

**Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held October 13, 2020
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA**

PUBLIC HEARING

President Mazis opened the public hearing by zoom at 7:03 PM. President Mazis asked Solicitor Harter to open the public hearing.

Solicitor Harter stated that the public hearing is being held in regard to the ordinance change to the parking meters that was discussed last month. This change eliminates the free parking period from Thanksgiving through January 1, instead replacing it with select holidays that are exempt. This change is designed to allow businesses to have the parking spaces available for their customers (the intent of the original ordinance that failed to work). This is now ready for discussion.

President Mazis asked if there are any comments from the public for the proposed ordinance.

Council member Dalzell stated that the parking meters are there to regulate parking, not a revenue generator. When you have everyone that lives there to park their indefinitely, it is not regulating parking.

President Mazis asked again if there is any public comment.

Solicitor Harter asked the secretary if the hearing was advertised in the paper and with the law library. Secretary Bradnick stated that it was advertised on September 29th and October 6th.

President Mazis stated that since there is no public comment we will close the public hearing at 7:07 PM.

President Mazis with Council members Marsh, 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. Absent from the meeting was Carroll-Baltozer. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President Mazis asked for a motion to approve the September 8th minutes. Council member States stated that he has a correction under his report on page 5 to change his name as the person getting estimates for concrete. It was not him, but rather it was Brian Stauffer. Council member States made a motion to accept the September 8th minutes with the correction and a second by Council member Hudson. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Mazis asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the brief budget meeting on October 1st. Council member Hudson made a motion to accept the October 1st budget minutes with a second by Council member States. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote. Mazis

explained that since there were a number of budgetary factors delayed by COVID, the final significant considerations to the budget will take place in the November budget meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Mazis thanked all the Borough essential workers for their efforts during COVID-19, and to remind everyone that we still need to social distance and wear face masks. Please remind citizens to wash their hands and to continue to social distance. We are still waiting with bated breath to hear from DCNR on the \$874,000 grant. Lori Yeich did contact us that we should be hearing something by this Thursday. The budget meeting is the first Thursday of every month and the November meeting will be an important meeting.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – They had a total for September of 16 calls, 37 officers, and 79.5 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. They have their glow sticks for Trick or Treat night ready and will be stationed in front of the Borough office and in the four hundred block of West Market Street. On Saturday October 24th the fire police will be assisting Conoy Township with their Halloween parade at 2:00 PM. They are also making preparation for the Christmas event in Marietta in lieu of the Candlelight tour. As regard to the EMA report we are still under the state of emergency. The COVID is still very active and still very deadly. A new stainless-steel flood gauge has been installed on the arch over Evans Run. This looks great and will last many years.

Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon Smith – They ran ten (10) fire calls and fifteen (15) QRS calls for a total of twenty-five (25) calls for September. The auditing was forwarded to Ronda today, so everyone should be receiving this. Mike with Sager, Swisher recommends that we do an internal prepare and not a full-blown audit in the future. He would like to discuss having the MOU changed going forward. There were no problems detected on the audit. President Mazis thanked the company for completing the audit and thereby reassuring the taxpayers.

Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh – Council member Marsh stated that the balance as of August 31, 2020 was \$19,052.74. 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 September 2020. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$244,612.77 and a checking account balance of \$747.43. 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 that the recycling report for August was 24,080 pounds recycled totaling 12.04 tons. Council member States made a motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Hudson. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick - The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated October 13, 2020. The total general fund accounts are \$1,181,899.80. Council member States 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 September. At the end of August, we show that our income is negative \$41,917.78 for the month. January through September we have an income of \$236,477.09. Bradnick stated that we are currently at 80% of budget. We have \$281,348.85 of expenses that we haven't spent this year. We have the rest of October and November and December to get through yet, and things will be running close. We will be making adjustments to the budget at the end of the year for grant money that was received and expenses that were made with those funds. We still have taxes and earned income to come in yet this year, given the COVID changes to the due dates.

Zoning Report – Tom Arnold – Not present and no report given.

Mayor's Report - Harold Kulman – Mayor Kulman stated that he has 2021 proposed budget for the police. The total budget is \$2,914,191.00. Conoy Township has 23.41% of that to pay which comes to \$682,212.00. East Donegal Township pays 58.11% which comes to \$1,693,437.00 and Marietta Borough pays 18.48% which comes to \$535,543.00. These figures are an increase over 2020. It is a rough world with police and health insurance. Health insurance payments are “unbelievable.” The health insurance went up \$75,000. They also required new technology for the men and vehicles. We are looking for a new chief, but having the chief as a part-time chief for another year is another budget savings, so at this time this is what we are going to do.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – President Mazis

President Mazis stated we spoke about the budget and tried to figure out how we would come up with extra funds to cover the police increases, and that Ray Vegso suggested that we pay off the loan and have those funds available for the budget for 2021. We had planned on paying the loan off next year anyway. This is the perfect time to get Marietta Borough out of debt. Also, we are all waiting for the transfer of the County land. Everything is signed, sealed, but we are just waiting for the approval of the Federal Parks Services, who will make any comments, suggestions, and hopefully approval. We also discussed who would be doing the variances for the requests for the variance for the noise ordinances. We felt instead of the police handling the variance that it should be the zoning officer. This request comes up once in a decade.

President Mazis stated that we have a standing commitment to revisit every month Resolution 2020-19 to see if we have had any problems during the month. He is not aware of any issues. This resolution is in regard to Marietta's open carry law being temporarily modified during the COVID emergency crisis to help local restaurants survive. No issues were reported by anyone and so the resolution will continue until next month.

President Mazis stated that we need a motion to pay the loan off from the fund balance in the amount of \$98,133.50 and adjust the budget for the expense. Council member States made the motion with a second by Council member Dalzell. Solicitor Harter stated that you are not taking from the future to pay now. Your fund balance is a little higher than normal, so you are currently “sitting on the cash” and paying on the loan, so it makes sense to pay off the loan balance. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Bill Dalzell

Council member Dalzell stated they mostly discussed budget and spoke about parking but nothing concrete. He is happy to report that we received the \$20,000 Walkworks grant to do an Active Transportation Plan. Active transportation is walking, bicycling, public transport,

everything but sitting in your car. This grant is to explore what we have now, what we need to do in the future, and help us reach out to our residents. It is very promising and involves transportation people and public health experts.

President Mazis stated that Sam Meckley is with RETTEW and has recently completed an Active transportation plan for Denver Borough and is very involved with this planning. We looked for someone that is familiar with this type of grant and knows about Active transportation, and also is local to the area. We need a consultant to run the grant. We will be looking at hiring Sam this evening to run the grant.

Sam Meckley was introduced. Sam lives in Penn Manor and has been with RETTEW for 10 years and very involved with community development. He services communities with planning needs. His primary functions with RETTEW are preparing funding applications, shepherding the process through to the project completion. He is also experience with GIS mapping and analysis. W. Earl Township and Denver Borough have moved forward on different phases of this grant under his guidance. He will be looking at all the means of transportation that is coming into Marietta.

President Mazis asked if there will be anything addressed in the grant in regard to community health. This is one thing that has not been addressed.

Sam stated that this is an issue for communities. The more data that can be collected the better. He encourages that someone from Penn Medicine be on the steering committee.

Council member Dalzell made a motion to appoint Sam Meckley with RETTEW to do our Active Transportation Plan with a second by Council member States. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Linda Ross asked what Denver is doing in regards to mapping. Sam stated that the mapping element in Denver's plan encompassed all the projects that they identified and all the considerations that they proposed. What they wanted to do going forward with the plan was to have each project mapped and include the exhibits for funding requests. They have the horseshoe trail just outside of the Borough limits and the Warwick-Ephrata trail, and they worked hard to get these two trails connected within the Denver Borough. They wanted to see this mapped with several alternatives evaluated.

Council member Dalzell made a motion to accept the Ordinance 2020-05 changing the parking meter hours with a second by council member States. Council member Dalzell asked that a letter be sent out to the owners of the properties affected by the change. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Public Outreach – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer

Council member Carroll-Baltozer was absent, Council member Dalzell stated that they spoke about "trick or treating." They had Brandon Tennis attend their meeting. He works for the Lancaster Conservancy and he would like to serve on our Park Commission.

Secretary Bradnick presented an event permit that was submitted by the Lions Club to install the Christmas lights on November 7 and rain date is November 14 from 8:00-12:00 AM. They will remove the lights January 9 or rain date January 16th. Council member Dalzell made a motion to accept the permit with a second by Council member Hudson. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Secretary Bradnick stated that she is working on getting the quick ticket typed up but have reached out several times to the printer and asked council for other ideas.

Public Safety – Jeffery Marsh

Council member Marsh stated they met on September 24th. The Borough has purchased one electronic speed sign with our insurance money to replace the broken one.

Council member States updated everyone on the traffic study. We voted on this at last meeting and to add Bank Street and West Market would cost us an additional \$3,500. This would be a separate study.

Council member Marsh stated that Steve Bailey brought up having West Market and Bridge Street as a possible four way stop and we would like to look at this in the future. They spoke about East Hazel and Rt. 441 to place a speed bump. Spoke with Sharon and she stated that we do not have enough room to put a speed bump or stop sign before you get to Clay Street. President Mazis stated that he would like to see a speed limit sign placed on East Hazel in this area, indicating the speed limit is 25 mph. Even though speed signs don't normally go on alleys, this s a different situation coming right off of 441, and Solicitor Harter stated there was no legal prohibition against putting such a sign on an alley, but most municipalities don't due to the cost.

Council member Marsh stated that the Mayor brought up about the bicyclist running the stop signs and going the wrong way on the one-way street. This is a matter of enforcement.

Public Works – Freddy States

Council member States stated that the study can not be discounted and the cost is \$9,900. If we want to add Bank Street and West Bank Street it would cost an additional \$3,500.

Secretary Bradnick stated that there is an issue with pulling out at all the intersections. If we do a study at Bank and Market then someone is going to want a study at Chestnut and Market and Steve Bailey brought up putting one up at Bridge and Market. So are we putting up stop signs at every intersection in the Borough.

Council member Dalzell stated if we start looking at more than one street and one stop sign in the Borough then you really need to be looking at doing a complete streets program to look at the entire Market Street instead of piecemeal interventions. PENNDOT does not want us using stop signs to control speed. This is not what they are for.

Council member States stated that we are always going to have this issue, what we can control we can control. Some people you just can't control. People are people. Glenn Orr is going to be putting up two children at play signs on E. Prospect Avenue. Also, the Rivertrail is all cleaned up. SA Way came in and cleared out all our stormdrains to the river. They formed out ten and going to pour concrete at the base of the flap valves so it makes them easier to clean out. They also added a bracket so that they can not be opened and let open. In addition, East Market Street had to get paved by UGI so the guys need to repaint the parking lines on that section. Brian Stauffer gave us a bid to put the sidewalks in on E. Market in the amount of \$13,556.00 and we had two other company's give us a price of \$15,000 and \$16,800. Council member States made a motion to have Brian Stauffer's bid and have him do the sidewalks for the properties on East Market Street with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member States made a motion to pay the final invoice for the flap valves in the amount of \$172,577.50 with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh – Authority received 2019 audit, there were no discrepancies. They are updating the computer software at the plant. They are getting quotes to install an electric gate

NWRT Committee – Glen Mazis – The meeting in July was cancelled. We are to have a meeting in October.

C2P2 Committee – Glen Mazis – We had the meeting in the park. We are having a steering committee meeting on October 27. We need to close out this grant by the end of the year. Everyone is pleased with the ideas that she proposed.

G3 Grant Phase II Committee – Glen Mazis – The grant was extended and we are waiting for the final engineer's drawing. This grant will be closed out at the end of the year.

G3 Grant Phase III Committee – Glen Mazis – We are waiting to hear from DCNR if we received the \$874,000 grant. If we don't get the grant we will do part of the project, but let's hope that we hear something in the next 48 hours to whether we get it or not.

Shade Tree Committee – Bill Dalzell – They did not have a meeting last month or this month. They are looking at meeting on Thursday.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Council member McKinney stated that the Council received from a concern citizen a message that the citizen keeps receiving parking violations and there are vehicles that set in front and behind them and they do not get parking tickets. They are tired of being singled out. Secretary Bradnick stated that the other cars may have a parking permit in their window.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Ross – Fairview Avenue – We have been talking about the problems with the one-way section on Front Street. Do we have any guy of ballpark figure on when the park grant will be done? The park plan that was presented shows a bike trail up on our land and this would solve the problem in regard to the one way section. President Mazis stated that we would need to go for a grant to implement the next portion of the plan which would be a year or two.

Ray Vegso – Pine Street – He wanted to just remind council to not forget to do the tennis courts and make them into a multi-use court such as basketball, volleyball, and pickle ball. He has visited an organization whose business is putting in multi-use courts. If we are going to stay with the asphalt then it is important that it is put in level. He is willing to work on this and serve on a committee.

Rae Ann Schatz – 24 Fairview Avenue – Getting back to the Market Street and speeding in town. I thought the painting of the lines was to slow down traffic. Is this not working? Council member Dalzell stated that it was never to be a complete solution, but rather it is a marginal effect and a cost effective measure that we could take, which would have some effect. A small line is not going to stop speeding but in the aggregate over all will slow down the average speed. Rae Ann stated we might look at the “slow” that is painted on the S bend. Is it a possibility to have slow painted on Clay Street? Council member States stated that we have that stencil, but we don't want to put them all over town but it could be used in this case. Rae Ann asked if we could put “slow down bikers painted on the trail”. President Mazis stated that we have a meeting with the NWRT committee and he will bring this up at the meeting on what we can do.

There being no further business to come before Council, on a motion by Council member States with a second by Council member Dalzell, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer