

Lonnie McKechnie

From: Vern Halter <vhalter@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Monday, December 17, 2018 8:27 AM
To: Lonnie McKechnie; John Moosey; Nicholas Spiropoulos
Subject: Veto Message- Two Work Session Vetoes

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Dear Madame Clerk,

This is my Veto Message for Assembly members on the two vetoes I issued on December 12th, 2018.

First on the veto of a Work Session on the issues of air quality, DEC and wood stoves. These issues are currently before the Mat Su Borough Planning Commission and a work session prior to completion of the planning commission's work is unnecessary and an assumption of their work and duties. The Planning commission can/will recommend further action or non action on these issues and at that time the Assembly can take action. In prior regular Assembly meetings there have been volumes of public testimony generally against any further action by the Assembly and in fact much of this testimony is in favor of the Borough leaving the current MOU with DEC. Several months ago the Assembly voted not to enter into a new or changed MOU. I see no reason to have a work session at this time that contravenes planning commission work.

Second on the veto of a Work Session on wetland mitigation- much the same can be said for this issue as above. There have been several presentations by Staff to the Assembly on wetland mitigation and Borough policy. There is no pending Ordinance or Resolution currently before the Assembly on this issue. There has not been a referral to the Planning Commission on this issue. A request for a work session is simply untimely and unneeded. Any Assembly member can draft legislation or a resolution or do a referral.

And to both of these requests I feel it was inappropriate at a Joint School Board/Assembly meeting for an Assembly member at "Comment" time to stray away from School/Assembly issues that are important to both bodies. To venture into other issues however important to that Assembly member or to the Borough is not in the best interest of the joint meeting. We had already taken up much of the School Board's time on the landfill issue earlier in this same joint meeting. That issue was on the Joint Agenda. They- the School Board sat quietly through thirty to forty five minutes of debate and voting over a simple issue. I realize the importance of this issue on opening the landfill being on the joint meeting agenda. In the future requests for Work Session's should be put in writing to the Clerk's office in advance of a regular meeting.

Mayor Vern Halter



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