor Erosenko questioned the type of shops proposed and Mr. Gusty answered possibly an insurance agency, real estate or medical office. Mayor Erosenko inquired about the hours of operation because he was concerned there would not be enough parking at the rental hall and retail space at the same time. Mr. Gusty answered the retail would be used during the week and the rental hall mostly on the weekends. Mayor Erosenko suggested the 65 parking may not be enough for what is proposed. He agreed that the applicant reduced the number of occupancy permitted but the size of the building did not change and the 65 parking spaces may not be

adequate. Mr. Gusty explained the retail space requires one space per 200 square feet. Further discussion ensued. Mrs. Gaydos inquired who determines the 90 person maximum capacity and Mr. Gusty answered the traffic engineer.

Mr. Wilson inquired about the number of employees that were needed to operate that banquet hall safely and Dr. Ravi Balu answered it would be five to seven people to run the banquet hall. He explained it would be a rental hall space and would not provide any food preparation. He added he proposed to have medical offices that would not require evening hours and they would be off one day a week. He stated the most of the events at the rental hall would be in the evenings. Mr. Wilson questioned the number of physicians in the group and Dr. Balu answered four. He added they are planning to take half or three quarters of the space. Mr. Wilson inquired whether they would all work at the same time and Dr. Balu answered their hours would rotate because they have a number of offices. He explained there are usually four to six cars in the parking lot at one time with one or two for the nurse and the secretary with one to two doctors at a time.

Mrs. Gaydos referred to the tables shown and inquired whether the space could accommodate more chairs at those tables and more tables in that area. Mr. Gusty answered they are not permitted to but they could. Mrs. Gaydos pointed out that it visually shows that it meets the requirement but questioned whether there is enough space to add more tables in that space and chairs at each table; Mr. Gusty answered affirmatively.

Mr. Duncan referred to the proposal to eliminate the 480 foot required sidewalk and Mr. Gusty answered that is one of the modifications. He stated there are steep slopes in the area that come down to the shoulder of the road so it would be difficult to grade for the sidewalk. Mr. Duncan inquired whether a three-foot high retaining wall could be placed in the area and Mr. Gusty answered it would have to be higher because it is a steep slope. Mrs. Gaydos questioned whether it was difficult but not impossible and Mr. Gusty agreed. He reported he drove from Old Haymaker Road down Old William Penn Highway and there are no sidewalks that entire distance on their side of the street. Mr. Duncan pointed out that is all residential but Monroeville is trying to abide by the sidewalk requirements in the commercial areas. He stated there is one in front of Giant Eagle that wraps around the property and it does not make sense to not have one meet it. Mr. Gusty indicated they are not trying to get out of it and he mentioned the applicant is willing to pay the equivalent amount into the sidewalk fund to be used for other sidewalks in Monroeville that makes more sense. Mr. Duncan disagreed and felt it makes sense to build one in that area. Mr. Gusty indicated a bridge would have to be built over the culvert to construct a sidewalk and Mr. Duncan asserted that portion could be piped.

Mr. Wilson pointed out the homes on Old William Penn Highway were built in the 1950s so it is all residential and sidewalks were not required at that time.

Mr. Harvey reported he read the minutes of the zoning hearing board and the planning commission and he drove Old William Penn Highway to look at the parking situation. He stated he walked the land and site for the proposed structure and reviewed the drawings with the municipal engineer and checked the location of the landmark and the concerned paper street. He added he talked

to the residents and reviewed the engineering report and he read it into the record. With all that information, Mr. Harvey duly made a motion to deny Application No. 16-5-ST and Mrs. Gaydos second it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

SIDEWALK WAIVER 16-5-ST

VASA ENTERPRISES

Vasa Enterprises is requesting a waiver of the sidewalk requirement to Site Plan Application No. 16-5-ST (no action was taken).

MOTIONS

MOTION

A motion to accept the resignation of Beth Belasco from the Monroeville Finance Authority.

There being no discussion, Mrs. Gaydos duly made a motion to accept the resignation and Mr. Wilson seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Mr. Little reported the Special Olympics Torch Run will be held on May 30-June 1, 2017 for Pennsylvania Law Enforcement. He read how the Torch Run will benefit the Special Olympics which was started in 1981 in Wichitau, Kansas. He announced the start date for the run will be May 30 beginning at PNC Park in Pittsburgh and end at the Allegheny and Westmoreland County Border heading east on U.S. Route 22. He suggested a motion of approval for police traffic control. Chief Cole explained the Law Enforcement Torch Run will end up in Penn State and he mentioned how some of the Monroeville Officers will be running to generate money for the Special Olympics. He added there will be escorts and security. Further discussion ensued. Whereupon, Mrs. Gaydos duly made a motion to approve and Dr. Gresock seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 17-17

A resolution authorizing the refunding of Bond Series A and B of 2012 and the Bond Series of 2011.

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

RESOLUTION 17-18

A resolution authorizing the display of various event banners at the corner of the intersection of State Routes 22 and 48 within the right-of-way of property belonging to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Whereupon, Messrs. Harvey and Wilson made a motion to approve and Dr. Gresock seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 17-19

A resolution authorizing the filing of an application for funds with the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County (RAAC) to apply for funds from the Active Allegheny Grant Program in the amount of \$49,040 for the proposed Monroeville Active Transportation Plan.

Whereupon, Dr. Gresock duly made a motion to approve and Mrs. Gaydos seconded it. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 17-20

A resolution recognizing the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation (MACC) as a Civic and/or Service Association under the Local Options Small Games of Chance Act, as amended.

There being no discussion, Mr. Wilson duly made a motion to approve and Dr. Gresock seconded it. Mr. Little explained this is for the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation to conduct bingos as fundraisers and they need approval from the local municipality to do so. Dr. Gresock questioned whether they will then get permits from the county and Mr. Little concurred. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCESORDINANCE

An ordinance authorizing the incurring of non-electoral debt by the Municipality of Monroeville for the purposes of providing for the costs of various capital projects, refunding of prior bonds of the municipality and paying the costs of issuing the bonds.

Mr. Wratsher explained this is to refinance the 2012 Bonds, pay them off and recognize the savings.

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

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL STAFFMUNICIPAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Little reported at the request of council on the fund balance and how the budget is balanced. He stated the municipality has not balanced the budget with the fund balance for the past three years. He explained the fund balance has been growing steadily and a budget is a projection tool for revenues and expenses with very accurate figures. He suggested all the information is on the website concerning the status of financial activities which would be in the audit not the budget. He mentioned how the Comprehensive Financial Report (CAFR) reflects the fund balance has grown steadily for the past three years. He added there is a policy of retaining 10 percent in reserve. He explained the increase in the fund balance and different categories of it which include restricted and committed categories required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Mr. Little pointed out there is a budgeted amount for the fund balance for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 but his budget message reads for 2016 that it would not have to be used. He added it has not been used for the past three years and he explained taxes were increased in 2014 because they had not been increased in 20 years. He stated Monroeville was at 2.2 mills since the 1990s and taxes were not raised because of the healthy fund balance. He explained the bulk of the money in the fund balance came from the selling of the sewage system to the authority and he mentioned \$12 million. He also pointed out a community park was built with that money but it also subsidized not having a tax increase. He explained how the previous councils did not want to raise taxes but knew it had to be done somewhere down the line. He stated Monroeville was the eighth lowest in the county at 2.2 mills before taxes were raised and were tied for the thirty-fifth lowest after they were raised. He pointed out the municipality is still on the low end of municipal taxes and are not even at the midpoint.

Mr. Little then gave an explanation of why a fund balance it budgeted. He mentioned unexpected expenses that can use it such as the Ramsey Road or Red Oak Court projects. He stated the municipality is growing from an operational standpoint in a healthy fashion and the fund balance is not being used to balance the budget but the municipality would be broke in ten years if taxes were not increased. He indicated council had to raise taxes 64 percent but the municipality is not using the fund balance and the municipality will not go bankrupt.

Mr. Little mentioned the MS4 or Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System and explained every community in the commonwealth will have to address their storm water issues. He stated it is coming from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) from the federal government under the 1974 Clean Streams Law not ALCOSAN. He was concerned about how to pay for the costs of addressing these issues. He stated since Monroeville is a home rule charter community it can be addressed and he reported council has discussed it but not taken any action. He explained how the municipality would usually address the storm water issues on a piece-meal basis but is receiving pressure from DEP which is being pressured by EPA on the federal level. He added the municipality could be fined if it is audited by the EPA and reported it passed the DEP initial audit in August. He again stated this is not ALCOSAN or Monroeville but the DEP and EPA.

ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST

Mr. Little reported Ms. Salma Mukhutar was the grand prize winner of the Arbor Day Foundation Poster Contest and she received a flowering tree and soft-sided lunch bag. He also reported the honorable mention winners were Dan Baker and Ishan Sinha who also received soft-sided lunch bags.

TRASH PICKUP

Mr. Little reported per ordinance residents can only take their garage to the curb after 4 p.m. the day before garage pickup. He stated calls are coming in with complaints and there has been a rash of people putting their trash out too early.

HISTORIC SOCIETY GARDENING VOLUNTEERS

Mr. Little reported the Historic Society is looking for gardening volunteers to work at the McCulley and McGinley Houses. He referred anyone interested to call him at his number on the website.

PAVING

Mr. Little reported Felino Construction will be paving through PennDOT Mosside Boulevard, Northern Pike and Haymaker Road. He explained the construction will consist of base repair to both roadways and shoulders, minor drainage improvements and milling and paving of the roadway and shoulders. He added there would be line painting, guiderail improvements and other miscellaneous upgrades to the roadway. He read other details. He stated there will be a resolution concerning their hours of operation in June.

Mrs. Gaydos inquired about the line painting and Mr. Hugus answered the intersection of concern is at the High School. He explained that when the state does the milling and paving, they will have to replace all the line markings within the intersection but public works will do all the line painting that is not replaced that approaches that intersection. Mrs. Gaydos stated this is the work mentioned by the manager and the work will be done with the lines so everyone will understand the directional issues.

Mayor Erosenko mentioned that he discussed the paving of Monroeville Boulevard with State Representative Joe Markosek and he was hopeful that it will get done this year.

PUBLIC COMMENTSMARK RISKO AND LEN YOUNG

Mr. Mark Risko, resident, came forward with Mr. Len Young, resident, representing the American Legion Local Gold Post 820. Mr. Young, as a member of the honor guard, wanted to bring attention to the community about a special Memorial Day Service on Sunday, May 28, 2017 at Restland Memorial Cemetery with the mayor as the keynote speaker, there will be a POW MIA Remembrance

Ceremony, and military and first responder recognition. He reported there would be songs of tribute by Officer Markel, a dove release and refreshments. He added that Ray Reinhart will display his POW MIA Soap Box Derby Car in honor of those that served. He reported there will be a special presentation by the American Legion Color Guard and the Honor Guard.

Mayor Erosenko reported what a wonder job they do and encouraged everyone to honor our fallen heroes.

Mr. Risko added that following that presentation there will be a similar ceremony at the Homewood Cemetery if anyone misses this one at 2 p.m. Mr. Young indicated the color guard and honor guard will be at both cemeteries

Mr. Young also added Governor Wolf has proclaimed the month of May Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month and he has the yellow and black signs that warn "Watch for Motorcycles" available for anyone interested.

BETSEY DESMOND

Mrs. Betsey Desmond, resident, came forward to express her concerns. She disagreed with a Facebook entry calling this council the "Good Old Boys" and she referred to the previous council. She felt this council has done nothing except move forward. She reported of an anonymous letter delivered to her place of business concerning Mr. Scoog in 2011 removing political signs. Mr. Duncan inquired whether this is the forum for this discussion and asked whether it is more appropriate for a political forum. Mayor Erosenko indicated she has a right to express her opinion. Mr. Wratcher advised that the mayor and council have the right to set the parameters of whether or not someone can speak. Further discussion ensued. Mrs. Desmond reported Mr. Scoog was accused of taking political signs and placing them in a truck and he was in his FBI vehicle. She questioned whether he put that on his application for council. She suggested that Councilman Wilson is doing a fine job for the seventh ward and she did not like all the bad politics that is happening. She referred to the political signs being placed in prohibited places. Mr. Duncan indicated it should not happen because the municipality has an ordinance. Mrs. Desmond explained a situation at her work place. Mr. Duncan felt it was unprecedented and it should be controlled.

BILL KORNRUMP

Mr. Bill Kornrump, a resident, came forward to express his concerns as the owner of the Steel City Steak House. He explained there is a water issue at the intersection of Routes 48 and 130 where water laid in the intersection for five days. He reported PennDOT blames Monroeville and they showed him what was sucked out of the sewer drains. He stated the Speedway was to be built at ground level but instead was raised 15 feet and there are six drainage sources that drain onto Route 130. He questioned where the help is coming from and he reported he still had water running into that intersection at 12 midnight. He suggested the intersection should have been corrected before any more development was done. He reported that he contacted municipal employees and he felt everyone should work together. He stated traffic was backed up for two days past Gateway High School and it

hurts his business. He reported he has a hillside coming down and all the work that was done was inadequate. He stated the dirt found in the sewer drains is running off the hill. Mr. Little explained that it is a PennDOT issue and they are saying there is water runoff coming from other areas that are not from PennDOT Roads. He stated these are typical examples of what the DEP and EPA want corrected of shoty development and storm water management. He pointed out there is a lot of development that was done incorrectly prior to the 1970s when the storm water management ordinances were enacted. Mr. Kornrump reported that he informed council three years ago that the problem would get worse not better but the municipality assured him he would not have problems. He indicated the water has been laying in the intersection for five days. He again reported Speedway was built higher than it should have been and the drainage on Route 130 was still like a river.

Mayor Erosenko suggested the municipality needs to contact PennDOT and Mr. Hugus requested that he be given the name of the person he spoke to about this issue. Mr. Kornrump agreed. He indicated he was told that the drain under the bridge cannot take the water when the creek rises too high. He pointed out two or three days later when the creek was not high there was no water coming out of the pipe because the sewers were all backed up with debris and mud. Mrs. Gaydos inquired whether there is extra water coming from the new Speedway and Mr. Hugus answered the storm water management was installed per the design. He stated if PennDOT is claiming that it is not working, he wants to know and who was there.

Dr. Gresock inquired whether the dye tests are the municipality's responsibilities or PennDOTs and Mr. Hugus answered PennDOTS. Mr. Kornrump pointed out that its PennDOTs storm sewer but its Monroeville's dirt. Dr. Gresock suggested it still needs to be cleaned out. Mrs. Gaydos encouraged him to contact Mr. Hugus. Mr. Kornrump suggested reviewing the videos where we inquired whether Speedway would be built higher and they answered negatively but they did. Further brief discussion ensued.

LOU SMITH

Mr. Lou Smith, a 49-year resident, came forward to express his concerns. He briefly reviewed his background with the municipality. He encouraged everyone to vote for Jeff Herbst for Magistrate and Jesse Kaltstein for School Board. He explained how he came before council four years ago when Monroeville had the worst council that it ever had and he watched them plot a conspiracy against Chief Doug Cole for his job and family. He reviewed the chief's experience and commended him for his municipal service. He suggested if it is not broke, don't fix it and stated the council members are not broke and do not need fixed. He felt they are doing a good job. He gave his opinion about what he felt were some of the issues in the election. Mr. Duncan voiced his concern about whether this was proper for Mr. Smith to make accusations and assumptions. Mayor Erosenko pointed out that during his tenure as mayor he has never stopped anybody from expressing their concerns. He felt everyone has a right to voice their opinion. Further discussion ensued regarding who can make public comment.

Mr. Smith reported the main complaint against Chief Cole was a HIPPA violation from former chief Steve Pasarella. He suggested everyone was aware that it was not a HIPPA violation but the

solicitor at the time recommended an outside law firm, a private detective and a forensic specialist to review the issue at a cost of \$160,000. He also commented on the private investigator's report. He expressed his opinion concerning the former solicitor and reported how he is the solicitor for four different municipal boards. He felt getting the former solicitor back is what this election is about and he did not want that to happen. He reviewed some issues with the former solicitor and what one of the council member's is supporting for the election.

Mr. Smith suggested Monroeville has always had excellent mayors. He encouraged the residents to keep this community's excellence by putting Dr. Gresock in as mayor. He indicated he is currently deputy mayor and has been on council for six years. He reviewed some comments that he heard made by the candidate for council in the seventh ward. He commended all the current incumbents and encouraged the residents to retain them and keep Monroeville from returning to what happened in the past.

CHAD STUBENBORT

Mr. Chad Stubenbort, a resident, came forward to express his concerns about comments made by the manager earlier about the budget. He referred to how much money was available and the amounts that were budgeted and may not have been used. He indicated it was stated that the municipality never used the general fund balance to balance the budget but did go from 1.8 millage up to 4 mills. Discussion ensued regarding the millage rate before and after the assessment. Mr. Little stated the millage was 2.2 mills before the assessment. Mr. Stubenbort pointed out it was 1.8 after the assessment and the municipality had to go to court to raise it.

Mr. Stubenbort explained the municipality budgeted for \$700,000 utilization last year and \$500,000 this year. He stated there is \$4.5 million available cash on hand and Mr. Little corrected there is more than that because of the 10 percent reserve. He recommended he review the fund balance analysis in the budget. Mr. Stubenbort referred to the budget report on Page 13 where the manager states "council should strongly consider a one mill increase". Mr. Little agreed. Mr. Stubenbort referred to the mayor's comments two years ago about how the municipality had to find ways to reduce spending and the spending is out of control. He agreed that the spending is out of control and it should be reined in. He suggested spending needs to be reduced by 1.6 percent so then a \$500,000 general fund utilization would not have to be put into the budget.

Mr. Stubenbort referred to the MS4. He stated it is a federal mandate as to what is done with the sewers but not to enact a fee and Mr. Little concurred. Mr. Stubenbort referred to Mt. Lebanon who started their program in 2011 and asked where Monroeville has been for the past six years. Mr. Little agreed Mt. Lebanon is way ahead on the MS4 Project.

Mr. Stubenbort thanked Councilman Duncan for speaking up and trying to keep order in the council chambers. He felt rules need to be set and people should not be allowed to come forward to throw anything out. Mayor Erosenko disagreed citing the first amendment. Mr. Stubenbort stated there is freedom of speech but then there is baseless accusations which makes Monroeville look bad.

Mr. Stubenbort referred to the quote, "if it's not broke, don't fix it". He referred to the crime statistics from 2014 to the past year. He reported assaults increased 45 percent, drug activity up 50 percent, gun shots up 43 percent, gunshot wounds up 150 percent, overdoses up 321 percent, prostitution up 118 percent and stabbings up 900 percent. Mr. Wilson questioned the number of stabbings and Mr. Stubenbort answered ten. Mr. Harvey inquired what he would do about it and Mr. Stubenbort indicated this was his time to speak. Mayor Erosenko reported the public can go to the Pennsylvania State website and pick up the crimes report that is submitted every month. He added crime is down in Monroeville. Mr. Stubenbort explained those numbers came off the municipal website reported by the Monroeville Police Department. He added 15 gunshot wounds, 80 overdoses and 10 stabbings in the past year or a 75 percent increase since 2014. He suggested there are problems that do need fixed. He stated what he would do about the problems is to address them because status quo is not working. He pointed out that a camera system was implemented which the district attorney was pushing and the police chief reluctantly agreed to do. He suggested the municipality needs to get back to proactive policing. He felt these are the facts that need addressed. Mr. Duncan felt all these political conversations would be good for "Meet the Candidates Night" where it could be hashed out.

Mr. Stubenbort urged residents when they vote not to listen to the rumors or accusations and look at the record which is all available on line. He recommended residents look at who voted for a tax increase, who found loopholes in procedural law, and who wasted money frivolously versus who cut down on the budget. Mrs. Gaydos was adamant that those too are baseless accusations. Mr. Stubenbort suggested if anyone thinks the crime statistics are wrong they should be addressed on the website.

NANCY LAPCEVICH

Mrs. Nancy Lapcevic, a resident, came forward to report that she is running for the first ward council seat. She expressed how appalled she was about what took place earlier at the meeting. She felt the mayor and solicitor should stop the ranting. She felt everything can be improved and she is not running because anyone needs fixed. She pointed out the five school board members who improved the school district after the other ones were doing fine. She suggested this has gone too far. She reported there was a "Meet the Candidates" Night but only a handful of people attended. She took issue with Mr. Smith's comments and felt he was disruptive. Further discussion ensued. Mrs. Lapcevic reported crime is up 75 percent in the east suburbs and Monroeville was mentioned. She felt the police chief, police department, fire fighters and the medics are second to none. She stated Monroeville has a stellar school system and the community has everything. She disagreed with the earlier comments and felt elections are about making changes if something can be improved.

JAY WRIGHT

Mr. Jay Wright, a resident, came forward to express his opinion. He suggested council can pass a resolution stating politics should not be part of the council meetings. He felt this is not the place for politics but a place for the service of the community.

DAVID KUCHERER

Mr. David Kucherer, a resident, came forward to express his concerns. He reported he served as a councilman for ten years. He mentioned the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) or the MS4 for municipal separate storm sewer systems. He stated the municipality started to address the situation in 2003 and he recalled the memorandum from F and F about charging a fee. He reported the municipality just addressed the sanitary sewer system and the water authority was changed to the municipality authority and they addressed it. He indicated a map was developed of the storm sewer system with GPS markers and the water quality was monitored and ordinances were adopted to monitor the situation. He commended the staff for their work.

Mr. Kucherer mentioned the fund balances and stated there is a fund balance to address any emergencies that come up in the event that the municipality loses its revenue. He pointed out council originally retained 15 percent in the fund balances because there were some huge unfunded liabilities. He explained how the funds of \$13.5 million was obtained to build the Community Park and that there was a \$5 million lawsuit from Westinghouse. He reported in 2003 the municipality set \$6 million aside to address the unfunded liability that, at the time, was \$29 million for just OPEB. He suggested these are huge issues. He reported that in 2008 the municipality was advised by the attorney, the auditor and the investment manager that if council had not done anything, the unfunded liability would have been at \$40 million. He stated council decided to set funds aside to address the OPEB fund which is an annual required contribution of \$2.2 million and explained if that contribution is not made it will be reflected on the balance sheet. He mentioned \$8 million is now shown on the balance sheet as a long-term debt and it will have to be addressed. He approximated that there is \$15 million for pension unfunded liabilities plus \$29 million of OPEB and Mr. Little corrected it was \$28 million. He explained how the City of Pittsburgh handled the situation. Mr. Little added that Monroeville is one of the few communities in the Pittsburgh area that has an OPEB fund and most municipalities are on a pay-as-you-go basis and they are trying to keep that OPEB fund solvent. He mentioned how the municipality gets a better bond rating when these things are on the balance sheet. He stated just a slight rating in the bond issues can cost the municipality through a ten to twenty year period \$10,000 or more. He explained how the municipality understands these issues and anyone elected will have to deal with them. He stressed these issues are difficult but every municipality is dealing with pensions and infrastructure.

Mr. Kucherer reported on some of the municipality's costs such as \$18 million for wages and benefits and Mr. Little added 70 percent of the costs are fixed. Mr. Kucherer stressed that wages and benefits have to be addressed. He reported the Carnegie Mellon Study of 2002 cited that Monroeville has a structure that can no longer be funded and cannot last. He stated in 2005 the municipality got rid of the extremely expensive healthcare benefit concerning prescription drugs which saved the taxpayers over \$100,000. He explained a resolution was approved to use Part D of Medicare which saved Monroeville a large sum of money but it was not a popular decision.

Mr. Kucherer explained the municipality raised the occupational privilege tax from \$10 to \$52 which brought in \$1.6 million. He pointed out by raising that tax the municipality has brought in over \$800,000 extra.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERSSEVENTH WARD COUNCILMAN TOM WILSON

Mr. Wilson reported the municipality will be hiring some summer employees and he announced from his ward it will be Robert McCarl, Anthony Hamilton and William Thomas. He welcomed them and wished them luck.

SIXTH WARD COUNCILMAN STEVE DUNCAN

Mr. Duncan congratulated the Mellon Plan on the 100th Year Anniversary. He sent his condolences to the families of Jim Morvay or Harko and Frank DePhillips. He reported he has had a lot of complaints regarding residents putting their garbage out too early. He mentioned an incidence on Monroeville Boulevard. He suggested a reminded be sent in the water or sewer bills. He sent good luck wishes to all the candidates. He stated unequivocally that he would not vote against the police chief or the manager because he fought to get them back.

THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN RON HARVEY

Mr. Harvey inquired about the status of the police hiring process and Chief Cole explained the oral interviews were completed that day. He stated they intend to hire three which has been budgeted. He was hopeful they would be able to get a list together by the end of May or early July.

Mr. Harvey reminded everyone of an ongoing project of updating the police and the radio room dispatch communication system. He reported they have been working diligently and the chief got some state support on grant money and council allocated some funds. He stated they applied for a large grant with the state and he was hopeful that the whole thing would get paid without using taxpayer's money. He indicated it would bring the radio system up to date and he clarified that the police can talk to the other police departments but have to be patched through. He explained the new system will just change channels and the old police radio equipment will then be used by the public works department. He reported the fire department, police department, EMS and public works will be on the same wave length so they will be able to communicate. He suggested the municipality does not want to get rid of the communication center. He explained the county has expanded so much that they have to renew some of their equipment and they are considering charging for their services by a percentage of the numbers that call for them. He stated the county will no longer be free because they cannot keep up with the cost of maintaining the center. He stated as a retired police officer, a fire chief and an elected official he was happy Monroeville kept their communication center. He commended the communication center and stated it will be updated to improve the services.

SECOND WARD COUNCILMAN NICK GRESOCK

Dr. Gresock reported the Valley Park Woods for Water will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2017 where they will plant 200 trees for a riparian buffer planting to help with the Turtle Creek, Abbers Creek area. He stated it would be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and anyone interested could either show up or contact Jamie Storey at the municipal building. He reiterated that there will be 200 trees donated

through the Allegheny Water Shed Alliance and the Turtle Creek Water Shed Association and he explained the location. He thanked council for approving the resolution earlier for the Active Allegheny Grant Program for the proposed Monroeville Active Transportation Plan which is a way to make the community more pedestrian friendly. He was hopeful that a lot could be done with the Westmoreland Heritage Trail coming through. He felt the grant program is a good first step in creating the green walkways and bike pathways throughout the municipality.

Dr. Gresock sent get well wishes to Chris Gilbert at the Senior Citizen's Center. He reported the Highmark's Walk for a Healthy Community will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2017 downtown Pittsburgh and the proceeds will benefit the Garden City United Methodist Food Pantry. He thanked Mr. Wilson for his donation. He urged anyone interested in making a donation to contact him and explained there is an online link that can be used.

Dr. Gresock congratulated the Mellon Plan and he mentioned the proclamation presented earlier. He agreed with the first amendment's rights for freedom of speech. He explained that the mayor has jurisdiction over the meetings. He was hopeful of getting through the campaign season and to get on with the business of the municipality. He wished all of his colleagues' luck and wished the challengers success. He encouraged people to stay involved to keep Monroeville a good town.

Dr. Gresock wished his wife a Happy Mother's Day.

FIRST WARD COUNCIL WOMAN LINDA GAYDOS

Mrs. Gaydos reported Duquesne Light will install a new light on Calvinton Drive around House 174 and that it will take approximately four weeks to complete. She also reported speed limits and children at play signs will be installed on Grandview Drive for the safety of the families in the neighborhood. She explained all the letters have been sent to the summer help employees and she welcomed them. She reported all the new equipment for the senior center has been installed and is ready to use. She encouraged everyone to join and enjoy the facility. She stated the deadline to purchase tickets for the Hoedown is May 10, 2017 which is scheduled for May 17, 2017. She reminded everyone to get out and vote on May 16, 2017 and she wished everyone luck. She sent happy birthday wishes to her husband.

Mr. Harvey reported his 35th Wedding Anniversary was the day before and he wished his wife a happy anniversary.

MAYOR GREG EROSENKO

Mayor Erosenko wished happy mother's day to his wife and daughter and to all the moms. He congratulated the Mellon Plan on their 100th Anniversary. He encouraged everyone to vote on Election Day, May 16, 2017.

Mayor Erosenko mentioned a comment made about the state of Monroeville with crime. He agreed there is an Opioid issue across the country but it is everywhere, in the schools and neighborhoods. He commended Chief Cole and the police department for doing such a great job and

explained they work with the county, state and federal people. He explained how crime is impossible to predict. He addressed some comments made about the police department and he felt blessed to have Chief Cole in the community. He expressed his opinion about the crime and drug activity here and across the country. He felt Chief Cole is a good leader as well as all the council representatives that support the police department. He commended the public works department, the senior center, the library and the dispatch center. He felt Monroeville is a wonderful place to live even with its issues. He apologized if any of his comments offend anyone. He also apologized to Councilman Duncan but he believed in the freedom of speech. He encouraged anyone interested in a resolution to set rules for the meetings but he has never stopped anyone during his tenure from expressing their opinions. Mr. Duncan agreed that freedom of speech is good but there is a five-minute limit.

Mr. Wilson wished his wife a happy mother's day and congratulated the Mellon Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before council at this time, a motion was duly made by Mr. Harvey to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m. and Dr. Gresock and Mr. Wilson seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Little
Municipal Manager

TJL/sam