

**Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held December 10, 2013
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA**

President deVitry with Council members Sargen, Yohe, Rice, Nagel, Roberts and Kramer and Mayor Overlander 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.

On a motion by Council member Yohe with a second by Council member Nagel, the minutes of the November 12, 2013 Council meeting were approved as presented.

President deVitry opened the public comment session of Borough Council.

PUBLIC SESSION

President deVitry introduced Todd Smeigh with DC Gohn Associates.

Rummels are purchasing a small piece of property at the rear of 324 West Market. Mr. Smeigh is in front of Council to ask that the Borough of Marietta waive the three (3) meeting requirement to discuss the purchase of the property. The property is on the Southside of the alley.

Council member Sargen commented that this deal has started back in March and he was up to look at this property. There is a little offset on the property, and by looking at the property you would think that the Rummel's already own this piece. This piece would just square off the property and add a little more to their property. On a motion by Council member Nagel and a second by Council member Roberts, and a unanimous vote by Council the waiver for the three (3) meeting requirement by Council was approved.

Terry Bridgewater, with the Milanof-Schock Library Board, wanted to thank Borough Council for the \$1000.00 donation that was put in the 2014 budget.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE/PERSONNEL/FINANCE –President David deVitry

On a motion by Council member Rice with a second from Council member Sargen, the General Fund Breakdown dated 12/10/13 was unanimously approved as presented.

Council member Rice made a motion to accept the 2014 budget, second by Council member Nagel. President deVitry informed the public this is a balanced budget and thanked all the committees for working together to achieve this. This budget will allow us to pay down our loans and update services and does not allow for any tax increases. On a motion by Council member Rice, second by Council member Nagel the budget was approved. With that being said, an Ordinance was presented for the tax rate of \$6.5 mil and on a motion by Council member Roberts, second by Council member Rice the Ordinance was approved. A roll call vote was taken.

Gene Nagel – aye	Eric Kramer - aye
James Sargen – aye	Bill Roberts – aye
Jack Rice – aye	Corinna Yohe – aye
David deVitry - aye	

On a motion by Council member Rice with a second from Council member Roberts, Council unanimously approved to move some of the surplus from the budget of 2013, the budgeted amount of \$37,000.00 plus an additional \$90,000.00 be placed on the principal of the loan from the Fairview Avenue project.

On a motion by Council member Rice with a second from Council member Sargen, Council unanimously approved to move unused compensated absences to the assigned fund balance.

On a motion by Council member Yohe with a second from Council member Rice, Council unanimously approved to make pension contributions on behalf of Jeff and Ronda for the full year, Glenn for partial year and Jody Shaffner for the time period that she was employed with the Borough for the year.

President deVity gave an update on the Northwest River trail, happy to report that we received our Grant in the amount of \$224,100.00 for the River trail extension from Decater Street to Chestnut Street along with a pedestrian bridge over Evans Run we still need to raise the matching money, we will seek that in the spring from the Eater Foundation. It is an 80/20 Grant that the state pays 80% and the Borough covers 20%. Our cost will be in the \$40,000.00 range. We will be able to fully fund this section without any local tax payers' money. The construction may start as early as next summer on the project.

STREETS & HIGHWAYS – Council member Jack Rice

Council member Rice stated that the Fairview Avenue Project is complete. We saved around \$18,500.00 on the project from fines from not having the project completed.

Council member Rice stated that the PEMA money that we received for Evans Run which was for four (4) areas, an allotment was allowed for each area. This project is also completed.

Council member Rice thanks the Council for working with him and allowing him to serve the community. I hope that the Borough continues to stay a small Borough and does not think it can become a big city.

BUILDINGS & SPECIAL PROJECTS – Council member Eric Kramer

Nothing at this time.

PARKS & RECREATION – Council member Corinna Yohe

Donegal Baseball-Softball Association merged the baseball-softball program. MYAA is no longer, they have dissolved. We have a request from Donegal Baseball-Softball Association to use the fields at War Memorial Park between April and July. On a motion from Roberts and a second from Council member Rice, the Donegal Baseball-Softball Association was approved to use the fields.

Donegal Baseball-Softball Association presented to have a 5K on Sunday, April 6th at 2:00 P.M. They do not have an exact course laid out, but will submit the race course prior to the finalization of the race. Heidi Stauffer spoke that they would be leaving the park, going down Bank Street to Front Street, to the Railroad House and then up to Market Street and loop around Apple Alley and back up Market Street and back to War Memorial Park. They would need fire police. There would be approximately 100 runners. On a motion from Rice based on what was said and using fire police and a second from Council member Yohe and a unanimous vote from Council to approve the race for Sunday, April 6th.

PLANNING/ZONING/HOUSING – Council member James Sargen

Council member Sargen made a motion to approve Resolution 13-05 (see attached), Resolution 13-06 (see attached) and appoint Erick Marsh to a four (4) year term to the Marietta Planning Commission, second by Council member Yohe.

Council member Sargen made a comment that he would like to thank Gene, Jack, Corinna and Oliver for their years of service with the Borough. A lot of people don't realize this, but before you ever got involved with politics with the Borough you all belonged with other organizations throughout the community. You all have proved your leadership and commitment to the Borough and he feels confident with that leadership will carry on as you leave your positions with Council. Good luck to you all.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY – Council member Gene Nagel

Council member Nagel stated that The Pioneer Fire Company responded to fifteen (15) calls during the month of November and nineteen (19) calls for the Quick Response Service.

SEWER & TRASH – Council member Bill Roberts

On a motion by Council member Rice with a second by Council member Yohe, the November Sewer Department Monthly Breakdown was unanimously approved as presented.

On a motion by Council member Rice with a second by Council member Kramer, the November Recycling Report was unanimously approved as presented.

On a motion by Council member Yohe with a second by Council member Nagel, Wilbur Haas and Bill Roberts were unanimously reappointed to the Marietta-Donnegal Joint Authority for a three (3) year term and one (1) year term respectively.

Council member Rice wanted to point out that the reason that Bill is on that board is because he handles the Sewer and Trash Committee. The Borough has fought to have someone from the Borough to serve on the Marietta-Donnegal Joint Authority board and he does not want to see that position lost.

Council member Roberts would like to thank the current Council members that are leaving for their years of service and was nice working with them. As far as Mayor Overlander he has had the opportunity to work with him for sixteen years and the new Mayor is going to have big shoes to fill. The Mayor was available 24/7 for anyone that needed anything.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Oliver Overlander

Don't have anything for the fire police report. In the police report the budget was passed and we have a contract for the next five (5) years. Gene and the Mayor were at the police meeting and met with the union leaders on the contract and signed for future inclinations. The commission has a great dialogue with the Mayor. It's like we're family and we look out for each other. He thanked Council for doing a good job on the budget this year. He hopes that in the near future that Hazel Avenue does not get pushed back and that the resurface of that street will be completed.

President deVitory stated that the Liquid Fuels money will be going up from approximately \$60,000 to \$100,000 over the next several years. This will allow us to complete Hazel Avenue.

Mayor Overlander stated that we stopped Hazel Avenue until the completion of the Senior Housing. From Bank Street to Route 441 is still to be completed. He hopes that this project can be completed in the near future.

I do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Laws thereof and I will discharge the duties

of my office of the Councilperson of the Borough of Marietta with fidelity. I first took that oath of office January 11, 1972. With most people 1972 rings a bell because Agnes was the worst flood in the history for Marietta Borough. The only reason I was appointed to Council at that time was because Council members were dropping like flies. Council members didn't know what to do, it never happened before and they were just leaving. I was lucky to get the appointment, and I stayed on Council until December 31, 1981. That was nine (9) years and six (6) months. Then January 1, 1982 I took the oath again and I followed the oath until December of this year as Mayor. That has been 32 years. I have been around longer then some of the comments that have been made. I have been in public service for forty-one and one-half (41 ½) years consecutively in this borough. My large Mayor salary which has been a debate over the years, I do not get paid what they get paid in Harrisburg, Lancaster, York or even Philadelphia. I get minimum wage and my salary exist of \$350.00 per year, and I have always given that back in some way to the community. For example, the trees that are planted out in front of the Borough Office were taken out of my salary and this year I signed my check over to the Marietta Fire Department, which is very deserving.

My wife Judy is a retired Donegal School teacher, and I would like to thank her for her support over the years. Over the years I have attended over 1500 meetings and have received just as many phone calls over that time period. Judy answered three quarters of them. Family is very important to me. Judy and I have two sons and a daughter. Scott is a mounted police officer for Lancaster City. Oliver is a partner for a law firm in Lancaster and our daughter Olivia works for another law firm in Lancaster and we have seven (7) grandchildren. From seven months to fourteen years in age. They are the light of my life. At the age of 66 being a young dinosaur they are the most important individuals in my life.

I would also like to thank my business partner, Harry Hartman for his support over the years to allow me to have a flexible schedule in the business and to allow me to take care of Borough affairs. I would also like to thank him as the Mayor for the time that he has given to the Borough for the consultation work when the building was revamped.

Since July 11, 1972 the Borough has changed for the better in many ways. Getting through the Agnes Flood, the Borough was in a decline. At one time there was a lot of money in the Borough. Some of you may remember the Rich Family who were in the insurance business, owned a lot of ground. Ed Charles, Donegal Insurance he owned the restaurant uptown. Ed Charles did a lot for this town in a quiet way.

After the flood Borough residents did not have a sewer system in this town, people were tapped into wells and other things and the Borough made it mandatory that everyone hookup to the new Sewer plant that was built at the end of town. There were a lot of people at Borough Council that were mad and did not want to hook into the sewer system. This cleaned up the town and made it a better town. Public trash was another issue. There were seven (7) or eight (8) people that went around and picked up trash. People had burn barrels and some people didn't have anything, people through their trash on the River Shore. The Borough passed an Ordinance to have public trash collection which cleaned up the town. Zoning and Housing Ordinances were either implemented or updated to improve the town and we are continuously going through that process. We are going through that process now where we are trying to update our current Ordinances due to the changing times and language. Our streets were in very bad condition. We were able to improve that because Marietta fit the criteria. A depressed little town moderate to low income and that was the big boom days of the grant process. We were able to improve our roads and at that time move forward. Storm drains were also improved. They were added where needed or updated and all this was accomplished over several years and was done in phases because of the cost and because of the grant process. We fit the criteria so well that we received grants over a good stretch of time. After the grant process started, and the Borough was getting so many grants, Columbia, Mount Joy and Elizabethtown followed Marietta because they didn't want Marietta to get all

the money. Pioneer Fire Company was housed in this building along with the Police Department and the Borough Office. The Fire Company needed more room and more equipment and had the opportunity to build at their present location. The Borough Code states that the Borough should provide fire protection and police protection. Over the years the fire protection has been upgraded with the help of private monies and State and Borough funding along with members doing ongoing fund raisers. The Borough Offices and Council Chambers were improved. Police protection was another issue. We didn't have twenty-four (24) hour police protection. A lot of people when they move into town think we have a paid fire department, which we don't and that we have twenty-four (24) hour police protection. Years ago we had our own ambulance service. In 1996 is the year that we regionalized with East Donegal Township, Conoy Township and Marietta Borough and became Susquehanna Regional. This was one of the biggest improvements to the Borough. To have a police department twenty-four (24) hours a day the Borough cannot afford this on its own. East Donegal Township is a great neighbor and has done a lot for this Borough. Conoy Township is a great neighbor and also does a lot for this Borough.

With all the changes that have occurred in the Borough this has made Marietta a better place to live and I am proud to live here in the Borough. We lived across the street from a junkyard. I didn't complain to the Borough. When it came available, we bought the junkyard, cleaned it up and got rid of it. I turned it into a park and on occasion have had it opened. I and my business partner own the White Swan at 14 East Front Street and had it opened for the Candlelight tour. One time before the 1972 flood and one time after to show people that you can come back from a disaster and move forward.

John deVitry and his business partner Harry Hartman helped get the Candlelight Tour started, and also helped with the auctions for the Marietta Restoration. I feel that MRA (Marietta Restoration Association) does a good job but the original idea was to buy property, fix them up and sell the properties to get them back on the tax rolls. This is what used to take place early on. Hopefully they continue that process in the near future.

One thing that I won't miss is all the phone calls on what people thinks the Borough should do or not do. There are civil issues that the Borough will not get involved in. Nor will I miss the countless meetings. What I will miss is the relationships with Federal, State and Elected officials that have helped me over the years. One official for example is Dave Hickernell. On October 22 of this year Representative Hickernell helped pass a bill in Harrisburg that put on paper \$20.7 million dollars for the Marietta Flood Project. If the Borough can meet the criteria for its obligation and Dave and Council know what they are and are awaiting the cost factor.

County Commissioners have been very good to Marietta Borough. When we had the flood in 2011 all three County Commissioners were in the Borough asking our Emergency Manager Steve Bailey what can they do to help. We are very lucky that we have a great relationship with all these people.

Another improvement for the town was the dilapidated property on East Market Street that was the old foundry and was made into the Senior Housing this has made a great improvement to this area of town. So Dave White said back in the 80's best, "Marietta was destined to be a bedroom community we were just hoping to pay our bills and not lose our Charter and automatically become East Donegal Township." As long as Marietta can pay its bills and provide the services that it needs to provide, fire, police, we can keep our Charter.

In conclusion I would like to say to this Council that it has been a pleasure working with you and thank you for being a part and for sharing the time together in making Marietta the community it is today.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M. on a motion

by Council member Rice with a second by Council member Roberts.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer