

**Marietta Borough Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held July 11, 2017**  
**113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA**

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

**APPOINT NEW COUNCIL MEMBER**

President Hannold stated that we received one letter of interest from James Sargen. Council member Snow made a nomination of James Sargen for Council with a second by Council member Mazis. No other nominations were made. A roll call vote was taken.

Leah Nagle – aye	Glen Mazis – aye	Steve Foreman – aye
Bridey Hannold – aye	Harold Kulman – aye	Marcus Snow – aye

Nomination carries.

Mayor Vegso swore in James Sargen and he took his place at the Council table.

**APPOINT NEW ZONING HEARING BOARD MEMBER**

President Hannold stated that we received two letters of interest. One from Wayne Pearson, and one from Tracy Beam. Council member Snow made a nomination for Wayne Pearson and Council member Nagle made a nomination for Tracy Beam. No other nominations were made. A roll call vote was taken for Wayne Pearson.

Glen Mazis – aye	Bridey Hannold – aye	Leah Nagle – nay
Steve Foreman – aye	Harold Kulman – aye	Marcus Snow – aye
James Sargen – recused himself		

With a 5 to 1 vote for Wayne Pearson to serve on the Zoning Hearing Board, nomination carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rebecca Denlinger – Rising Tide Collaborative – Rebecca gave an update on the "Our Marietta" grant planning process. They have been working on community surveys and have had several meetings throughout the community, the last being on June 25. They broke into groups and walked throughout town with a leader. There was also a group that drove through town to look at the gateways into Marietta. The groups made comments based on SWOT (strength, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats). They currently received 315 surveys and the survey results will be posted on line at the [www.ourmarietta.com](http://www.ourmarietta.com) website.

Brandon Smith – Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon came before council to request money to fix the QRS squad. The fire company does not have the money to fix the squad. This equipment handles all the public service calls in the borough. The cost to fix the squad is approximately \$18,000 and they still owe \$10,000 for the vehicle. They are looking for help in the amount of \$18,000.

President Hannold stated that the borough raised the fire company's budget by \$22,000 this year and this is the most that the Borough has ever given the fire company. The Borough does support the fire company. She assumes that the finance committee has discussed this? The fire company made a motion to repair the vehicle, but how are they planning on paying for it? The fire company agreed to meeting with Bridey on Thursday to go over their budget. Brandon stated that they voted on fixing it, but they are looking at ways to get the money to have it repaired. President Hannold asked that they meet with committee to propose what options the fire company has come up with. She would like to meet and look at the estimates and review where the money is going to come from.

Mayor Vegso stated that this is important and there is no reason why we shouldn't proceed to have this fixed. He has said that we have lots of money. We are to have 10% to 20% in our fund balance and we have 43%. So there is no reason not to move forward and have this taken care of.

Council member Kulman stated that this is not the first time that this has happened. Here we have a QRS that had an engine and now it doesn't. We need to fix it because it is a necessity. You are talking about a service to the people and a piece of equipment that goes out every day or every other day. It is our duty to vote and have this fixed. We needed one year to get a truck and we went back in the budget and we took money out of the general fund to get the truck.

Council member Foreman asked how much the fire company has set aside for a new engine.

Brandon stated that they do not have any set aside for a new piece of apparatus.

Council member Nagle stated that maybe we can do some kind of fund-raiser for a particular cause. This would be supplemental. Is there any other way to get money to you other than returning the envelope?

Tom Brill – Fire Company – Behalf of the fire company members the issue he sees is that we can come up with many ideas here. He has been asked if we get support from the borough and he says, "No." He is not talking about people in the room. There are 2500 people in this town and when they send the fund raisers out they only get back 14% and that is not very much to make ends meet with. He works two jobs and to be able to come in and help out with fund raisers is hard. We need the support and the back bone of the borough council.

President Hannold stated that we have showed that time and time again. One request for council to consider in the future is that any major purchase the fire company makes council be involved with. What has happened over the years is that the fire company purchases a truck and then you need help with payments. Previous council has never had any input or seen any numbers for major purchases. So any time that you have a big purchase you will have council involved. She is not underestimating the value of Brandon, the fund raising abilities or anything. What she has been trying to reiterate is that council look at the information on the truck. When was it purchased? How old is the truck? How much have the repairs cost on the vehicle? We would like to take time to review it and say yes this vehicle looks worthy and it is something we can work with you on.

Elmer Zink – 21 East Market Street – He has experienced the guys being at locations 5-10 minutes before the ambulance shows up. That 15 minutes makes a big difference.

Mayor Vegso stated that he does not object that we don't do the vote immediately but it is clear that delay is not something that people want and he does not want and he insists that we have a vote this evening. Council can chose to make a motion immediately you have that authority. The chair is not totally in charge she just facilitates the meetings.

Bill Dalzell – 251 West Market Street – He has been volunteering a group called Fair Districts PA, we currently have a problem in this country with politicians drawing their legislative districts to pick themselves instead of having the people in the communities vote for their representatives. He handed out to council information on this. It is called cracking or packing. Cracking being the splitting of a population and spreading its members among several districts where they become an irrelevant minority. Packing is concentrating voters of one party or group in as few districts as possible to reduce their influence in the remaining districts. They are working towards bringing the citizens into this process to redesign the committee from a 5 person committee to an 11 person committee. They will limit who can be on this committee. He is asking the council to pass a resolution in favor of this.

President Hannold stated that Bill came before council last month and council has looked over this to

consider and it is on the agenda to consider and vote on.

Sharon Renninger 122 West Front Street – Our Marietta surveys are very important. This will focus on play grounds, if we need trash cans. She needs to have a change in the May minutes. She needs to change that Donegal Insurance gave her a check for Our Marietta committee and that is not true. It was McCleary's that gave the committee the check which was turned into the borough office. Donegal Insurance allowed them to print off 2000 of the Marietta surveys. Also, if anyone would like to donate money to the fire company maybe they can drop the check off at the borough office.

Barry Shenk – 100 West Front Street – Questioning the traffic study on West Front Street what is the determination date on this? Can the public have input on this? He does not want to lose a parking space.

President Hannold stated that she is waiting to hear from the engineer, emergency personnel and Public Works Committee will bring their recommendations back next month. The public can have input.

Sylvia Shenk – 100 West Front Street – She would like to know when the safety cones be removed from in front of their homes? Who is doing the study? What are you guys seeing since you moved the cones? Please talk to the people that it is affecting.

President Hannold stated that what they have been seeing is that vehicles can pass each other in both directions. The feedback is that emergency personnel and their equipment cannot fit down there. They wanted to have the cones moved to each side of the street to look at the traffic pattern. She will ask in the public works committee to see if they want to remove the cones or move them back to the other side of the street.

Bob Hinkle – 108 West Front Street – The question was if emergency vehicles can get through and he has seen them get through. His traffic study he is doing now is he sees that this is allowing the vehicles to travel 50 to 60 mph. If you allow parking on both sides it slows the traffic down. Can you put a barricade up saying road narrows? You also need to put up a sign for "bike traffic".

President Hannold stated that the road narrows down to 27.5 feet and you need ten foot and ten foot for travel lanes and you have 7.5 for parking on one side. If you put parking on two sides, then you don't have enough room for travel lanes. This was sent to our engineer and we need to remove the parking on one side or make it one-way. We have ideas for alternate types of parking. These are all things that have come to us over the month and hopefully we get some recommendations on how council should proceed from there.

Mayor Vegso stated that while we are getting input we need to look at allowing compact cars only. No trucks or big SUV's. Do you think this should be something that we give consideration to?

Council member Sargen stated that what you are saying is that you want to see this let go. He asked Sharon Renninger since she lives in that area what she thinks and she commented that this is a good natural calming device.

Freddy States – 281 West Market Street – He understands the parking problem, but he does not want to lose parking. The borough needs to focus on it's not only the restaurants that have gotten busier. No one has complained about parking to him. Everyone has made do with what we have and the only thing that has changed in the last year is that there are about a 1000 more people in the borough due to the trail. The borough has not given them any parking other than at Decatur Street which is not near the town and we are the only town on the trail that they can stop and use restaurants and use their bathrooms. He is doing the same volume of business. The trail users are parking in his lot and he doesn't know if they are coming in or not. He feels that the borough needs to create other outlets for the trail facility. These people are not going to park in the stones and ride up to the businesses.

Council member Snow asked Brandon if he can get his fire equipment through the area on Front Street. Brandon stated that it is hard to get through there and they have to stop for oncoming traffic, but this only happens on weekends.

President Hannold closed the public comment session.

## **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

President Hannold stated the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held June 11, 2017 were presented. Council member Kulman made the motion with a second by Council member Snow to approve the minutes. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Hannold announced that the Community House is doing the community talks on July 30<sup>th</sup>. It is a fun event to go to.

## **REPORTS**

**Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey** – The Fire Police had a total of fourteen (14) calls for a total of ninety-two (92) hours on duty for the month of June. Their vehicles were inspected at Marietta Motors and their license and insurance has been renewed. All men are recertified for Haz-mat.

**Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon Smith** – For the month of June they ran seventeen (17) fire calls and twenty (20) QRS calls for a total of thirty-seven (37) calls. Spent ten (10) hours on training, they had a total of one-hundred, forty-two (142) hours on calls and training.

**Sewer – Steve Foreman** - Report dated June, 2017. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$116,682.15 and a checking account balance of \$4,631.57. 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 35,160 lbs. during June 2017. 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.

**Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick** - The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated July 11, 2017. The total general fund accounts are \$941,501.23. Council member Foreman made the motion to approve the report as presented with a second by Council member Mazis. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**Secretary – Sharon Bradnick** – announced that she put the end of month profit and loss reports in the packets for June and also the report from January through June. Also, the trash contract is a five year contract and it comes up for a vote after three years to extend it for another two years. When we put the trash contract out for bid three years ago we took into consideration that the trash would go up for the last two years and increased the trash bill three years ago we will not need to increase the trash bill to the residents if we extend the contract for the last two years.

**Mayor's - Mayor Ray Vegso** – This morning at the police meeting the river event came up and they are not sure who organized it and the police didn't know it was coming and the fire police didn't know it was coming, but thankfully no one drowned. There were people that were drunk. Some people just bought cheap plastic things at the dime store and very few people had on life jackets. Point is that we need to do better in anticipation of any kind of such event so everyone is prepared. The police department is down to thirteen full time officers so they are going to move a part-time officer up to a full-time officer. Also, I have talked about taking money and investing it and we have worked that out and they voted to give \$150,000 to Janney Montgomery to invest according to the policies that they established. This is for

anticipation of people retiring in ten years and to make sure we have enough money. Our fire police are a great organization and they swore in a new member Charles Clark and we are still looking for volunteers.

The bike race is a wonderful event and it draws many people into Marietta. He spoke to a lot of people from various places and they all had a very favorable image of Marietta. We also need to get the second floor of this building fixed up so we can have proper meetings and we can use part of the area for a museum. I know money is available and we just need to follow up and we can make it happen.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Administrative – President Bridey Hannold**

President Hannold stated that June's meeting was cancelled and July's will discuss the new lease agreement for the Union Meeting House and add Rebecca Denlinger to the agenda. ARRO and EPD were contacted to correct typos and incorrect spacing's in those ordinances and they will forward to us new electronic versions. She was contacted by the school district to discuss the agreement that is in place about the mowing at the park. There are several agreements in there and she is scheduled to meet with them this Thursday. After she meets with them she will report back what they want. Going through minutes back in February, Glen Mazis made a motion to have a special meeting to go over the by-laws. Maybe it would be best if they were put in a resolution. Her question to council is that we can go through the expense in advertising another meeting or we could use the Administrative meeting in August that is already advertised. Would you like to use that meeting? Council agreed to use that meeting to discuss this.

### **Public Safety – Council member Harold Kulman**

Council member Kulman stated that June's meeting was cancelled and at their July meeting, Josh Collin is coming and everyone is invited. Josh Collin is the director of the coalition for larger trucks. It's someone hauling three trailers instead of two and he is coming to meet with us.

We talked about the emergency vehicle and he would like to make a motion to pay for the motor to replace the motor up to \$20,000 with a second by Council member Snow.

Council member Mazis asked the treasurer her opinion on spending that money from the budget.

Sharon Bradnick, Treasurer, stated that she has given everyone the profit and loss reports showing what we have through June. Ray speaks about the amount we have. The amount that Ray is referring to is the amount that was on hand at the end of the year. At the same time, council has been using the fund balance and has committed funds from the fund balance for different projects throughout the borough. Most of the money for the year has come in. Ray states it is a timing issue and it is a timing issue. So if we received most of our money that means we are going to be paying out for our bills the rest of the year.

Council member Mazis stated that public safety is important but he also remembers the auditor saying that we do not have excess funds we have just about the right amount in our general fund for this size of town. We are going to discuss the collapse of the wall and there are a lot of things coming up. Does the Treasurer feel we should take the funds from the general fund or float a loan?

Sharon asked if you are asking the fire company to repay the money or are you asking the borough to go for a loan? James Sargen stated that the borough had co-signed a loan for the fire company in the past. If the fire company takes out a loan and we split the monthly payments. If they take out an \$18,000 loan the payments would be around 300 to 320 a month at 4.99% interest. So they don't have to take money out of their pocket we could take their half from the quarterly payments that the borough gives them. Sharon stated that this would need to be up to Council.

Council continued to have a lengthy discussion on where the money will be coming from.

President Hannold stated that all these ideas that are popping up are excellent ideas and things to be considered and talked about. This is why she asks that this go back to committee to be discussed and a recommendation be brought back to council. This is why I won't support the motion because this process has not been followed and it has nothing to do with the fire company or the fire company's vehicle.

President Hannold called for the vote for the motion to pay for to replace the motor up to \$20,000. Motion carries with a six to one vote with a nay from President Hannold.

Council member Kulman stated that he has counted 140 cars and 3 engines on a train and he looked up on the internet and there is no regulation on the length of trains and he doesn't know what can be done but he brought it up.

### **Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Council member Glen Mazis**

Council member Mazis stated that the Shimko building has been sold and is going to be renovated and restored. The first floor will be rented to Recumbent Cycles and the second and third floors will be apartments. The Heritage Plan has been completed.

Council member Mazis made a motion for the MRA project for the Union Meeting House that they have the infiltration test done and if we can give them a 30 day extension for the infiltration testing from the MRA plan with a second by Council member Foreman. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

### **Public Outreach – Council member Leah Nagle**

Council member Nagle stated she has a special event permit for the Pig Iron Festival for September 24<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at Vesta Furnace and they may need to use the lot on Front Street for show cars as back up.

Council member Nagle made a motion to accept the application for the Pig Iron Fest pending submission of insurance certificate with a second by Council member Foreman. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

### **Public Works – Council member Steve Foreman**

Council member Foreman stated they did not meet in June but they have a full agenda for July. Council member Foreman stated to get rid of the cones on Front Street. We have seen what we need to see.

Mayor Vegso asked what the water pipes are on East Market Street. Sharon stated that the water company is starting to put in the new water main on July 24<sup>th</sup>. He asked who oversees the project. Sharon stated that the engineer can go out or our guys are there to look over things. The reason we are not paving this year on East Market is to allow the repair areas to settle over the winter and then repave in the spring.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Marietta Placemaking Committee –**

Nothing at this time.

### **NWRT Committee – Council member Glen Mazis**

Council member Mazis stated that they extended the parking in Columbia and they asked if we would be interested in having cameras along the trail. They did not have a cost; they just wanted to know if we

were interested. The Susquehanna Green Way Trail would like to be part of our trail and they would like to put their small signs on our trail signs that they are or we are a part of the Susquehanna Green Way Trail. Glen made a motion that we allow them to put up the Susquehanna Green Way Trail signs on our part of the trail with a second by Council member Snow. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Mazis stated that they discussed that we need to allow other power driven mobility devices (OPDMD) on the trail which allows handicapped people on the trail and they placed 300 watts or less which would be 15-18 mph. There would be other restrictions like they cannot be more than 3' wide. It is something that we need to allow. Glen made a motion that we adopt the Lancaster County Parks and Recreation Accessibility Policy allowing powered driven mobility devices of no more than 300 watts with a second by Council member Foreman. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Mazis spoke about putting balusters on the trail and they would like to see them put on this side of the tracks and emergency vehicles would have the keys to be able to get on the trail if necessary.

President Hannold asked what are we trying to do, stop people driving over the railroad tracks or are you trying to stop people from driving on the trail?

Council member Mazis said over the railroad tracks onto the trail. He proposed the other side of the tracks last meeting but everyone on council disagreed on that.

President Hannold asked that Glen's committee look into the cost and do more research.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

President Hannold presented Resolution 2017-08 the Heritage Plan. Council member Snow made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-08 with a second by Council member Nagle. Council member Mazis read parts of the Heritage Plan in regards to compromises because people in this town didn't want people to come in and tell them what they had to do with their property. This plan allows them to look at other resources and give consideration to restoring things but they can't enforce it. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Hannold presented Resolution 2017-07 the Fair Districts Pa. Council member Mazis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-07 with a second by Council member Snow. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

President Hannold stated that we spoke extensively about the fire tax credit and there is a draft ordinance. She is referring it back to the safety committee to work through and bring back some recommendations to council.

President Hannold stated she looked into updating our special events application that would allow us to encompass the use of our facilities such as War Memorial Park, and Flanagan Park. So she changed some language that would allow us to use our special events application for all our facilities. This would be one application for everything.

Council member Nagle asked why we haven't looked into implementing a fire tax. President Hannold stated she has looked into it and we could implement one but the fire company would not necessarily be receiving any more money than what they are already receiving. We could rearrange our budget and give them more money. The committee has researched it, but the fire company does not want to pursue the fire tax because it would hurt their fund drive.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Brandon Smith – Fire Chief – Thanked council for the money to get the QRS unit fixed. It is greatly appreciated.

Mike Emmig – 101 Essex Street – Would like to know if we can get a bus to pick up his son and take him to school. It is too far for his son to walk.

President Hannold stated that he would need to address this with the school district.

President Hannold closed the public comment session.

There being no further business to come before Council, on a motion by Council member Kulman with a second by Council member Foreman the meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick  
Secretary/Treasurer