

**Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held April 14, 2020
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA**

President Mazis with Council members Marsh, Carroll-Baltozer, States, Dalzell, Hudson, McKinney and Mayor Kulman and Solicitor Harter present by zoom meeting under Covid-19 limitations, called the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Marietta Borough Council to order at 7:07 PM. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rae Ann Schatz – 24 Fairview Avenue – Rae Ann would like to know what is being done to curb expenses during the pandemic. President Mazis stated that we are not undertaking any expenses that are not absolutely necessary. It is hard to plan right now at this point. Treasurer Bradnick stated that we are watching our expenses and not taking anything new on. She received information from the Lancaster County tax Bureau that the earned income revenue will be down about \$43,000. When we looked at the earned income revenue when we did the budget we kept that item on the low side, so we should be okay with this. As far as the real estate taxes we are not sure how many people will be paying their real estate taxes and how this will affect us. In addition to her question, Rae Ann asked if all employees are still working. So they are working even though they are at home. When they are not in the office working are they on unemployment? So why won't you put the employees on unemployment and save taxpayers money? Solicitor Harter stated that it is up to the individual if they want to file for unemployment. Hours that the employees are working for the Borough is to carry out essential functions that need to be accomplished and someone needs to be there to do it. Rae Ann asked if they are being paid full-time while they are not in the office or actually working. President Mazis stated that this will be discussed during our administrative meeting, since these are new developments that have happened with the past week and the committee will be meeting in two days. Solicitor Harter stated that this should be discussed in an executive session.

Oliver Overlander – East Front Street – Is upset that we closed down all the parks but we did not close down the trail. President Mazis stated that we are following the Governors guidelines, the CDC guidelines. They are encouraging us to keep the trail open with social distancing, and also he is in agreement with the Northwest River Trail governing body.

President Mazis closed public comment.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President Mazis asked for a motion to approve the March council meeting minutes. Council member Dalzell made a motion to approve the March council minutes with a second by Council member McKinney. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Mazis stated that we will make this recording available. Everyone should wear a mask and stay 6-foot social distancing. The parks are closed and we put up signs about proper social distancing on the trail. The committee meetings will be held on Zoom and will be posted on our website, Facebook, and outside in the glass at the Borough building. We appreciate everyone that is working in essential jobs who is a Borough resident. Angie Shearer stated that the County had some extra equipment for our firefighters and special fire police along with the police department. Steve was able to pick some of these masks up and distribute them.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – Was not present to give his report. Sharon gave the report for Steve. They had a total for March of 11 calls, 28 officers, and 88 duty hours. The truck was cleaned and sanitized. All officers have been instructed in protocols for the virus. Gloves, masks and a thermometer are on the front seat of the vehicle and all officers have been instructed to use them.

Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon Smith – No one present to give a report.

Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh – Council Marsh stated that the balance as of March 23, 2020 was \$16,636.84. Council member Marsh made the motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member States. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Sewer –Freddy States – Council member States report was dated March 2020. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$178,825.81 and a checking account balance of \$958.75. Council member States motioned to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Recycling –Freddy States – Council member States reported we did not receive a recycling report this month.

Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick - The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated April 14, 2020. The total general fund accounts are \$849,125.62. Council member McKinney motioned to approve the report as presented with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Secretary – Sharon Bradnick – Everyone received their profit and loss statements for the month of March. At the end of March, we show that we have an income of negative \$27,266.95 for the month. January through March we have an income of negative \$103,009.54. Glen Mazis and Bradnick are working together to go for the DCNR grant for the work on Donegal Place and Furnace Road. This will be discussed later.

Zoning Report – Tom Arnold – Was not present to give a report.

Mayor's Report - Harold Kulman – Mayor Kulman stated wished everyone a belated Happy Easter. He thanked everyone for working on the coronavirus. He is speaking daily with Steve Bailey, our EM Coordinator and his deputy Angela Shearer. They have been keeping him informed. This month he has stayed home due to the virus. The virus that we are having is a medical problem and the medical profession knows how to handle these problems best and Kulman would like everyone to follow their recommendations. The police commission has interviewed a full-time officer this morning. We have two officers out on medical leave. We have a new District Attorney and her name is Heather Adams. We need to hire more part-time officers, so that we can same on overtime. He is still keeping track of the officers that spend time in Marietta Borough. On average it has been running around 18.5%. He met with the chief and the chief stated that he will retire by the end of the year. This will mean that there will need to be some changes at the upper level.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – President Mazis

President Mazis stated we did not have a person to person meeting but he reached out to the members of the committee by telephone in regard to closing the parks and alternating the employees with the schedule. We have a few resolutions to consider this evening. The first is to apply for the DCNR Grant Resolution that we have been working very hard on for making the trail more welcoming behind Donegal Place and will be adding green space, green infrastructure, and lighting; this will be accomplished using other grants as a match. The Chesapeake Bay Trust grant adds around \$100,000 and we will have our liquid fuel money of \$200,000 to put towards this that we have saved for two years for this purpose. We have until April 22nd at 4:00 pm to submit the grant. The resolution of 2020-17 is to allow the Borough to go ahead and apply for the DCNR grant. Bill Dalzell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-17 to apply for the DCNR grant with a second by Council member McKinney. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Mazis asked for a motion for Resolution 2020-18 to change the penalty for the late fee for our real estate taxes by extending the deadline to help residents suffering from Covid-19 employment issues. Council member Dalzell made a motion to extend the penalty period for real estate taxes to the end of the year, with a second by Council member Marsh. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Mazis asked for a motion to move the upset tax sale for 2020 to 2021 in order to help citizens cope with Covid-19 financial issues. Council member Hudson made a motion to move the 2020 Upset tax Sale to 2021 with a second by Council member McKinney. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Mazis asked for a motion to pay for professional services \$42,501.42 for the Market Street collapse repairs from the fund balance. Council member States made the motion to pay from professional services to RL Livingston from the fund balance with a second by Council member Marsh. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Bill Dalzell

Council member Dalzell stated they did not meet last month and did not have anything new to report.

Public Outreach – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer

Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated that they are going to put a stuffed toy bear in the Borough window. Carroll-Baltozer stated that she would still like to do the fire extinguisher event in the future. The committee spoke about the municipal drains. Parks and Recreation spoke about having a community event where citizens would pay a \$5.00 fee to go get wood off the river trail. The committee spoke about the Mussel-Vesta building and possibly making this a welcoming center. President Mazis asked if they have cancelled the summer recreation program. Treasurer Bradnick stated that the applications are online and GEARS was waiting to see if anything has been pushed back but currently it is still on schedule.

Public Safety – Jeffery Marsh

Council member Marsh stated they did not meet in the month of March. Council member Marsh made a motion to extend the sewer and trash payments due date from May 5 to June 1 with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Public Works – Freddy States

Council member States stated that they discussed that Richard Heisey requested that the Borough put about 200 feet of fencing along his land and the trail for more privacy. We are getting pricing currently. Once the street sweeping is done then the road crew is going to repaint the bike stencils on the road. The committee discussed about getting a bigger mower to do the mowing and the added mowing that will need to be done when we get the land from the County. We had gotten \$15,000 from the school and we are going to use that money. We got a price through Co-star program a mower from messick in the amount of \$12,275.90. With that, States made a motion to purchase the mower from Messick's at \$12,275.90 with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote. The committee also discussed making East Front Street two-way and putting stop signs at both ends of Front Street but we need to do a traffic study. ARRO gave us a price of \$9,900 two do the study, but we are going to hold off doing this. The committee spoke about Furnace Road and the possibilities on what to do from the parking lot to Route 441. We need to talk more on this and keep safety in mind.

They are not able to hang the Hometown Heros right now due to the Coronavirus. President Mazis stated that we spoke about the traffic study that was completed by ELA and what there recommendations are. They made a recommendation to no left turns from Furnace Road. We may want to consider this. Solicitor Harter stated that we may want to do a more detailed study before we take on any action to Furnace Road area.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh – Did not meet. The sewer authority asked for a four month extension in getting the trailer removed. This was granted by the Redevelopment Authority and the Borough.

NWRT Committee – Glen Mazis – There was no meeting in March and the April 28th meeting was cancelled. Bainbridge is having a lot of problems on the trail with social distancing.

C2P2 Committee – Glen Mazis – Nothing scheduled as of yet. Ann Yost is putting together a preliminary plan for the Tot Lot, Front Street and Chestnut Street park to send to us.

G3 Grant Phase II Committee – Glen Mazis – We have a comprehensive plan to move forward and put in for the Phase III part of the project.

OLD BUSINESS

Everyone has the quick ticket ordinance to look over we are going to hold off on this until we have a physical meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session to consider personnel issues.

Entered session at 8:27 pm.

Reconvened the meeting at 9:28 pm. with Council member Dalzell, States, Mazis, and Carroll-Baltozer. Council members Marsh, Hudson and McKinney were unable to log back into the zoom meeting.

Solicitor Harter stated that the meeting was to discuss working remotely concerning personnel, and this topic will be discussed more at the administrative meeting.

There being no further business to come before Council, on a motion by Council member Dalzell with a second by Council member Carroll-Baltozer the meeting adjourned at 9:31 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer