

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

President Renninger opened the meeting with Council member Foreman, Roberts, Davis, Overlander, Hannold, 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 Kramer. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the September 8, 2015 Council meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

PUBLIC SESSION

Debra Rosser-Hogben, Milanof-Schock Library – She would like to let us know that they are reaching out to the Borough for a three (3) percent increase from our donation from last year. The library raises forty-eight (48) percent of their budget. They have three (3) major fund raisers. They replaced the roof and they had generous private donations which allowed them to convert from oil to gas and replace the boiler. She would like for the Borough when we are working on our budget to keep them in mind. Debra is retiring from the library and would like to thank everyone for allowing her to participate at our meetings.

Council member Hannold stated that the library is important as far as electronic devices that have come out and she feels that the library has done an excellent job in keeping up with the changes. She hopes that everyone knows that you can download books to your reading devices.

Debra stated that the library is keeping up with electronic resources. One of the things that she is finding is keeping up with people that are coming in and asking to use the computers because when filling out an application for a job it needs to be done on line. If you want to apply for benefits you have to apply on line. A lot of people are not adept on the computer and people are coming to the staff for help with these things. So the library is important in that area. There was a nationwide research done and eighty-seven (87) percent of the responses was the most important thing that libraries can do is to help pre-school education. They are very involved in the community.

President Renninger stated that the library also offers classes on topics, such as knitting and learning a second language. Sharon stated that the borough will consider the library's request at our budget meeting.

Rich Kushner – 573 Essex Street – Since we are speaking about budget he would like to throw out an idea. Since we had two years of a successful bike race, we would like to do it again. This year we had the fireworks and bike race on the same day. He was speaking with Glenn to see next year if it is possible to have the bike race and the carnival for fireworks on the same day. Next year this will allow us to keep people in town. He would like to thank everyone in the Borough that has contributed and the more involvement that we can get, the more money we can raise. They would also like to propose a firemen's race which would be two laps in full equipment. He has a check for the parks and recreation department.

President Renninger asked if Rich was looking at expanding the volunteer committee.

Rich stated that absolutely, the more help that we have the better, especially if those people have ideas on whom else to solicit for funding. The bigger the pot the more competitors will come in. If anyone would like to help they can reach out to him at rich@swedishmotors.com.

Council member Davis stated that he would like to thank Rich for the five hundred (500) dollar check that was donated to the fire police. Thank you.

Jay Sensenig – 566 East Front Street – Presented the Borough with a thank you card made by the children in the community for the playground equipment that was installed on Front Street. They are enjoying it and wanted to thank the Borough.

President Renninger stated that it was wonderful that the kids participated in this. It was a community thing and we are glad the kids are happy with it.

Ernest Lehman – 304 East Front Street – Stated that they had a little streak of vandalism in the borough and it's not unusual this time of year, it is hard to catch the vandals. There were four (4) of them and they smashed pumpkins on the streets and took political signs and removed. The little free libraries they took books and ripped out pages from the books and scattered them around town. They are teenagers. Thank god no one was hurt. There are a lot of children using the libraries. Just keep an eye out for your neighbors. This occurred around 9:00 PM. He also will be installing cameras at all the little libraries.

President Renninger stated that if anyone knows the parents that if they are confronted that maybe they can clean up their mess and give back to the community.

Glenn Mazis – 264 West Front Street – Thelma Brady was upset because she takes care of cats in the neighborhood and one of her favorite cats was cut in half last evening. She was going to report it to the police.

Council member Davis stated that he has heard that cats in town are being poisoned in town.

President Renninger stated that if you are walking your dog be aware of what your dog sniffs at or licks because if there are items out there it may affect your dog.

Leah Nagle – 224 East Market Street – Stated that there is a speeder in town around 3:00 and 4:00 AM that was speeding down Market Street and she phoned the police, so if anyone else hears them if they could phone it in also.

Ms. Wolf – Marietta Senior Apartments – She asked if Halloween is on October 30th. The Senior Apartments will be having hot dogs for the treat or treaters.

Public comment session was closed.

ADMINISTRATIVE/PERSONNEL/FINANCE – President Renninger

President Renninger stated before us is the General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated 10/13/2015 the total general fund accounts are \$822,601.97. A motion by Council member Overlander with a second from Council member Roberts, the General Fund Breakdown dated 10/13/2015 was approved as presented.

President Renninger stated the tax collector monthly report for the month of September, turned in by Lillian Hill, Tax Collector collected \$3,963.26. The tax collector also sent out seventy-six (76) reminder notices this month. There was a motion from Council member Davis to accept this report with a second by Council member Roberts. Tax report was unanimously approved.

President Renninger stated that we need to accept of the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement in which the Borough receives 5% of the gross receipts from the cable receipts from the Borough. The agreement has been reviewed by the attorney and this agreement comes up every fifteen years. They had asked to extend it thirty years but from the opinion of the solicitor he asked them to take it back down to fifteen. The rate is a federal cap. Council member Davis made a motion to accept the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement for the next fifteen years and Council member Hannold seconded the motion. The Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement was unanimously approved.

Council member Hannold asked if Comcast is the only one that does this. Do the other companies not do this?

President Renninger stated that other companies have satellites so there is no franchise agreement. Comcast they actually run their cable lines throughout town therefore the Borough receives a fee.

President Renninger asked to hold an executive session.

Council adjoined at 7:30 PM

Council re-adjoined at 7:41 PM

President Renninger stated that our executive session was to discuss payment of an overage on the Hazel Avenue paving project. The final invoice came in \$18,000.00 over the invoice out of our liquid fuels money. We have discussed this with the auditors and this can be taken out of our capital reserve account. In an effort to make whole the partnership between the engineering firm and how this whole process went, ARRO agreed to reimburse us one-half of the cost. This money will then need to be placed back into the capital reserve account. The overage cannot come from liquid fuels because we were not notified about the overage in time to revise our report on the project.

Council member Davis made a motion to take the money from the capital reserve account to pay for the overage on the Hazel Avenue project, with a second by Council member Hannold. Motion was unanimously approved.

STREETS & HIGHWAYS – Council member Hannold

Council member Hannold stated that speed is brought up at each meeting and she contacted the Chief of Police and had a meeting with him and she discussed the complaints that she receives. He discussed the problems that he has enforcing the speed. They cannot use radar. The street needs to have good sight and he feels that there is not a big problem within the borough. She stated that she did not have any data referencing that. What she asked of him was to give six (6) hours a month devoted to speed. So we can collect that information and make an informed decision. She will be following up on this.

In relation to speed, Steve Foreman had asked her to look into East Front Street in relation to Front Street Park and he had asked her to look into speed bumps. Speed bumps cannot be used on Borough Streets. She has information on it and would be happy to make copies for those that would like a copy. A speed bump is used normally in a parking lot or a private area and the reason is that a car is forced to slow down to five (5) mph. So we can't put a speed bump on a road that has a twenty-five (25) mph speed limit. Some areas may use speed humps. These would be acceptable in areas with a speed below thirty-five (35) mph. Here again they are urging a traffic study before anything is constructed to see if it is warranted. She also looked into crosswalks for this area and the problem is that it is a midblock crosswalk. All our crosswalks throughout town are at intersections or corners. Again they would recommend that a traffic study be done. She had Glenn our road master paint "slow" on the street to make people aware.

Council member Hannold stated that she had complaints on sidewalks that were recently installed. The permits were issued; the language in the Ordinance is tricky. Our Ordinance calls for a four (4) foot sidewalk. ADA requirements are thirty-six (36) inches. Our Ordinance goes over that. The location is not mentioned in our Ordinance but if you look at the picture in our Ordinance it shows the sidewalk abutting the curb. The permits that were issued were sidewalks that did not abutt the curb. They had a grass strip. Nowhere in the Ordinance does it say that the grass strip is not allowed, but an exception would have to be made by Council. It also states that input would be needed by the Borough engineer. The engineer was asked and he did not see any adverse reason that this strip could not be put in. She would like Council to approve these two addresses which were 462 and 466 East Front Street.

Council member Overlander so moved and Council member Roberts seconded the motion.

President Renninger stated that we have a first and a second to approve the sidewalks at the two locations. The approval of the sidewalks was unanimously approved.

Council member Hannold stated that handicap ramps were installed on South Bridge Street and Hazel Avenue. This was discussed several months ago and as stated last month we were running out of time. We were able to do this street and we also finished in the business district, Mulberry Avenue and Market Street and Church Avenue and Market Street ADA ramps. All of this work came in under budget and concludes our ADA work for this year and she is compiling a list for next year.

Council member Hannold asked if anyone had any input that they had noticed from the bagging of meters on East Market. The reason that she bagged the meters on East Market Street is if the new zoning goes through, Market Central in the new zoning will only be on West Market Street and does not extend to East Market. So she would have a hard time justifying why we have meters on one section of East Market Street. She is very fortunate to be off work in the afternoons and she has been popping in the office to check if there are any complaints and the most cars that have been parked there at any one time during the meter parking time is five(5) vehicles.

President Renninger stated that there is only one business in that area.

Council member Hannold stated that yes; there is only one business in this area and no other place for a business to go in. If this pattern continues and she thinks the zoning will pass, she asked if anyone here sees a problem with removing these meters.

Mayor Vegso stated that regardless if the zoning goes through or not it is obvious that we don't need these meters so take the meters out.

Council member Hannold stated that she is keeping the meters bagged another month and she hopes to come next month with an Ordinance to remove these meters from East Market.

President Renninger asked what is involved in removing the meters from the sidewalks and what are you doing with the meters?

Council member Hannold stated that these meters are hard to find and we will retain them. We will put this on Glenn and Bills to do list. We will need to have concrete work done when we pull these meters so they may just stayed bagged until next spring when we are able to do the work. She would also like to add to that Ordinance when we remove the parking meters to have parking permits. What she has heard from residents in the area is that they understand that they have to pay for the meters and they accept

the fact that they have to pay for the meters but they would like to have a parking permit so that they do not have to have the inconvenience of running out and plugging the meters every two (2) hours. She would like to add to the Parking Ordinance a Parking Permit Plan. She does not have all the details. There are sixty-three (63) meters and she does not want to sell more than half of them as parking permits. The fairest way would be to sell thirty (30) permits annually on a first come, first serve bases.

President Renninger stated that the best thing to do is get a proposal on paper for everyone to review and we can all look at it. This is a good idea to do this. It is a service to the community without losing the revenue that we would get from the parking meters.

Council member Roberts stated that thirty (30) permits would be more than enough and he doesn't feel there will be thirty people that will be parking there during the day. West Market Street is no worse than East Market Street during the day. Most of the parking permits that you see around the area such as Lancaster is really congested area and is so people can park in the area of their house. In the evening when everyone is home is when things are congested and we don't have that problem in Marietta.

Council member Hannold stated that she agrees that we don't have the issues that Lancaster City has but she does not want to exceed thirty (30) permits and we may only sell five (5).

Council member Overlander asked when she commented "they" was she speaking of property owners or apartment dwellers. The only reason that the meters are there is to keep spaces open for businesses. He hopes that we keep the permits as much as if they are plugging the meters.

Council member Hannold stated property owners stated what an inconvenience that it is. Her quick run-down is that there is forty-seven (47) weeks out of the year that residents would have to plug the meters, six dollars a week. The reason it is forty-seven (47) weeks is because our Ordinance reads that they do not have to plug the meters between Thanksgiving and January 1. To come up with an easy way to purchase these permits annually it would cost \$250.00 in January, \$225.00 for February, March \$200.00 and by the time you get to November it would be \$25.00 and there would be no discount.

Mayor Vegso stated that renters should be able to purchase these also and are the permits transferable between vehicles.

Council member Hannold stated that she would not see why not.

BUILDINGS & SPECIAL PROJECTS – Council member Eric Kramer

Council member Kramer was not with us this evening so there is nothing at this time.

PARKS & RECREATION – Council member Steve Foreman

Council member Foreman stated he would like to thank Bridey for helping at movie night and the Bartons for movie night and Glenn and Bill for the playground. Ernie Lehman for helping to drive our community service guys and the Kushner's for the donation to the parks. Every time he is looking for volunteers it is always the same people and Marietta is lucky to have them.

PLANNING/ZONING/HOUSING – Council member Oliver Overlander

Council member Overlander stated that he has nothing to report this evening.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY – Council member Mark Davis

Mark Davis stated the Pioneer Fire Police responded to four (4) calls and twenty-seven (27) officers totaling sixty-nine (69) hours on duty for September. Remember you can pick up the glow sticks on Halloween night in front of the Borough Office. He also wanted to thank the Kushners for their donations to the Fire Police and the Parks. Thank you. The Pioneer Fire Company had twenty-two (22) Fire Calls for the month of September and seventeen (17) QRS calls. He would like to add that they have had a request to switch ambulance services. We currently have Susquehanna Valley from Columbia and we have had a request to switch to Northwest EMS which has a station in Maytown as our primary.

Mayor Vegso stated that the Chief of Police had been contacted by Northwest EMS and that it was a good idea to switch to them because they always have an ambulance there. He would like to engage in some fact gathering before we make a decision. There are four different calls and the total of Marietta is served by Northwest EMS for class one (1) calls. He did ask each of these organizations to give us a letter on why they should or shouldn't have the business and the letters he received is what he expected them to say. The only price information that he has is that if you subscribe under Susquehanna Valley it is 51, 71, 81, which is single, couple, family. Northwest EMS is less which is 45, 60, and 79. He has no recommendation at this time and he was going to bring it up to Council and we may want to do a survey with the public.

Council member Roberts stated that if it's not broken, don't fix it.

President Renninger stated that the Fire Company has asked that they have the QRS, and they are the ones that approached her and if we would be willing to acknowledge Northwest.

Glenn Orr with the Fire Company stated that he is not involved with the QRS that much but that one of the reasons that they wanted Northwest in is because they are stationed in Maytown and their response is better.

Council member Roberts stated that three (3) miles is three (3) miles.

Council member Davis stated that the service is about the same and the problems that we are a little tighter with Maytown. Service has been good with both companies.

Mayor Vegso stated he would think that there would be more of a traffic delay coming off of Chiques then there would be from Maytown.

Josh Robertson with Susquehanna Valley stated that how things are dispatched and broken up into Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, with Class 1 being life threatening calls. The way the County works is that each station gets assigned an address and base. Class 2 calls are serious injuries that require lights and sirens and then you have Class 3 that are not an emergency such as taking someone to a doctor appointment or a transport. Each municipality has a right to pick their preferred provider. Since 2001, Susquehanna Valley has been Marietta's preferred provider. There is no official agreement. When they have customer complaints they go make formal apologies. They have some of the highest rates in the state.

President Renninger asked as far as the preferred provider what significance does that carry for the individual that is going to be served by the ambulance service.

Josh Robertson stated that as the preferred provider that mean County will dispatch any ambulance that is within eight (8) miles of the address. Columbia would be dispatched first then Mount Joy and then West Hempfield, and you would have potentially all three ambulances here on a Class 2 or 3. They are currently looking at housing an ambulance in the area for twelve (12) hours a day. He would like to meet

with the fire company with his CEO and any Council members in the near future.

Mayor Vegso asked what data was available or could be obtained that would be objective to make comparisons.

Josh Robertson stated that they have the County 911 reports.

Council member Roberts stated that his concern is if Susquehanna is the preferred provider how many more citizens have subscribed to their services if we change. He feels that we should stay with the status quo.

Council member Hannold stated that anyone that has already paid their membership and if we change and they honor the membership then it is no big deal. Class 1's Northwest EMS comes almost all the time. Does Northwest EMS come on Class 2 and 3 when Susquehanna is busy? So if we switch this and Northwest was the main provider would Susquehanna come on Class 2 and 3's when they are busy.

Josh Robertson stated that they would come on Class 1's. They would be second ALS for Class 1. So the preferred provider would take all Class 1, 2, and 3's, but since they don't have a second ambulance then Susquehanna would be on the second due calls.

Mayor Vegso asked what percentage of the calls are Class 1 verse Class 2 and 3.

Josh Robertson stated that he did not have those figures with him and that when they get together he can supply us with those numbers. They have an ambulance stationed at Sheetz on Route 441.

President Renninger asked if they have a contract with Sheetz, Rutter's or because it's a public parking lot.

Josh Robertson stated that they are working that out with Sheetz. Their goal is to have a place to station an ambulance for twelve hours a day for peak volume days.

President Renninger stated that our Health and Safety Committee should set up a meeting and discuss this and then make recommendations to Council.

Council member Roberts stated that we just stay the same we don't need to change anything. The one to get here the fastest is already taken care of in the cad from the County.

SEWER & TRASH – Council member Bill Roberts

Council member Roberts stated the Marietta Sewer Department Savings Account at the end of September has a balance of \$121,877.31 and the Checking account has a balance of \$3,175.12. On a motion by Council member Davis with a second by Council member Hannold, the September Sewer Department Monthly Breakdown was unanimously approved as presented.

The Borough recycled 31,080 pounds of recyclables for September. On a motion by Council member Overlander with a second by Council member Foreman, the September Recycling Report was unanimously approved as presented.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Ray Vegso

Mayor Vegso stated that Halloween will be Friday October 30th from 6-8 PM. The police data is in the

box in the back. He thanked the Fire Fighters and different responders he learned after the fact that Brandon Smith our Deputy Chief was first on the scene and he did a good job and he wanted to give them a special thanks.

The Mayor has a Proclamation for the Bethel AME Church that he read for 196 years of worship and the oldest church in Marietta. He congratulated them and this is a great thing.

The Mayor received a letter from Armstrong notifying us that they submitted an air quality test to the PA DEP for modifications to the ceiling plant in Marietta. His thought that this is routine and he is going to make arrangements to go visit the plant.

Glenn Orr with Pioneer Fire Company stated that the Fire Company has MSD sheets on any company and the Mayor may want to check with East Donegal Township to see if they have their MSD sheets on file with East Donegal Township Fire Company.

The Mayor stated that by his surprise he discovered in the new zoning documents on page seventy-one (71) that the Mayor is responsible for an annual report and he does not feel that it is his job and until someone proves to him that it is his job he will not be doing that.

President Renninger stated that we have had a review on the zoning by Josele Cleary and have had some proposed revisions and Mark Harman has also made some comments and Mike Davis is going to have his input by the end of the week. One of the things that the Mayor just brought up was that they have inserted Flood Ordinance language into the proposal that they have given us however there are some things going on with NFIP, special flood hazard area in the community. In October 2013 FEMA started doing a revision of Flood Maps and a series of studies and changes to the Flood Maps. There was advertising in September 2014 there was a statutory appeals date that people could appeal the maps and within six (6) months from the date of the letter and the letter is dated October 5, 2015 so prior to April 5, 2016 the community is required to adopt or show evidence of an adoption of Flood Plan Management Regulations that meet the standard NFIP regulations. Just a heads up that there will be some forward movement Flood Insurance eligibility requirements for Flood Insurance is coming up and we will be working with probably with our zoning officer to make sure our Flood Ordinance is ready and adequate to keep us eligible for Flood Insurance and that is one of the considerations that is ongoing in this zoning revision that we don't do something partially.

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

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer