

**Marietta Borough Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held January 12, 2021**  
**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 7:14 PM. due to technical difficulty getting on the zoom meeting. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ray Vegso – 50 N. Pine Street – reminder of planning ahead that we are at the lowest borrowing rates. He brings this up because everyone is making progress with all of the ideas. We should consider significant borrowing in the first quarter of 2021. You can't get money any cheaper. Council should plan ahead on that basis.

Linda Ross – Fairview Avenue – here to inform everyone on events that are scheduled for the end of April. She was representing Marietta Arts Alive. Rivertown is sponsoring the event. Artists will be painting pictures throughout Marietta and from Long Level up to Bainbridge. They have two weeks to produce work and then their paintings will be on display of liability at the Community House from April 21 through April 25. She supplied the council with a disclaimer for the artists participating. Brandon Harter added that this was sufficient for this type of event..

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

President Mazis asked for a motion to approve the December 8<sup>th</sup> minutes. Council member States made a motion to accept the December 8<sup>th</sup> minutes with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Mazis thanked all the essential workers and first responders for their efforts during COVID-19, and to remind everyone that we still need to social distance, wear face masks and avoid crowded indoor spaces. We are at the worst point of the pandemic and it is more important than ever to not be in an enclosed space with people and do what the CDC recommends.

**REPORTS**

**Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey** – They had a total for December of 7 calls, 10 officers, and 72 duty hours. The truck was cleaned and sanitized. All officers have been instructed in protocols for the virus. The report for the year they had a total of 141 calls, 320 officers, and 896 duty hours. Lancaster County issued a declaration of disaster due to the COVID-19 virus. Marietta Borough followed suit later the same day. They had 2 floods to deal with during the year. May 2 and December 25<sup>th</sup>. The river trail was closed for several days, but no water on the streets. On December 14<sup>th</sup> a state of snow emergency was declared when a heavy snow storm hit our area. The snow emergency remained in effect until December 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon Smith** – They ran nine (9) fire calls and eighteen (18) QRS calls for a total of twenty-seven (27) calls for December. From the beginning of the COVID emergency the number of QRS calls was reduced in order to protect the fire fighters. The fire

company received their new fire gear ordered in 2018 and will need the check back in payment for the gear that they returned in 2019 when the gear had not yet arrived.

**Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh** – Council member Marsh stated that the balance as of November 30, 2020 was \$28,429.87. Council member Marsh made the motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**Sewer – Freddy States** – Council member States report was dated December 2020. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$149,829.19 and a checking account balance of \$1,703.55. Council member States motioned to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Marsh. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**Recycling – Freddy States** – Council member States reported that the recycling report for November was 69,440 pounds recycled totaling 34.72 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. Council member States reported that the recycling report for December was 27,880 pounds recycled totaling 13.94 tons. Council member States made a motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick** - The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated January 12, 2021. The total general fund accounts are \$961,202.61. 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** – Council received the profit and loss statements for the month of November. At the end of December, we show that our income is in the negative of \$89,934.18 for the month. January through December we have a negative income of \$377.68. The auditors will be in the week of February 22 to start looking over our records. The office is closing out the files for the year end, setting up new files, and getting ready for the auditors. The grant for DCNR and Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant was closed in time to meet the deadline. The report for the liquid fuel's money was completed and we should be receiving our liquid fuel's money by March.

**Zoning Report – Tom Arnold** – This has been a challenging year with the COVID virus and the office being shut down for a week yet the zoning/code officer was able to get almost all the inspections completed. He wears his mask when he is out and continues to social distant. He issued 77 zoning permits as compared to 41 in 2019. At this time, the quick ticket program is running and he has issued two quick tickets. He is still working hard to clean up the blighted properties within the borough. There has been a lot of progress, but there is still a lot of work to do.

Solicitor Harter complemented Tom on the MDJ court procedures that he has handled. He has kept the Solicitor's involvement down which has saved the Borough a lot of money.

**Mayor's Report - Harold Kulman** – Mayor Kulman stated that he would like to let everyone know that they have received a lot of applications for the chief's position. The chief has let them know that this will be his last year, and the commission is going to start looking at the applications. They want to make this an unbiased, independent evaluation of the people that are applying. It's going to be a difficult job and they are presently working on it. Once they pick some people that they are interested in, they will then have to go through a period of testing as

part of the evaluation process.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Administrative – President Mazis**

President Mazis stated that in 2019 we already approved \$7,907.57 for the fire company to purchase gear and because of the COVID it did not come in, and the fire company gave back the check. The fire gear just came in, and Mazis would like a motion to give back the money for the Fire Company to pay for the fire gear. Council member States made the motion with a second by Council member Marsh. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Mazis stated that the administrative committee did not meet, but he would like to mention that he emailed Representative Hickernell that DCED is not going to have its regular grant for the sewer restoration project, and we would like to get the last two phrases of the sewer relined. Representative Hickernell was going to check to see if any funding was available for the project.

President Mazis asked for a motion to approve Resolution 01-2021 of disposing of specific borough records as required by state mandate. Council member Dalzell made the motion with a second by Council member Hudson. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Mazis asked for a motion to appoint Rick Thomas to the Borough Vacancy Board Chair, Resolution 03-2021. Council member States made the motion with a second by Council member Hudson. Council member Carroll-Baltozer abstained from voting because she did not know Rick Thomas. Motion carries by voice vote with Council member Carroll-Baltozer abstaining.

President Mazis asked for a motion to appoint Nancy Kulman to the Housing Hearing Board, resolution 04-2021. Council member States made the motion with a second by Council member Dalzell. Solicitor Harter gave a description of the responsibility of the housing hearing board. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Mazis asked for a motion to appoint Jeffery Marsh to a one year term to Marietta-Donegal Joint Authority. Council member States made the motion with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Mazis announced that we have an opening on the Zoning Hearing Board. Phyllis Stellfox's term is up and she does not want to continue. We have an opening on the Planning Commission. Del Ellsworth's term is up and he does not want to continue. If anyone is interested please have them put in their letter of interest within the next month.

### **Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Bill Dalzell**

Council member Dalzell stated they had a brief meeting last month and he only went over a conversation that he had in regards to the vulture problem. He had a conversation with Harris Glass that works for USDA. They are willing to help the Borough with our vulture problem. They do have the ability to get permits to have the birds removed but it takes 4 to 6 months to get the permits. We can contract with the USDA and it would be at cost. In the meantime, we need to let our residents know not to harass the birds as Dalzell explained this makes the situation worse. There has to be sustained measure against them..

Council member Dalzell stated that we make a motion to adopt Resolution 02-2021 the Marietta Borough Five Year Plan with a second by Council member States. Council member Dalzell stated that we need to remove the twitter from the five-year plan that had been inserted by accident. This plan is a road map to take back to the Borough committees for something to work on. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Dalzell stated that we need to appoint an alternate to the Planning Commission. Council member Dalzell made the motion to appoint Glen Mazis as the alternate to the Planning Commission with a second by Council member Carroll-Baltozer. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

#### **Public Outreach – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer**

Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated that Park and Recreation changes to the previous ordinance will be distributed for the council look over, and have it brought up at the next meeting. Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated that when we speak about public outreach and transparency through the community, she was troubled that she was getting messages from people in the community that the Borough office was closed and was not notified by Council. She would like to have transparency. If she does not know, then she cannot let others know within the community. President Mazis explained that he had Angie Shearer post the notice on the website and on Facebook but apologized for not contacting her directly and stated that he will make sure that he lets her know in the future.

Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated that in regard to War Memorial Park; where are we at on having Inch & Co. do any work within the park? Before we do any work in any other parks we should look at our number one park. It is rather embarrassing that this park needs to have things done to it and we are looking at creating other parks. President Mazis stated he reached out to Inch about submitting the amount that the 421 project owes the Borough in work on the parks in lieu of the recreation fees, but has not heard back from him. Mazis stated that Inch is to get together with YSM to plan a series of improvements to the Memorial Park, but we really need to do a master park plan for War Memorial Park to deal with its complexity. Carroll-Baltozer wants to make sure that we are maintaining the parks that we have. We have the trail and the men had to scrape the mud off of it. It is true that after we expand our park system, we will have to consider, if the maintenance gets to be too much we may have to hire a third person to help maintain everything.

Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated that we are still using The Traveler to get information out, and possibly that Bill should do a bird story about our vultures for the traveler.

President Mazis stated that someone got in touch with him in regard to having the Borough do a welcome package to the new residents that are moving into the new apartments. Maybe the committee would check into this and discuss it.

Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated that we received an event application for the Rivertown Art Show and Sale. After a long discussion in regard to whether the event needs an insurance certificate. The Solicitor told them to look at the Borough's ordinance to see if any of these 13 items require an event permit.

#### **Public Safety – Jeffery Marsh**

Council member Marsh stated that they did not have a meeting this month. It fell on Christmas Eve.

## **Public Works – Freddy States**

Council member States stated they met earlier this evening. Glenn Orr, the roadmaster, informed them that the water company is replacing the main line down Front Street from Clay to Aaron. They are checking out the drain boxes as the water company does the work. They replaced one box at Clay Street and two others were looked at and are in good shape. We just had the big snow and Propsect Alley, where we placed the millings held up well. The Eastside of Furnance Road is in bad shape, beyond the parking lot. We need to look at the cost to have this area taken care of it. We are doing from Hazel down to the parking lot, but from the parking lot to Rt. 441 is not being done but we really need to look into what the cost would be to finish the whole project. There are two areas in front of the flapper valves that need to be poured yet. The flapper valves were all under water and they held up well. As we acquire these parks and we acquire the County land, we are going to have to hire a third person to help with maintenance and mowing of the parks. He would also like to look into plowing the snow, when we have 2 inches of snow on the ground, instead of the current standard of three inches. Bradnick stated that we need to look into this and see the practice in other municipalities. This is mandated by an ordinance, and the ordinance would need to be changed, if the standard was changed.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh** – No report the meeting was cancelled.

**NWRT Committee – Glen Mazis** – The next meeting is in April 2021.

**G3 Grant Phase III Committee – Glen Mazis** – We are waiting on the permitting to start the project.

**Shade Tree Committee – Bill Dalzell** – They did not have a formal meeting. They will be meeting January 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Walkworks Grant – Glen Mazis** – We finally have our steering committee set up and the first meeting will be the last week of this month. We have a great committee set up. There will be a few public meetings.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

They were going to appoint the park and recreation commission, but are holding off until the revised ordinance is passed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

President Mazis stated that the National Park Service needed a formal name for the paperwork. Mazis asked for a motion to name the park. Mazis explained that the staff and he had come up with the name, "The Marietta Iron Furnace Park", which was greeted with enthusiasm by the County. Mazis asked for a motion to name the park and hoped this name would be acceptable. Council member Dalzell made a motion to name the land "Marietta Iron Furnace Park" with a second by Council member Hudson. After a long discussion in regard to the name Council agreed on the name. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments.

There being no further business before Council, on a motion by Council member Marsh with a second by Council member Hudson, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick  
Secretary/Treasurer