

**Marietta Borough Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held January 13, 2015**  
**113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA**

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

The minutes of the December 9, 2014 Council meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

President Sargen stated that the first order of business is the Hearing for the pursuit of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) would be funding for a storm sewer replacement with associated inlets and will finish off with a new street surface. Council voted to pursue this Block Grant back in the October meeting. One of the requirements is to hold this meeting and everyone needs to make sure that you sign in on the sign in sheet.

Darrell Becker our engineer with ARRO stated that the project is on Gay Street from Market Street to Front Street. It is to replace the deteriorating storm drains that are on both sides of the street and will be replacing the storm sewers on Front Street. The Borough is requesting \$140,000.00 in CDBG Grant money. The total estimated project cost to be \$168,000.00. All the work should be confined to curb to curb. There is a process that needs to be followed to obtain the Grant money and we should hear sometime later this year if we are successful and will be able to start construction sometime near the end of the year.

Rich Waters asked if there are any blue prints for the project on this layout.

Darrell Becker stated that there are no blue prints at this point we are waiting to see if we receive the CDBG money.

Rich Waters asked then what are we voting on if we have nothing prepared to vote on.

Darrell Becker stated that hopefully the Borough will receive the Grant money and at that time the plans will be developed.

Rich Waters asked how you vote on something to get money if you don't show us a plan on what you're going to do. So let's see something on a blue print on what you're going to do.

President Sargen stated that the way we know that these storm sewers need replaced is several years ago there was a Robotic inspection done on the storm sewers and the sanitary sewers. Back in August or September the Development Authority contacted the Borough and was encouraging the Borough to pursue the grant. There was discussion during previous council meetings that we were looking at overlaying a street repair with a storm sewer repair. Unfortunately after reviewing hundreds of hours of video we either have a poor street surface or we have a bad storm sewer or infrastructure under that street. Then the decision came that we want to replace our storm sewers as part of our rainwater management program; that we are in the process of developing. If you go down South Gay Street you will see the patches on the Legion side of the street, there is brick underneath there. This is where the storm sewers have started to collapse. So we want to prevent this from happening. On the other side of the street the storm sewer has corrugated steel pipe and when it was placed in the ground it was round, now it is shaped like an egg. Over the years the compression of the cars on it have gave away to it. So based on the information from the inspection and reviewing all the other inspections in town this is how we came to the decision on doing this street. Also the Development Authority came to us and

said that we have not done anything lately in relation to our stormwater management. The grant is an 80/20 grant. The money for the Borough's portion will be coming from the liquid fuels allocation. Our cost will be around \$28,000 dollars. How we are going to work this is that we already have preliminary figures for the Hazel Avenue street project to be around \$107,000 dollars and with our cost on this project we may be able to get two (2) street projects completed this year using grant money and liquid fuels money.

Rich Waters asked if the sanitary sewer runs down the middle of Gay Street and why was this not seen then.

Darrell Becker stated that there was a comprehensive video done several years ago on the conditions of our infrastructure at that time. He was not around when they put the sanitary sewer in.

Ernest Lehman at 304 East Front Street asked if the storm lines on Front Street are going to be tied into the existing lines going out to the river. Sometimes they get clogged.

Darrell Becker stated that the lines going under the railroad tracks would not be done in this scope of the work. It would be very expensive to replace the line going under the railroad tracks.

President Sargen stated that since the foliage has been down he has been walking the river shore and taking pictures of the out flows, taking pictures of them and documenting everything. Over the years things have not been done to them. We have contacted our MS4 consultant before we move earth around. There is no permitting required to do maintenance on these out flows. Once the weather warms up we are going to clean these out and possibly get the tanker from the fire company and flush these lines out.

President Sargen stated that we need to pay attention to these outflows regardless of what we do on the Flood Control Project. If we do the stand-a-lone project in the future then we need to go down there and clean them out, flush them out as well as we can which will put us in the position to get to the next step.

Mayor Vegso asked what type of materials will be used.

Darrell Becker stated that they have plastic pipe, corrugated steel pipe, concrete, but once we start the design we will see, we would like to use plastic because it's easier to handle and less expensive.

Darrell Becker stated before he leaves he knows it was mentioned about Hazel Avenue project and it would be better for the Borough to move forward on that sooner than later to get the bidding process started.

There being no other comments or concerns President Sargen closed the hearing portion of the public meeting.

President Sargen opened the public comment session of Borough Council.

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

Bride Hannold – 552 East Market Street - She was looking for an update on the Robo Call System that was put in place a few months ago. She received her sewer and trash bill and did not see anything relating to this with her billing.

President Sargen stated that the best way to describe this is that it is dormant.

Bride asked if there is any help needed she would like to volunteer her time to get this program going.

President Sargen stated that we appreciate that and we have not forgotten about her offer.

Charles Shireman – 345 East Market Street – It is time to ask permission to hold the Marietta Memorial Day Parade from School Hill up through Bridge Street to the cemetery. Along with that he is asking for the Borough to carry the insurance rider to cover the parade.

Council member Overlander made the motion to allow the parade with a second by Council member Davis. Motion carries.

Mayor Vegso asked if we have ever had an insurance claim.

Charles stated that he had no knowledge of ever having a claim. In the past when the American Legion held the parade they carried the insurance rider through them, but once the parade committee was incorporated as a separate entity they had to provide the insurance and they did not have any property to place a rider on.

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

President Sargen stated that since the Borough is in the middle of the litigation on a driveway on Fairview Avenue we have been advised by our solicitor not to comment. It is not Rae Ann it is the Borough that cannot speak on it.

Victor Still – 6 East Hazel Avenue – He contacted Joyce Boyer in East Donegal Township and she told him that it is all up to the Borough and all of it needs to come through the Borough to be abated from the sewer bill.

President Sargen stated that the Borough has already abated the Borough's portion of the sewer bill.

Sharon Bradnick, secretary/treasurer stated that Joyce had contacted Ronda at three-thirty and Ronda gave me a note that you are to write a letter to the Joint Sewer Authority and address it to her and she will present it to the Board. We have already abated our portion of the bill, to get the treatment cost abated this will need to go through East Donegal Township. We cannot abate the treatment costs.

President Sargen stated that if you cut that line you may be able get that portion abated. If you get a certified plumber to cut and cap the line and certify that this was done.

Victor asked if we have this line cut and capped then the Borough would let them know to abate the property.

Jack Rice – 624 West Market Street – If he remembers correctly, back when the sewer lines were put into the borough the laterals belong to the borough and you had to pay to connect to the laterals. They just can't tear up outside and cut off the lateral. If they cut the lateral off in the basement then how do you know if they don't get a plumber in and reconnect it?

Dennis Straub stated that he felt sorry for Ronda because our filing system is a mess and why can't everything be organized.

President Sargen stated that last month we spoke about recodification. Through this new rezoning project we discussed when the best time to do the recodification is. By doing this will help the office be more organized with the ordinances. When you recodify you have to have your Borough solicitor involved in all the ordinances that you are going to change. So the timing is somewhat critical. There are a lot of things that need updated and we are trying to put an effort forth to get things straightened out.

Mayor Vegso stated that what we want is more than codification we want digitalization we want it all put on the computer so that people can look at this from home.

President Sargen stated that the most important thing is to codify and then proceed with the digital process. We have not gotten into the process this far yet. What he has stated was that through the rezoning project we have recognized that codifications may help it's not going to streamline everything. The Borough survives on two (2) books, the Ordinance Book and the Zoning Book. The Zoning Project will take care of the Zoning Book. They want to make sure that there is nothing conflicting with the two (2) books. So timing is everything.

Bride Hannold stated that her reason for bringing this up was to make sure that we are getting up to date with other municipalities in the surrounding areas. She was under the impression that Marietta would jump on board and get organized and have all the things out on the internet so the people can have access.

President Sargen stated that his priority is not digitalization at this point. His first priority is to get everything documented properly and then follow-up with getting things digitalized.

Nancy Barton – 19 South Locust Street – back in October Sharon Renninger and James Sargen walked up on Fairview Avenue and had previously discussed having a section of Fairview Avenue converted from one way to two way. She noticed on the agenda that Sharon Renninger is not here and she was to make a motion to move forward with this. Is this still going to happen?

President Sargen stated that we will make that motion in Sharon's absents.

Glenn Orr – 45 Fairview Avenue – speaking for the Fire Company that he has resigned as chief of the Fire Company and is now acting as assistant chief. It has been too much to act as President and Chief and work on the building. They received a new 2005 squad truck and will have in service within the next month. Waiting on the approvals from the prints and will be able to start construction on the building once we are able to get the permits. The addition will be to rent out. This will help pay for the electric and fuel bill. Mick Ebersole will be the acting Chief. The fire company will be doing control burn on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> at the Strube property on West Market Street.

Joyce Lehman – 304 East Front Street - The breakfast's at the Fire Company are excellent. Please put on your calendar and support the Fire Company. She appreciates everything the Fire Company does.

Glenn Orr states that the addition that they are putting on the Fire Company will be nice for when we have another flood in the Borough we will have an evacuation point and will have more room.

Rick Thomas – 471 Wasp Street – He sees that they are surveying at the boat club and was wondering what is going on down there. Is the trail coming between the railroad tracks and where they park their boats? They have been down there surveying for two days now.

President Sargen stated that the trail will not be on the boat club property the Borough has enough property to allow the trail to come through there. The Borough had a survey done and this survey basically said the same thing. The people that are doing the survey now are aware of that and they are verifying everything. The Borough has a slot of land between the boat club and the railroad tracks and we should be able to put the trail on this land without bothering the boat club property.

Rick Thomas asked if we have any design plans that they can look at.

President Sargen stated they are designing and permitting and hopefully they will have everything ready in February when he has is meeting with DCNR. The boat club will be part of the discussion.

Mayor Vegso stated that if the boat club wants to suggest that the trail come straight through that would make life easier for everyone.

Rich Waters stated why should we? We are not interested in you going through our property.

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 1/13/2015 the total general fund accounts are \$668,502.15. A motion by Council member Kramer with a second from Council member Davis, the General Fund Breakdown dated 1/13/2015 was approved as presented.

President Sargen stated that the appointments needed for 2015 are as follows:

- James Sargen – alternate Commissioner to the Susquehanna Regional Police Department
- Michael W. Davis, Barley, Snyder LLC – Borough Solicitor
- Darrell Becker, ARRO Consulting Group – Borough Engineer
- Sager, Swisher & Company – Borough Auditor
- Mark Harman, ARRO Consulting Group – Zoning Officer
- Harold Ebersole – Housing Officer
- Mark Harman, ARRO Consulting Group – Deputy Housing Officer
- Susquehanna Regional Police – Code Enforcement Officer
- Harold Ebersole – Deputy Code Enforcement Officer
- Steve Mohr – Animal Enforcement Officer
- George Syder, Commonwealth Code Inspectors – Building Code Official
- Rick Thomas – Vacancy Board Chair

Council member Overlander made the motion to accept the appointments as stated by President Sargen with a second by Council member Davis. Motion carries.

Mayor Vegso suggested that we put this list out on our website.

President Sargen stated that we will look into it.

President Sargen stated that the next order of business is the Resolution for Disposition of Specific Borough Records. Resolution 2015-01 this resolution is to purge the files. Council member Oliver made the motion to accept the Resolution with a second by Council member Kramer. A roll call vote was taken.

Steve Foreman – aye  
Oliver Overlander – aye

Eric Kramer – aye  
James Sargen – aye

Mark Davis – aye

Motion carries.

President Sargen read the resignation from Eric Keiser head of our Planning Commission. The resignation was to take effect immediately. Council member Overlander made a motion to accept the resignation with regret and a second by Council member Davis. Motion carries.

Rich Waters asked if anyone spoke with Eric.

President Sargen stated that he and others have spoken with him.

President Sargen stated that Council member Renninger is out this evening and he would like to move forward with the Streets and Highways and as discussed earlier we have pursued turning the West end of Fairview Avenue back into a two-way between Bridge Street and Gay Street. He and Council member Renninger did a door to door survey and were in favor of having this converted back to two-way. We need to advertise the Ordinance to make this change. Council member Davis made the motion to advertise the change for Fairview Avenue with a second by Council member Kramer. Motion carries.

President Sargen stated that we have discussed finishing off East end of Hazel Avenue and to have it bid out to Route 441. Darrell already knows that we will be discussing this and if everyone is in favor of this project we would like to allow Darrell to start the bidding process for East Hazel from Bank Street to Route 441. Council member Overlander made the motion to move forward on this project with a second by Council member Foreman. Motion carries.

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

Absent from meeting.

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

Nothing at this time.

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

Council member Foreman stated that he has started to reach out to GEARS to get the Summer Recreation Program started.

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

Council member Overlander stated that Eric Keiser will be missed. He was one of the individuals that had the knowledge and expertise to work with Planning and Zoning and will be missed. The Planning Commission does have persons which allow us to move forward with the rezoning process and work with AJ who is with Environmental Planning and Design. On January 22, public meeting with the Steering Committee from 7 to 9 will still take place. The public workshop that was scheduled for February 14th from 9 to 1 will also take place. The Planning Commission meets the week following council and so there next meeting will be February 20<sup>th</sup>. At that time the Planning Commission will need to reorganize and

there is an opening on the Planning Commission. The Borough will be accepting letters of interest to serve on the Planning Commission and to have those letters of interest to the Borough Office by January 30<sup>th</sup> by noon.

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

Mark Davis stated that The Pioneer Fire Company responded to eleven (11) QRS calls and sixteen (16) Fire Calls for the month of December. The year-end report the Pioneer Fire Company responded to one-hundred, sixty-six (166) QRS calls and three-hundred, thirty-five (335) Fire calls for the year. Fire Police for December had 12 calls with a total of thirty-two and one half (32 1/2) man hours and a total of forty-one (41) officers responded.

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

Council member Roberts was absent from the meeting. President Sargen gave his report.

The Marietta Sewer Department Savings Account at the end of December has a balance of \$99,136.37 and the Checking account has a balance of \$2,868.09. On a motion by Council member Davis with a second by Council member Kramer, the December Sewer Department Monthly Breakdown was unanimously approved as presented.

The Borough recycled 34,100 pounds of recyclables for December, and 8,520 pounds of yard waste. On a motion by Council member Overlander with a second by Council member Davis, the December Recycling Report was unanimously approved as presented.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Ray Vegso**

Mayor Vegso stated that he attended the Board meeting of the Rivertown's Group and learned a great deal about their programs and activities they do and they are a volunteer citizen group, non-profit and they focus on Marietta, Columbia and Wrightsville. Albert Storm is the president. This is the kind of initiative that we need to support and encourage. The Books for Children Program that Ernest and Joyce Lehman have made happen is another good example of citizen initiative. He encourages all citizens to consider what they can do to make a better quality of life in Marietta. It's our community and we do not need to always have Council involved.

Mayor Vegso stated that in regards to the minutes he would like to receive the approved minutes by email the next day after they are approved. This will avoid a lot of paper files. He would like this to be a regular practice of having the minutes emailed to him and each of the Council members once they are approved. When the minutes are on line it is not on his computer and he has to go there to read them.

Mayor Vegso stated that he has an email from PSAB in regards to training available for Stormwater MS4 permits that we have to deal with and the number of reports we are required have greatly increased. This is a free training that is offered. He has forwarded this email to each of the Council members. He suggests that someone on Council gets trained on this. He just wanted to share the information.

Mayor Vegso stated that the Police minutes and incident report are in the box. The commissioners are looking at the agreement document to make sure it is up to date and they are also going to consider the possibility that the reserve funds can be invested so that they can get a higher yield.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M. on a motion by Council member Overlander with a second by Council member Davis.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick  
Secretary/Treasurer