

**Marietta Borough Council  
Minutes of Meeting held March 11, 2014  
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA**

President deVitry with Council member Sargen, Foreman, Kramer, Roberts and Renninger 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 Clements. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

On a motion by Council member Roberts with a second by Council member Kramer, the minutes of the February 11, 2014 Council meeting were approved as presented.

President deVitry opened the public comment session of Borough Council.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Mark Harman, Engineer with ARRO, spoke on the Adoption of the Countywide Act 167 Stormwater Management Model Ordinance follow-up of last month's meeting. The Ordinance was given to the Solicitor for review and has made some clerical changes. There is a copy of the Ordinance in the Borough office for public review. He recommends that we move forward with the Ordinance. Next month we will adopt the Ordinance.

President deVitry asked for a motion from Council to move forward on the Ordinance and advertise the Ordinance. Council member Sargen made the motion with a second by Council member Roberts. The motion to advertise and move forward on the Adoption of the Countywide Act 167 Stormwater Management Model was unanimously approved.

Chief Ed Hauck, Chief of Susquehanna Regional Police spoke on safety awareness for the community. In year 2013 the Susquehanna Regional Police responded to 7,489 calls. This would be approximately 600-700 calls a year per officer. In Marietta Borough they investigated 831 crimes very successfully. Some things that the citizens of Marietta Borough could do to help them are to pick up the phone and call them. They need our citizens to be their eyes. Neighborhood watch programs are a good program but found over the years that if the police department is not involved in the program the program does not work.

Mayor Vegso commented that the Chief has prepared an annual summary with statistics in it that the Borough has in their possession and is about twenty (20) pages long.

Christopher Barton - 19 S. Locust Street - Some citizens are meeting and are discussing Marietta, the challenges that the Borough faces and what we can do to help and where we would like to be. In regards to open communication he handed out minutes from the meetings that they already held.

Marcus Snow - 310 West Market Street - They also have started a group called "Marietta Neighbors Helping Neighbors". What can they do to help and they decided to start with informational sessions. They are having a meeting with Steve Bailey our EMS Coordinator on April 9. They have a mission statement in place, "Marietta Neighbors Helping Neighbors is an independent group of concerns citizens that seek to connect with their neighbors to raise awareness, educate, and establish informal neighbor networks with the aim to be better prepared for a public safety or emergency event. MNHN seeks to fill the public safety gap not currently covered by municipal emergency management plans to include: helping neighbors develop preparedness plans; sponsoring fire, police, safety, and emergency services informational and educational sessions; identifying neighbors willing and able to help and neighbors potentially in need during an emergency; and developing a sense of neighborhood community where neighbors help neighbors in times of need."

Council member Sargen suggested that the group look into having CPR training.

Jay Beaston – 20 South Mulberry Street, Apt. 1 – Question to the Mayor, in the future do we have anything set up for people that have to evacuate?

Mayor Vegso commented that we have a very sophisticated plan in place. Steve Bailey is our Emergency Management Coordinator and the detail that is included in the planning of an event.

Joel Myers – 151 West Market Street – What do we know about a Norfolk Rail Exercise coming up?

Glenn Orr, Chief of Pioneer Fire Company responded that this is a table top exercise. It will be held at the Lancaster Emergency Center. This is not for the public. This exercise is for Elected Officials, Emergency Management Coordinators, and First Response Agency Leadership and Supervisory Staff that would be involved in a railroad incident. It will not be held in the Borough of Marietta.

Harold Kulman – 114 East Market Street – Would like to know if the Emergency Management Team is aware that the trains are carrying oil and other combustible oils on the train cars. He would like to have Norfolk Southern help to cut the risk at our crossings in the Borough. He read that the trains reroute these types of railroad cars. The stock price went up for the Norfolk Southern stock and if they are making money then the Railroad should help offset the costs to the Borough for cutting the risk at our crossings.

President deVitry commented that the Borough is speaking with Norfolk Southern in regards to the crossings and they stated that they would increase their inspections and use newer equipment and help the Emergency Management along in the towns.

Council member Renninger stated that she lives along the railroad and sees that when the railroad cars are loaded they travel a lot slower. She does see that the railroad is being mindful of their speed through town.

Lisa Rutter – 20 S. Mulberry Street, Apt. 2 – Is the EMS class for the community?

Glenn Orr, Chief of Pioneer Fire Company stated that this is only for the Fire Company and EMS responders. He also stated that the numbers and signs on the railroad cars lets you know what is in that car and if an emergency happens this information helps the Fire Company and EMS responders on how to handle the contents that is in that railroad car.

Raymond Cameron – 20 S. Mulberry Street, Apt. 2 – Couple of nights ago he phoned the police to report that someone was throwing pebbles at his window. The police did not respond. What can one do? He has a pit bull dog and could let the dog out and take care of the problem himself but he does not want to do that.

Chief Ed Hauck responded that he would check into the call.

Bridi Hammold – 552 East Market Street – the road in front of her house had an issue with the waterlines and now there is a puddle in front of her house when it rains. Prior council members were looking into it. Also is someone looking into the summer recreation program for Marietta Borough? A suggestion would be to contact GEARS in Elizabethtown to see if they would come in and help. Last she wanted to bring up the crossing guard at the bottom of the school on Market Street, when the crossing guard is crossing

children in that intersection the traffic is still moving through the intersection. Is traffic allowed to move through the intersection while the children are crossing? She appreciates her service.

Chief Ed Hauck stated that she is not stopping all the traffic. It is not her responsibility to do that. He will have one of his day shift Officers monitor her and report back to the Borough. She was trained and they will go back out and look at the situation.

Lisa Rutter – 20 S. Mulberry Street, Apt. 2 – A few years back we used to have Block Parties. Do we need a Block Party?

President deVitry stated that she should get with her neighbors.

Council member Roberts stated that in August there is a National Night Out that is sponsored by the local police department. She may want to check with the local police department.

Holly Willing – 15 South Chestnut Street – She has also been uncomfortable with the crossing guard for the last couple of years and feels that we need to have someone out there that is able to take control of the situation. She does not feel that the current crossing guard is that person.

Paul Myers – 30 North Lumber Avenue – The Flood Protection project is still up in the air. Does that mean Borough residents still have a say or is it up to Council? If residents do have a say, can the residents get some updated information. Based on the information that he has received from residents so he and his wife decided to check this out on their own and made a trip to Sunbury to look at the Levee their and speak with people in that area. They would like to see Phase I put in place but as far as Phase II and III he feels that they need further information.

President deVitry commented that he has had a lot of input from residents about the project. He sat down with the Mayor after the last meeting and discussed pursuing an alternative plan. At this time he does not have anything to present on this plan because he is still doing research.

Karen Sullivan – 128 Waterford Avenue - Would like to thank everyone for arranging for the branch pickup. She would like the Borough to open the lot again because the branches were still frozen.

Council member Foreman stated that the Borough is looking at opening up the lot again on March 22 and is looking for volunteers.

Nancy Barton – 19 South Locust Street - how would you find out about this information? She was not aware of this.

Council member Foreman stated that it was posted out front on the Borough Bulletin, and the Marietta Traveler had it on their website and it was on the Marietta face book page.

Rich Kushner – 573 Essex Street – In regards to the bicycle race that he brought up at last month's meeting. The tentative proposed date is July 19, 2014. If anyone would like information on this they can email him at [Rich@swedishmotors.com](mailto:Rich@swedishmotors.com). They would like to hold the event late afternoon or evening so the bicyclist can have dinner with their families in town.

Ken Koser – 36-40 West Market Street – Koser Brothers have been doing a lot of work to the building and they have six (6) apartments upstairs. They have been putting a lot of feelers out in regards to the store fronts and have not received any interest. They would like to see if they could convert these into

apartments. He has walked around Marietta and sees about a dozen store fronts that are vacant. He does not have any plan to do work on the store fronts until he has a candidate to rent them.

President deVitry commented that from the Regional Comprehensive Plan and from the Planning Commission they would really like to keep the store fronts in the business district. Without the store fronts being fixed up they are not in move in condition, it will be hard to have someone rent them. The Borough has been working on the larger economic redevelopment of the town and we have projects here like the development of the trail that hopefully will bring in more people.

Council member Sargen asked if Koser Brothers would have the store fronts in a ready show condition for Marietta Day. They are doing an outstanding job on the building. He may not look like it from the front but if you look at it in the rear you will see that they are doing an excellent job.

Council member Renninger asked if they had potential renters for the apartments, and Mr. Koser stated that he will not have a problem with that. His concern is with having three (3) empty store fronts.

Marcus Snow commented that he always been aware that the tenant drives the store front. The Koser Brothers would need to know who was going to rent the store front and would make the space to the tenants liking.

Council member Roberts stated that they could at least repoint the brick in the front of the building or do some cosmetic work to the front to make it more appealing. He admires the Koser Brothers for taking the risk.

President deVitry stated that there is no single, viable, rentable store front downtown that if a business would want to come in today that is open for lease that is viable. There are empty store fronts in the Borough and the owners do not have an interest in opening a store front in their buildings.

Jack Rice – 624 West Market Street – would like to thank Borough Council for the effort that they are making to give the citizens the opportunity to get rid of their tree limbs. He feels that they need to advertise more and give them more time especially the people that work all day. If you don't give residents more time then you will see the limbs at the end of their yards for years along with the rest of their trash.

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

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE/PERSONNEL/FINANCE –President David deVitry**

On a motion by Council member Roberts with a second from Council member Sargen, the General Fund Breakdown dated 3/11/2014 was unanimously approved as presented.

President deVitry stated the finance committee met with the auditors and reviewed the 2013 Audit in great detail and we have obtained a clean audit for 2013. The audit is available for the public to review.

Council member Renninger stated that members of council were not given time to review the audit and was told by President deVitry that it was just received. She is opposing the motion because she had not looked it over.

On a motion by Council member Roberts with a second from Council member Kramer, President deVitry asked for a roll call vote for the acceptance of the audit:

Steve Foreman – aye  
Bill Roberts – aye

Eric Kramer – aye  
Sharon Renninger – nay

James Sargen – aye  
David deVitry – aye

The 2013 Audit was accepted and approved as presented.

The next three (3) items are grant requests in relation to the Northwest River Trail. There is a big new extension on the Decatur Street Trail Head currently it is a stone lot with no amenities. National Park Service Grant for \$62,500.00 grant which requires a 50% matching grant. We will go through the DCNR for the 50% matching grant. The grant through DCNR will require no matching grant.

President deVitry asked for a motion to proceed with the National Park Service Grant. On a motion by Council member Foreman with a second from Council member Roberts the National Park Service Grant was unanimously approved to move forward.

President deVitry asked for a motion to approve the DCNR Grant Resolution for \$62,500.00. On a motion by Council member Roberts with a second from Council member Sargen, President deVitry asked for a roll call vote for the DCNR Grant Resolution.

Steve Foreman – aye  
Bill Roberts – aye

Eric Kramer – aye  
Sharon Renninger – aye

James Sargen – aye  
David deVitry – aye

The DCNR Grant Resolution was unanimously approved.

President deVitry asked for a motion to approve the Eater Foundation Grant that is for the matching funds for the original DCNR Grant of \$224,000.00 and is putting in \$20,000.00 for the Phase I of the Northwest River Trail development. On a motion by Council member Roberts with a second from Council member Kramer the Eater Foundation Grant was unanimously approved.

Mayor Vegso stated that the Borough owes a great deal to Michele Marsh for playing significant role in her work.

President deVitry stated the Flood Insurance Committee was approved last month and the appointments for the Flood Insurance Committee are Sharon Renninger, Eric Kramer and the President of Council as the chair. They will be looking for a CSR Coordinator.

Tax Collector, Lillian Hill presented a Resolution to President deVitry to collect a fee for non-sufficient funds for collecting balanced check fees from the bank. President deVitry asked for a motion for Resolution 2014-03 for the Tax Collector to collect a fee in the amount of \$20.00. There was a motion by Council member Roberts with a second from Council member Renninger.

Council member Roberts stated that Lillian Hill would need to post a conspicuous sign in her home stating the fee for collection for NSF checks.

President deVitry asked for a roll call vote to approve the Resolution 2014-03.

Steve Foreman – aye  
Bill Roberts – aye

Eric Kramer – aye  
Sharon Renninger – aye

James Sargen – aye  
David deVitry – aye

The 2014-03 Resolution was unanimously approved.

President deVitty wanted to remind everyone of the Donegal Baseball/Softball 5K that will be held on April 6<sup>th</sup> and they are still looking for runners.

### **STREETS & HIGHWAYS – Council member Allen J. Clements**

Council member Foreman filled in for Allen Clements. He wanted to thank Jeff and Glenn for their long hours during the snow storms and thank the residents for their patience for the limited parking and other inconveniences.

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

Council member Kramer stated that the Borough had the Mayor's office painted and a new kitchen floor laid. This was done by a community service individual and the only cost to the Borough was the materials.

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

Council member Foremen stated that the branch drop off was a success. We will look at doing this at least one more time.

There will be a Chiques Park Clean Up on March 29, 2014 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, rain or shine, hot lunch provided, off Furnace Road. They are trying to get one-hundred (100) volunteers.

Council member Foreman made a motion for New Hope Christian Fellowship to use the Flanagan's Park for an outdoor worship service on Easter Sunday from 8:30 – 9:00 AM with a second motion from Council member Renninger the use of Flanagan's Park was unanimously approved.

### **PLANNING/ZONING/HOUSING – Council member Sharon Renninger**

Council member Renninger would like to make a motion to accept the revised RFP Smart Growth Zoning Ordinance and move forward in the advertising of the RFP Smart Growth Zoning Ordinance with a second by Council member Sargen the revised RFP and advertising of the RFP was unanimously approved.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY – Council member James Sargen**

Council member Sargen stated that The Pioneer Fire Company responded to nineteen (19) QRS calls and thirty-six (36) Fire Calls for the month of February. The Special Fire Police responded to nine (9) calls and put twenty-eight (28) men out on the street for a total of 22.5 man hours.

Council member Sargen went over the parking meter information that he accumulated with statistics. The information indicates that there are parking issues on some portions of West Market Street with meters. This information is to help Council make a decision on how to handle the parking meter issue.

Council member Sargen would like to bring to the community's attention that they should not be breaking up snow and throwing it on the street. Please keep in mind the motorcycle drivers. This is a hazard to them and also against Borough Ordinance.

Council member Renninger stated that the information that James put together is very thorough and much appreciated.

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

On a motion by Council member Sargen with a second by Council member Kramer, the February Sewer

Department Monthly Breakdown was unanimously approved as presented.

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

Council member Roberts asked for a motion to move \$100,000.00 from the Sewer Savings Account to the Sewer Improvement Fund. On a motion by Council member Sargen with a second by Council member Kramer the movement of \$100,000.00 from the Sewer Savings Account to the Sewer Improvement Fund was unanimously approved.

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

Mayor Vegso stated that the Borough is paying \$480.00 per fire hydrant rental per year. Other neighboring towns are paying half that. In about seventeen (17) months this will change. This amount currently is high because they did a rebuild of the fire hydrants and in seventeen (17) months this cost will be reduced.

Mayor Vegso is so happy that everyone came and had an active open public session. This is your community and all these committees are wonderful. He also found out that the Community House has a committee to re-beautify the Borough.

In regard to the Flood Project, he is in an advisory role and has no authority over the Flood Project. He generated a chart to help Council, and he sent this chart out by e-mail. David and he got together and spoke about the Flood Project and David proposed and he agreed on a smaller project, which would be the flapper values. This chart is to get things moving. The preliminary work on the flapper values would be the same work that is required for the DEP larger project. There is still engineering work that needs to be done.

Council member Renninger would like to make a motion to get the facts and figures together from an engineer for this project.

Council member Roberts stated that if we sign the agreement from the State then the Borough is committed to the agreement. Can the Borough do the flapper values then sign the agreement if they decide to proceed on the other phases?

President deVitry commented on the chart that the Mayor made up, the numbers on it are made up. These figures are still a debate in Congress. We do not know about the flapper values as far as the engineering. The Borough would be looking for grants to help pay for the flapper values. The Borough doing the flapper value is not part of the DEP project.

Council member Sargen stated that if this motion is approved as a stand alone project, only unless we have information available to us that says we need to go to the next step, and then we explore the next step. If we pass the motion will he stop hearing about the signing of the Sponsorship Agreement?

Again Council member Renninger stated that her motion is that we hire or research the numbers of what the cost of the project is. Is it feasible and what is the cost?

Council member Roberts seconded the motion to have an engineer look at what it would cost the Borough to engineer this project. The motion was unanimously approved in engaging the engineer in the alternative project.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M. on a motion by Council member Roberts with a second by Council member Kramer.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick  
Secretary/Treasurer