

Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held March 21, 2017
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA

President Hannold with Council members Foreman, Snow, Kulman, Nagle, Mazis 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. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lauren Sadler DiLoreto – East Market Street – Was in front of council on behalf of her grandparents. They live at 612 East Market Street. On Thanksgiving weekend of last year the attached property became a two alarm fire. They voiced their concerns of the attached property not being cleaned up and moving forward with the repairs needed that affects her grandparents' home. She would like council to look into what can be done to have the property owners attached to her grandparent's clean up and move forward with repairs. Council is to enact their duties to make sure that the community is safe and this property is not left as a nuisance property.

President Hannold stated that she had spoken with her grandparents. Council has spoken about adopting a property maintenance code. We do have codes in the book such as long grass, cars, and those types of things. We need to decide how much further we want to take this ordinance. Council can continue to work on this. As far as the situation right now both homes are damaged, both homes are boarded up and both properties have dumpsters on them. Going forward there is not much more that the borough can do. We cannot take action on one, and not take action on the other. Even if we do an ordinance now, it would be for any property going forward. The communication between the two properties is something that the borough would not be involved in. Trying to coordinate between contractors and insurance companies and between neighbors can be really hard.

Council member Snow commented that this Borough has taken the approach of not having the government tell home owners what they need to do with their property. Other communities such as Lititz may have more robust ordinances. There are reasons why we have chosen not to go that route. Citizen would find themselves in a tough spot. It is a slow process to have their situation remedied. We can only look into for future properties if this happens.

Oliver Overlander – 450 East Front Street – You may want the solicitor to check the housing ordinance for rental properties to see if there is anything that can be applied to these properties.

Mary Lou Ellsworth – 50 North Pine Street – She came across a paper the Leah Nagel was working on in regards to a borough manager. She is very impressed with the paper and she is hoping that council has read it and we need to move forward with a borough manager and it is not going to break the borough.

Linda Ross – 67 Fairview Avenue – She is representing the Riverland Grant Committee and was checking with council to see if they received the email from Sharon Renninger. The committee needs a recognizable logo. It's a great logo and the process of the committee will run about a year and its not to say that it won't be able to be used after that. Council will discuss and vote on it later in the meeting.

President Hannold closed the public comment session.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President Hannold stated the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held February 14, were presented. Council member Snow made the motion with a second by Council member Kulman to approve the minutes. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hannold made the announcement that Leah spent a lot of time crafting the new website and it is about complete, especially the google calendar. Check it out at www.boroughofmarietta.com. Also PP&L will be replacing meters and will be putting routers on poles.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – No one present.

Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon Smith – For the month of February they ran nineteen (19) fire calls and twelve (12) QRS calls. They had a total of thirty-one (31) calls for the month. They had a total of two-hundred, thirty-six (236) hours on fire calls and one-hundred, twenty-six (126) hours on training.

Sewer – Steve Foreman - Report dated February, 2017 the sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$206,244.24 and a checking account balance of \$3,344.28. 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.

Recycling – Steve Foreman – The Borough recycled 24,720 lbs. during February 2017. Council member Foreman made a motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Mazis. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick - The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated March 14, 2017. The total general fund accounts are \$628,602.39. Council member Foreman made the motion to approve the report with a second by Council member Mazis. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Secretary – Sharon Bradnick – announced that we collected \$53 and she purchased flowers and a card for Sheryl Smeal, our crossing guard and took them up to her on March 7th at the Masonic Village Sheryl is doing well and looks forward to coming back to work. We were notified that we received the NFWF grant in the amount of \$46,360 and she emailed the executed documents. Sharon also looked into people that would like to donate a bench for the NWRT. The cost for the bench, the stone showing who it was donated by and the landscaping is \$1500. Timbers Tree service will be coming in on National Arbor Day, April 28th, to clean up the trees at Flanagan Park for free.

Mayor's - Mayor Ray Vegso – Thanked our street crew, Glenn and Bill for a good job on the streets during the storm. He did declare a snow emergency prior to the storm, but the storm was less of a problem. He brought up at the last meeting if council would like to donate to the drug task force. They are asking for a \$1 per citizen donation to help fund the drug task force. They recently had a police officer resign and they will be holding a retirement party for Lieutenant Englert. The County sent out the average Preliminary Reassessment for Marietta showing an overall average of 25.31% increase. When the final assessments are made in June, the mileage rate for Marietta will be adjusted. His estimate for Marietta will drop from about 20% to 15%. This means some residents will pay more or less. If your preliminary assessment is higher than 25.3% you will probably pay more.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – President Bridey Hannold

President Hannold stated that she received a request from Kathy Hohenadel to present to council at our March meeting a request to run a grant through Marietta Borough. A letter of intent for the grant was already sent in back in January and Kathy requested a letter of support agreeing to process the funding for the grant from the Borough before our meeting. President Hannold informed her that we could not do this without going through council.

President Hannold stated that last month she asked for everyone's opinion on opening and removing the one section of the Inter-municipal agreement for the UCC mandating all parties to use Commonwealth Code. Removing this section would allow everyone to pick whomever they would like as their Code Inspector. Jeff Butler with East Donegal Township will be taking the lead on this and have their solicitor work on the draft ordinance and updated agreement.

President Hannold stated that she contacted General Code in regards to the codification project and the salary for the tax collector. Since this project was not completed by February we cannot change the salary from \$100 to \$1. This will have to remain at \$100. General code also sent draft wording that she forwarded on to Mike Davis our solicitor. He spoke highly of them and was okay with the wording. We are going to add the Flood Ordinance and the Stormwater Ordinance to the codification project but the SALDO and the Zoning Ordinance will not be added at this time. These two will remain separate because they require a different process when amending, and both are very new and we anticipate future amendments.

President Hannold announced that we need to name a delegate to the PSAB conference. Council member Snow made a motion to have Bridey to be our voting delegate with a second by Council member Foreman. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Hannold stated that the Administrative committee met with Inessa Heisey our new Housing officer and Mike Bingham with ARRO to see who we would like for our Zoning officer. Council member Mazis made a motion to hire Inessa Heisey as our new Zoning officer with a second by Council member Snow. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council needs to consider a deputy housing officer. Mark Harman was our deputy housing officer and we can appoint whomever we want. It is good to have someone named for a backup "just in case". This can be decided on next month.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Council member Glen Mazis

Council member Mazis stated that the committee worked on revising the Heritage Plan and has the version ready to forward to the Planning Commission. They want to keep with the idea of a compromise and not have either a strict Heritage Board that forces property owners to follow rules, but to have a Board to make suggestions to protect the historical features of Marietta. The committee will review the building permits, which will be a committee of the whole Planning Commission. Hopefully this will help preserve our heritage.

President Hannold, Sharon Bradnick, Jim Sargen and Glen Mazis had a meeting with Representative Hickernell in regards to the flapper valve project and Representative Hickernell put in a \$1.5 million budget request to the state legislature for this project.

Council member Mazis and Sharon Bradnick are working together to develop an application in the amount of \$500,000 for the Flood Mitigation grant through DCED.

Council member Mazis stated that we will be setting up a steering committee for the NFWF grant to start implementing it sometime in April.

Council member Mazis and Sharon Bradnick will be working on possibly applying for the C2P2 grant that involves our parks. Mazis is negotiating to see if it can be cut down in size to the point where Marietta will not have to spend any money or nothing more than a minimal amount. He has a meeting with Rebecca Denlinger and Lori Yeich this week.

Public Outreach – Council member Leah Nagle

Council member Nagle presented three special events permits. First being Donegal Baseball/Softball Association to use the fields at War Memorial Park for summer and fall ball. Motion was made by council member Nagle to approve with a second by council member Snow. Motion carries by voice vote. The second event is the Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt for April 15th. Motion was made by council member Nagle to allow the event with a second by council member Snow. Motion carries by voice vote.

The third event is to allow New Hope Christian Fellowship to hold an Easter Service at Flanagan Park. The motion was made by council member Nagle to allow the event with a second by council member Snow. Motion carries by voice vote.

Council member Nagle stated that we may have a projector donated to the Borough. Sharon Bradnick reached out to businesses in regards to what we may need, and they recommended that we get a 70" TV and lap top. That would be cheaper than going with a projector. The costs of replacing the bulbs in the projectors are expensive.

Public Safety – Council member Harold Kulman

Council member Kulman stated that everyone has the information on the Act 172 tax credit. He would like to do this with the fire company but no one has enacted this because the statute has not outlined the procedure for this credit. Other municipalities are holding off until a procedure is enacted. He would like to also look into implementing a fire tax. He has also been talking with West Hempfield police, the park authority and the township in regards to the trail traffic on Route 441 for the parking lot on Chiques. They are going to get together and discuss what can be done so they can go to the Department of Transportation with recommendations.

Public Works – Council member Steve Foreman

Council member Foreman stated we received our bid package for the alley project of \$56,950 and he made a motion to advertise the bid package for the alley project with a second from Council member Nagle. Motion carries by voice vote.

Council member Foreman stated that the Waterford Avenue project will start on April 3rd, it was pushed back due to the snow.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marietta Placemaking Committee – Council member Sharon Renninger

Council member Renninger was absent from meeting and on behalf of Sharon, President Hannold spoke in regards to the \$300 for the logo for the Placemaking Committee to purchase and use. Council member Nagle made a motion to pay Thad Herr for the logo with a second by Council member Snow. Motion carries by voice vote.

NWRT Committee – Council member Marcus Snow

Council member Snow resigned from the NWRT Committee due to being out of town with his military duties and asked that Council member Mazis step in as his replacement. Council member Snow made a motion to appoint Glen Mazis as our replacement on the NWRT Committee with a second by Council member Nagel. Motion carries by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

President Hannold stated that we will be voting on the Noise Exemption Resolution relating to the Noise

Exemption Petition for the liquor control board. Council member Mazis made a motion to accept the Noise Exemption Resolution with a second by Council member Kulman. Motion carries by voice vote.

President Hannold stated that this is followed with the Noise Exemption Petition. Council member Mazis made a motion to pass the Noise Exemption Petition with a second by Council member Foreman. Motion carries by voice vote.

President Hannold stated that we have advertised the Land Bank Ordinance and the school board voted unanimously to approve the agreement. Council member Nagle made a motion to except the Land Bank Ordinance with a second by Council member Snow. A roll call vote was taken.

Bridey Hannold – aye
Glen Mazis – aye

Harold Kulman – aye
Marcus Snow – aye

Steve Foreman – aye
Leah Nagle – aye

Motion carries.

President Hannold stated that we need to sign the Land Bank Agreement. Council will need to appoint someone to serve on the committee outlined in the agreement. Council member Foreman made a motion to sign the Land Bank Agreement with a second by Council member Snow. Motion carries.

President Hannold stated last is advertising the Borough Manager Ordinance. Council member Nagel made a motion to table. President Hannold asked if there was a second. No second was given, motion fails. Council member Kulman made a motion to advertise the Borough Manager Ordinance with a second by Council member Foreman. Council member Mazis spoke on his reasons on why a Borough Manager is not required, stating that Sharon Bradnick is the Executive Manager of the Borough as her official title and her job description lists all the duties we hoped for in a Borough Manager. She has successfully been overseeing several grant implementations, like those involved in the trail, is managing projects, loves her job and is will to get any additional training that might augment her capacities. Rather than spending a large sum of money that would eat into the borough's ability to deal with unforeseen events, like a flood, he would rather spend a smaller amount by giving Sharon more training to allow for funds for projects. There was a discussion on why some council members felt that this is a big financial burden on the borough and why it is taking them time to move forward with their decision with a borough manager. The Mayor stated that we have the necessary funds; you only need to look at the annual audit to see the large amount of unrestricted funds we have. A roll call vote was taken to advertise for the Borough Manager Ordinance.

Harold Kulman – aye
Steve Foreman – nay

Marcus Snow – nay
Bridey Hannold – nay

Leah Nagle – nay
Glen Mazis – nay

Motion fails.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rae Ann Schatz – Fairview Avenue – She would like to know why the ROBO call system was not used for the trash pickup. President Hannold stated that the trash would not have been placed on the ROBO system but if she would go out on our website it was placed on our calendar. It was also placed on our phone message.

Linda Ross – Fairview Avenue – She asked for a point of clarification on the vote that was taken on the Borough Manager Ordinance. President Hannold stated that they voted to not advertise the Borough

Manager Ordinance. Council can elect to pick this up later if they would like. The only way that the ordinance can move forward is if it is advertised.

Melvin Sadler – 612 East Market Street - They are going to be taking down the front porch and he would like no parking signs. President Hannold stated that they needed to contact the police to receive signs.

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 9:18 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer