

**Marietta Borough Council  
Minutes of Meeting held February 10, 2015  
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA**

President Sargen with Council member Foreman, Davis, Overlander, Kramer, Renninger, Roberts and Mayor Vegso present called the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Marietta Borough Council to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the January 13, 2015 Council meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Rae Ann Schatz – 24 Fairview Avenue – She is here again to ask for reimbursement for her driveway from the Fairview Avenue Project.

President Sargen stated that nothing has changed and the answer stays the same, the legal action is continuing.

Traci McFatrige – 31 Lumber Avenue – Would like to ask that our road crew fill the pot holes in Lumber Avenue, weather permitting her father is coming to live with them and he is in a mobile chair to get around and she did not want him to fall into a pot hole with his chair.

President Sargen stated that we may have some cold patch that we can use, weather permitting. He asked that Sharon Renninger check with the road crew to see if they can help them out.

Lillian Hill – 462 East Front Street – Gave a report on last year's tax collection. Revenue paid to Marietta Borough \$628,647.85 and that was for 928 parcels. The parcels that were not collected were turned over to Lancaster County for further collection. She collected \$4,500.00 in revenue for tax certifications.

This year she is now becoming a certified tax collector and needs to have six (6) hours of continuing education. The Borough has budgeted \$3000.00 for tax certifications and would like a \$1,500.00 increase in what she receives because she feels she has earned it.

President Sargen stated that the Deputy County Treasurer, the Borough Solicitor, and he also spoke with the President of Lancaster County Tax Collectors Association. What we have is a result of the Borough being its own tax collector for several years. Previously at meetings he discussed that this is a compensation issue and the Tax Collector Manual states that you cannot change that compensation package until February 15 of the elected year for the tax collector. After discussing this with all these offices what he learned was the municipalities that still have a tax collector you need to petition the Borough to establish a tax collector compensation package. He ask that she set up an appointment with himself and the Borough office to discuss this.

President Sargen announced public comment session of Borough Council was closed.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/PERSONNEL/FINANCE –President Sargen**

Before us is the General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated 2/10/2015 the total general fund accounts are \$684,770.05. A motion by Council member Overlander with a second from Council member Roberts, the General Fund Breakdown dated 2/10/2015 was approved as presented.

Mayor Vegso commented that he wanted to thank the Borough Secretary for adding the extra column with the added funds and accounts on the first page.

President Sargen stated the Northwest River trail that initially we were going to pave the trail this year from Decatur Street trail head to Chestnut Street which would include a foot bridge over Evans Run. At last meeting we had spoken about the design plan is underway. Since then, we have an opportunity to finish the trail the whole way down to Bank Street. So in 2015 we have the opportunity to get a mile and a half of trail done this year. To get this accomplished we are amending the original grant which was for the Decatur Street trail head and parking area. We had a meeting with DCNR and LCSWA and put the proposal at the highest level and at this council meeting we need to make a motion to amend the original grant application to move forward in getting the whole trail completed this year.

Council member Overlander made the motion to move forward with the amendment of the original grant application with a second by Council member Roberts.

Council member Renninger asked how is this being amended from what to what?

President Sargen stated that the original grant is a different grant. This is just for the Decatur Street trail head and comes from a program called Pennsylvania River Grant Program and the funds are state funded. Because the second grant is from National Park Service grant these funds are federal funds and this cannot be amended easily. So we are asking for more money on the first grant and the solid waste authority kicked in \$147,000 of in-kind funds to make this happen. Our matching funds are coming from the Eater Family Foundation.

Mayor Vegso stated that he noticed the Northwest River trail account went from \$23,000 to \$132,000 so we most of received money from a grant.

President Sargen stated that we received a partial payment from the DCNR Grant in the amount of \$112,050.

Mayor Vegso asked will the Borough bid the contracts or will LSWMA bid the contracts. Someone will need to hire the contractors.

President Sargen stated that we will do that along with LSWMA.

Council member Renninger asked is that because we have an agreement with them through the Intermunicipal Trail Agreement?

President Sargen stated correct. Also depending on how the work is specked out, we may not have to bid it out.

Mayor Vegso stated that since we don't know the total cost, then the Borough is committed to some percentage.

President Sargen stated that there would be no money out of Borough's pocket. Because of the in-kind services that LSWMA is donating.

Mayor Vegso asked if there are any problems with easements or right-a-ways with the railroad.

President Sargen stated that there were none to his knowledge.

Mayor Vegso stated that he understood that the trail did not have permission where the old canal was from Chiques Outfitter coming down Furnace Road and then the path behind Donegal Place. This is not

including any work in that area?

President Sargen stated no it will only be to Bank Street, which will have a round-a-bout.

The motion was unanimously approved.

**STREETS & HIGHWAYS – Council member Sharon Renninger**

Council member Renninger announced that from Bridge Street to Gay Street will now be two way and from Gay Street to Waterford Avenue will be one way. She has an Ordinance that was introduced January 13<sup>th</sup> and it was advertised on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and would like to make the motion to adopt the Ordinance from Gay Street to Waterford Avenue as a one way. It was seconded by Council member Davis.

A roll call vote was taken.

Steve Foreman – aye  
Bill Roberts – aye  
Jim Sargen – aye

Eric Kramer – aye  
Oliver Overlander – aye

Mark Davis – aye  
Sharon Renninger – aye

Motion carries.

Council member Renninger stated that we have a request from Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Chiques Challenge. They would like permission to use or close Decatur Street to West Market Street to Perry Street to Front Street to Bank Street to Hazel Avenue to Furnace Road to Robert Mowrer Drive into the Marietta River Park. It was seconded by Council member Foreman.

Motion carries.

Council member Renninger stated that some residents have stressed concerns about their visibility at intersections and street crossings for pedestrians and also the ADA compliance that Tracy brought up in regards to the potholes in Lumber Avenue. She wanted to let people know that we had a walkability audit done and the study was done by the Lancaster General Health Corporation as part of there get out and move program. We received the audit on the walkability study with recommendations that we take into consideration for future planning for the Borough. We received very high marks for being a walkable town because of the pleasantness, we have low traffic volume, lovely trees and architectural buildings to look at, but there were recommendations to take into consideration such as sidewalk conditions, crosswalks and ADA compliance issues. We will look at their recommendations for future projects.

Mayor Vegso stated that the walking trail was a good thing and it helps link us with the County, and because we did it will likely facilitate PEMA Grants in the future. He would hope that Council would try and develop for the out years a schedule to address as much of these things as possible, so that we get ahead of these things. This will help us when we seek out Grants, because sometimes when we hear about them then we don't have time to get our act together to pursue them. He knows that Jim has worked ahead on the underground storm sewers and this is what we should be doing on the surface.

Council member Overlander asked if the walkability study should be reviewed by the planning commission.

Council member Renninger stated that this is something that they should defiantly take a look at it and it is just recommendations. She had the Donegal Regional Plan Ordinance that was adopted talked about

the complete streets projects and that was a recommendation from Donegal Regional, the overall plan for the area and that we adopt a street policy. Some of these things can be very involved. We need to have a little education about them.

Council member Renninger stated that Jim Sargen has been doing an excellent job spear heading our meeting on a lot of what we are doing. He has taken the time to meet the people that we need to speak with and he has had a crash course in leadership and that is fine, but she personally feels that he is doing a great job.

President Sargen thanked Sharon for the kind words.

Council member Renninger stated that the Hazel Avenue Project we will be advertising for bids on February 12 and February 17 and bids are to be submitted by March 3. The opening for bids will be March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 PM and that will be here at the Borough Office and we are looking at starting the project in April.

### **BUILDINGS & SPECIAL PROJECTS – Council member Eric Kramer**

Council member Kramer stated that he is meeting with the gentlemen from Atlantic Concepts in regards to the lighting. He should have things wrapped up next week.

Mayor Vegso asked if we have received any bids from anyone local like Wiley or Wilco.

Council member Kramer stated that we did not and a regular electrician would not do this kind of work. Atlantic Concepts look at the lighting itself, to see what we need to do to help the Borough save money on its electric bill. That would be for example changing the bulbs from T-12 to bulbs that are more energy efficient. He is working with Steve Foreman to include the lights at the park and the square. He would like to include everything in one package. We have a proposal that everyone received a copy in there box. Atlantic Concepts would be helping us cut our energy cost.

President Sargen stated that what he is hearing is that this company did an energy audit and Wilco does not provide that service. Wilco would do the electric work and you would need to know what you want done when they come in.

Council member Renninger asked if we are with any of the energy providers.

Sharon Bradnick the secretary let her know that we are signed up with one and recently a new contract was signed.

Council member Overlander asked if this company has their own people to do the work.

Council member Kramer stated that they did.

### **PARKS & RECREATION – Council member Steve Foreman**

Council member Foreman stated that he has reach out to GEARS and John is putting together a budget for this year and to give us a better staff. He is looking forward to this year. He would like for GEARS this year to take the children around town and let the children see the town. He would like to see more volunteers to help out. If anyone would like to help out please get in touch with him.

**PLANNING/ZONING/HOUSING – Council member Oliver Overlander**

Council member Overlander stated that Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> the Planning Commission is going to meet from 9:00 AM to around 1:00 PM and it has been scheduled and advertised. We are also accepting letters of interest for the opening on the Planning Commission and will accept letters until noon on Friday, February 27, 2015.

President Sargen stated that there are a lot of people that has stated that they would like to be involved in the community and this is a way for someone to get involved in the community. The Planning Commission is going to play a major role in the future of the Borough this year with the project that they have going on.

**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY – Council member Mark Davis**

Mark Davis stated that The Pioneer Fire Company responded to eighteen (18) QRS calls and twenty-two (22) Fire Calls for the month of January. Fire Police for January had nine (9) traffic accidents that they attended and close to seventy (70) man hours.

**SEWER & TRASH – Council member Bill Roberts**

The Marietta Sewer Department Savings Account at the end of January has a balance of \$158,144.03 and the Checking account has a balance of \$1,752.17. On a motion by Council member Overlander with a second by Council member Foreman, the January Sewer Department Monthly Breakdown was unanimously approved as presented.

The Borough recycled 22,580 pounds of recyclables for January, and 4,140 pounds of Christmas Trees. On a motion by Council member Davis with a second by Council member Renninger, the January Recycling Report was unanimously approved as presented.

Council member Roberts stated that we have a new recycling contract and they will now pickup newspapers, cardboard, office paper and junk mail. This will help keep our costs down. This will also keep things out of the landfills. As much as you can recycle, please do so.

**MAYOR’S REPORT - Mayor Ray Vegso**

Mayor Vegso stated that he would like to remind everyone that we are here to do what we can for Marietta and glad that we have more civil meetings. He would like to comment on the emergency system the ROBO System that was approved by Council in August. It is time for the delay to end and it is time to move forward that is not a Vegso project it is a Marietta Project that Council voted for.

Mayor also would like to state about false rumors that he is against the trail, and this is not true, he has always been for the trail, also another rumor saying that he was against Zoning. This is absolutely not true. He has been a supporter from way back. He hopes that people will question false rumors. People should not have personal interests and animosities interfere as our role as elected officials. We need to be professional in all we do.

Mayor stated that the minutes from the last police meeting are in the box and can also be found on the website. We have been working on getting the Borough’s minutes out on the website sooner and hope we keep moving forward with that.

Mayor stated that a piece of good news is that Tina Davidson, lived in Marietta and now lives in

Lancaster, she just received a Grammy Award there is a recording from Hilary Hahn that includes twenty-seven pieces that includes work by Tina Davidson, this is something that we can take pride in.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM on a motion by Council member Overlander with a second by Council member Roberts.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick  
Secretary/Treasurer