

Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held January 10, 2017
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA

President Hannold with Council members Foreman, Snow, Kulman, Nagle, Renninger, Mazis 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rebecca Denlinger – Rising Tide Collaborative – Rebecca gave a brief update on the Marietta Placemaking Committee mini grant. She gave a handout with the information and what they are working on. They will be back in April, July and October to give further updates on their progress.

Phyllis Stellfox – 270 West Front Street – She thanked Glen Mazis and James Sargen for their presentation at the Planning, Zoning and Environmental committee meeting on the stand-alone flood project. It was a good discussion. She is excited that this project will get picked up again. As a resident on Front Street this is a Marietta size solution to Marietta's unique situation for flooding. Something Marietta can afford and that we can achieve in a compressed timeline. They would like to have relief from the nuisance floods that we have. The stronger one neighborhood becomes the stronger all neighborhoods become.

Glenn Orr II – 680 West Market Street – Was here about the inspection of his in-law quarter. It is none of the borough's business. He is not renting this and he was told by the Borough that he cannot rent it, that it only can be used by family. So, the borough is saying I can rent this to anyone. President Hannold stated that things change and the ordinance allows him to rent it to whomever he wants. If he would like to stop into the office he can get a copy of the ordinance.

Glenn Orr – 45 West Fairview Avenue – Years ago he was told that that he could not rent that as a rental property. He was told that the only thing that he could use that garage for was an in-law quarters. That is what they stood by for 20 years. This is a problem that we are going to run into. How much is this going to cost the borough with attorney fees?

President Hannold stated that the ordinance was updated and we can't go back in time. Ordinances do change. The ordinance was thoroughly reviewed by our solicitor so that everyone is on the same page moving forward.

Noah Alkinburgh - 700 East Market Street – He addressed the council looking at the manager position and asks that they consider this from a budget standpoint. As he looks at the budget it is not financially or fiscally responsible. It is not a budgetary line item and it is not in there. We are 1/3 of the size of other municipalities around us. Doesn't understand how we can justify, we don't have the tax base and we don't have three times the amount of issues that we need to hire someone. If you are looking at someone just to do grant writing then just hire someone to do that. There are great grant writers out there. It would be much more responsible. Looking at the year, look at hiring a project manager. It makes more financial sense. If you need someone for research then hire someone to do research for ten (10) or twenty (20) hours a week who can do research. The money that is left over from the budget we need to have that money available to us to acquire the grants. We also need to have projects in mind to seek those grants. He urges council to look at it again as a fiscally responsible approach.

Tracy Beam – 280 West Front Street – She thanked the Fire Company and first responders for putting out the barn fire that they had on their property. It was appreciated.

Miriam Fletcher – 286 West Market Street – She wanted to remind people that the Eater Foundation is ready to accept applications for grants. Applications are available in the borough office.

Glenn Orr – 45 West Fairview Avenue – Let the people know on Front Street that they put buzzard decoys

up on Front Street in the trees and they seem to be working.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President Hannold stated that she wanted to get the minutes under control. A year ago a council member voiced concern that the minutes were too long. The requirements are to make sure the substance of the official actions that are taken are documented. Council went to training and they were told this, and the secretary went to training and was told the same thing. Secretary did a good job trying to add to the minutes, but then what happened was the complaints started rolling in that "statements got added but not mine". Things were handled until now. Elected officials are sending in the exact phrasing that they want in, even if those things weren't said. This is going over the line. President Hannold passed the gavel to the Vice President and she made a motion to postpone the approval of the December 13, 2016 minutes to make sure that they can be reviewed for accuracy. Council member Foreman seconded the motion. Motion carries 4-3. Hannold, Nagle, Snow and Foreman in favor. Renninger, Mazis and Kulman opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hannold announced that she received an email from DEP to encourage homeowners to test their homes for radon gas.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – Mr. Bailey gave the yearly report for EMA. They would like to see a data base on a volunteer basis for anyone that has special needs in case of an emergency for evacuation. The Fire Police for December had a total of nineteen (19) calls with fifty-seven (57) officers for a total of one-hundred, thirty and a half (130.5) hours.

Pioneer Fire Company – Brian Smith – For the month of December they ran fourteen (14) fire calls and nine (9) QRS calls. A total of twenty-three (23) calls for the month. There will be a breakfast this Saturday.

Sewer – Steve Foreman - Report dated 12/20/16 has a savings account balance of \$176,019.67 and a checking account balance of \$2,354.72. Council member Foreman made a motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Renninger. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Recycling – Steve Foreman – The Borough recycled 50,600 lbs. for December. Council member Foreman made a motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Snow. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Foreman announced that as of December 31 we received a recycle rebate in the amount of \$2,076.52.

Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick - The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated 1/10/2017. The total general fund accounts are \$658,145.69. Council member Foreman made the motion to approve the report with a second by Council member Renninger. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Secretary – Sharon Bradnick – She announced that the sewer project is completed for Basin "D". Lancaster County Housing & Redevelopment Authority is holding \$5,000.00 until spring until Fast Pipelining can get in here to repave an area on West Market Street that settled. She is working right now on all the year-end reports. The report for liquid fuels was completed and accepted and we should be receiving our liquid fuels money in March. She asked to take a class on January 26 through PSAB on Grant Writing. Council member Nagle made a motion to cap the class at \$200.00 with a second by Council member Mazis. Motion carries by voice vote.

Mayor's - Mayor Ray Vegso – Stated that it is a new year and we need to continue to be civil. The police minutes are in the back. We need fire police so if anyone is interested please contact them. They do a wonderful job. Council should be aware that DEP has \$200,000 that they can give for Stormwater Management practices and there is no match the deadline is March 1. Keystone Historic Preservation is holding a webinar on Tuesday and Thursday, January 19 and January 24. There is also a major conference that is the Environmental Advisory Network Conference that will be held at the Lancaster Doubletree on May 4-6th. He received a letter from Paul Weiss from County Parks that Furnace road is in need of repair. So whatever we can do.

Council member Renninger stated that we received a National Fish and Wildlife Grant and part of this will be for Stormwater and water drainage.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – President Bridey Hannold

President Hannold stated that we have Resolution 2017-02 for Disposition of Records. Council member Snow made the motion to adopt the Disposition of Records with a second by Council member Mazis. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Hannold stated that she has been searching Borough minutes from all over Lancaster County and noticed that most Boroughs do their appointments at the reorganizational meeting. We did it every year. We are to do that on even numbered year except the Vacancy Board Chair and that is to be done every year; Section 901(c) states that this is to be done as soon as possible. These appointments can be changed at any time by Council. She asked for a motion to appoint Rick Thomas. Council member Mazis made the motion with a second by Council member Foreman. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Hannold pointed out that in everyone's mailbox there was a copy of the profit and loss report for December along with one for the whole year. We want to end with a surplus and you will notice approximately \$80,000 of additional income came in. This year it came from extra income that we were not anticipating. Just to let you know that this year we will not receive the additional money from Comcast. This is all we have to work with. She responded to the letter from Paul Weiss and hopefully we can come up with some ideas.

President Hannold had a lengthy discussion with council in regards to the duties of a borough manager that the Administrative Committee put together for council to review. Council again made their comments on hiring a borough manager. President Hannold went over the duties that council wanted for the borough manager, she also went over the qualifications that council wants for the borough manager to put in the ordinance.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Council member Glen Mazis

Council member Mazis stated that we received the NFWF grant and it will go further than that. We will be working with East Donegal Township and looking at run off problems. They are looking at setting up a steering committee around April 1. He has been doing a lot of research on the previous councils work on the stand-alone project for the flood project. They looked at getting a cost of putting flapper valves on 27 storm outlets. There was talk about pumping stations. This project would be around \$350,000. His committee would like this council to see how much a plan would cost for this project. Also, what is the engineering expertise that would be needed?

Public Outreach – Council member Leah Nagle

Council member Nagle stated the newsletter is back there and it is also on our Borough website. The next newsletter will be in April. She needs items to go in the newsletter by February. So we are looking at March/June/September/December. She is going to look at what regulations we need to set up for opting out of the newsletter via email on our website.

Public Safety – Council member Harold Kulman

Council member Kulman stated that he received a letter from the Mayor of Columbia and it's about the local government advisory committee to the Chesapeake Bay and are going to have a meeting to discuss the challenges of managing stormwater and it will be Wednesday, at 7:30 AM on February 1 at the Columbia Crossing building. His committee is going to do further research on the skate board ordinance. They also are discussing the closing of the crossings and working with the railroad, but they are only in the discussion stage.

President Hannold asked if they decided on which dates the fire company is to receive their quarterly payments. Council decided that payments would be made January 15th, April 15th, July 15th, and October 15th.

Council had a discussion on allowing Shank's Tavern to have a handicapped parking space on the street. After discussion Council member Kulman made a motion to allow the handicapped parking space to be placed on Front Street close to his establishment, with a second by Council member Renninger. Motion carries by voice vote. Hannold voted nay.

Public Works – Council member Steve Foreman

Council member Foreman had nothing more to add.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marietta Placemaking Committee – Council member Sharon Renninger

Council member Renninger added that she is going to try and obtain sixteen (16) volunteers for each season to participate in the NWRT survey. They will be doing this four times throughout the year. The next meeting with MABA is January 17th.

NWRT Committee – Council member Marcus Snow

Council member Snow stated the next meeting with the NWRT committee is January 27th at 7:00 PM.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Vegso presented Ordinance 2017-02 this is to allow the police to invest it's extra funds. The Policy is for each municipality to advertise to move forward.

Council member Kulman made a motion to advertise the 2017-02 Ordinance with a second by Council member Snow. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Council member Mazis made a motion to authorize the Borough engineer to estimate the cost of drafting an engineering plan to re-mediate the 27 storm water drains in order to install flapper valves, and to install flapper valves, to model the upland storm water outflow into Marietta, to possibly install a pumping station (or stations) to return the water to the river, and to erect flood barriers at the underpasses of the ends of the Borough, seconded by council member Snow.

James Sargen stated that when David deVity was president the cost was around \$209,000. He didn't think this was correct and that is when he started looking at the lines and doing his overlay. Darrell and he had various conversations. He took on the responsibility to measure all the out falls so the engineer won't have to. It's a shame that the people on Borough Council have not gone down and looked at these outfalls.

Council member Mazis stated that he spoke with Fritz Schroeder and Kelly Gutshall and they are excited that we are proceeding with this and the NFWF can help out with this.

Mayor Vegso commented that it may work, make sure you understand that the State will not support a partial project. They will only support a levy. There is a difference in providing protection within the Borough and the river. The state's plan was for protection from the river.

Council member Mazis stated that we should do whatever we can to protect the town.

Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Sargen – 644 East Market Street – James stated that council is not doing a good job convincing him that we need a borough manager. How many grants have we not gotten? Your average grant amount is 200,000 with a budget of \$1,200,000 and you are giving up that money to pay for a borough manager. We never had a problem getting someone in here for an emergency. When you all came time to campaign with your election you had ideas on what this borough needed and now a year later you're saying that we need a borough manager to do the work. No, you people ran for small time government. In 2012 they tried to hire a borough manager and I said this, you are participating in the purest and greatest form of democracy that there is in this country. You are dealing with small government, you don't deal with the social issues that County, State and Local does. You don't need a borough manager; you all need to do your job. Don't tell me you don't have the time. Make the time. Don't make him pay because you don't know understand time management.

Noah Alkinburgh – 700 East Market Street – Wanted to let Marcus Snow know that he appreciates his comments on the borough manager position. You have put in a lot of time and effort in looking at this. What he presented was helpful. He understands the need and desire to have a position like that. The concern that he has is that it is an operating expense you have not written into the budget for this year. If this is something that council wants to pursue he encourages them to pursue that but get grant writers for the grants and get that money in and figure out how you can put it in the 2018 budget. We elected you as council to be that leadership. He does not want to pay for a bureaucrat to provide council with that leadership. I don't want to pay someone that does not live in our town to tell council how to run our town. What benefit does this have to them? They do not have any investment in our borough. Encourage council to see if there isn't a more financial and budgetary way to address the issues. But it is something that needs to be written into the budget so that tax payers know how the capability of paying this person is, as well as having someone come in and know where the money is coming from. This is about what is best and responsible for us as a borough.

Council member Snow commented that there are a lot of things that happens. He has people that work under him that do a lot of work. It's about delegating work to a leader. Type of person that he is looking for in a borough manager would be the one that ties the complex plans together. Things are more complex than in the past. It's about what opportunities are we not pursuing. We have had changes and the state is putting more strings attached. There is a need to take the complicated network of pots of money and coordinate it coherently and move forward and it is not easy.

There being no further business to come before Council, on a motion by Council member Foreman with a second by Council member Nagle the meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer