

Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Budget Workshop held November 5, 2020
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA

President Mazis with Council members, Dalzell, Carroll-Baltozer, Marsh, McKinney, States, and Hudson present by zoom. The budget workshop meeting of the Marietta Borough Council started at 7:05 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

BUDGET MEETING

President Mazis opened the budget meeting and before he turned the meeting over to the secretary he had Brian Smith with the Pioneer Fire Company present the fire company budget. Brian stated nothing changed with the budget. They made changes on many line items but it did not change the bottom line, since they compensated with other line items. Secretary Bradnick stated that the more the fire company's saves then the more they will have to put towards the truck fund. Brian stated that they would like to change the MOU. The fire company would like to change to doing an internal audit each year instead a biyearly audit. President Mazis stated that it was recommended by Sager, Swisher to have them do an internal audit, and council will look at what we need to do to change this after the first of the year. Secretary Bradnick asked if Brian knew where the fire company is with their funds in turning money back into the Borough to put money towards the truck fund and Brian said that is still being determined.

President Mazis turned the meeting over to the secretary/treasurer. The secretary/treasurer stated that we voted to pay off the loan for Fairview Avenue and this was done. This allows the budget to no longer have the \$68,000 for the loan and covers the increase in the police budget of \$41,203. She added \$15,000 to the Capital Reserve line which increases this from \$5,000 to \$20,000. She stated that "We need to build up the Capital Reserve account." From the beginning of this budget, there has been an increase of 3% for salary increases for employees. The Milanof Schock Library asked for an increase from \$2100 to \$2510, and secretary Bradnick put in the budget for the library \$2,500. We have three years to get up to \$14,000 on the contribution to NW EMS. Last year we gave \$8,000 and she increased that to \$10,000 for next year. Currently the budget is balanced. Currently the budget went from \$1,412,037 to \$1,420,030.

President Mazis asked if we are still underestimating the earned income and Secretary Bradnick stated yes, we always keep that on the low side.

Council member Carroll-Baltozer made a motion to accept the budget as presented with a second by Council member States.

Secretary/Treasurer Bradnick asked if we are increasing the tax rate or increasing the tax rate that is given to the Pioneer Fire Company. The current rate for taxes is 6.15 mills for taxes and .75 mills for Fire Tax. Council member agreed that we are not increasing the tax rate.

Secretary/Treasurer Bradnick let council know the progress of the 421 W. Market Street project.

President Mazis stated that we usually underestimate the earned income tax by \$50,000.

Bradnick stated that we did underestimate this, and we keep this on the low side. President Mazis asked about the status of the real estate tax. Bradnick stated that people have until November 30 to pay their taxes and we are down \$15,000 currently. We are currently down in our total taxes \$9,858.

Council member Carroll-Baltozer asked if we are behind on delinquent taxes. Bradnick stated that from what we budgeted this year we are actually over \$1,300 but the Borough still is owed \$17,254 in delinquent taxes.

Council member McKinney asked if there are allocations anywhere for the safety board. They don't have a budget. Secretary/Treasurer Bradnick stated that the safety committee is there to look for any safety issues throughout town and if the safety issue is with streets then they would work with the street committee to have the issue taken care of. If the safety issue is with parks, they would work with the parks committee to have this issue resolved.

Council agreed to move forward with the budget and have no increase in taxes and let the salary increases at 3%.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

There being no further business council member States made a motion to adjourn with a second by Council member McKinney at 7:46 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer