

Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held March 9, 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 7:02 PM. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Whalen – 37 S. Porter St. – Inquiring on who is responsible for cleaning up the curbs when it snows. He understands that the Borough is giving out quick tickets for not shoveling sidewalks and that is a good start but then the Borough needs to step up and clean up the snow from the curbs. What happens, is when the snow melts at the curbs, it refreezes and makes it hard to walk. The Borough needs to remove the snow from the curbs and put it in a park and have it melt down through the grass which would not affect the water getting into the river. If homeowners are required to remove their snow from their walks, then the Borough needs to step-up and do their part by removing the snow from the streets by the curbs. President Mazis asked him to come to the public works committee to address the issue. Solicitor Harter stated that the Borough is responsible to clear the cartway. It would cost the Borough a lot of money to remove the snow from each individual parking space. If there is an area that you are specifically speaking about you need to call the Borough office to have public works come out to look at the situation. Whalen said that the Borough needs to do their part.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President Mazis asked for a motion to approve the February 9th minutes. Council member States made a motion to accept the February 9th minutes with a second by Council member Hudson. 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 feel like it is over, but it is not over. There is a five word sentence that says it all "Don't breathe someone else's air." Let everyone know that The Walkworks Grant will be at the March 16th Planning Commission meeting at 7:00 PM. The first part will be a public meeting to get public input in regard to the active transportation (active transportation means getting around by physical activity in order to improve health). Also the questionnaire is out on our website so please go out and fill out the questioner.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – They had a total for February of 11 calls, 20 officers, and 57 duty hours. The truck was cleaned and sanitized. They are asking for volunteers to join the Fire Police, as they are down on volunteers. Steve is finished with the ice watch for this year. Starting tomorrow the COVID location will open at the old Bon-Ton at Park City for shots and plan to do 500 a day initially and even more later. They have 33,000 people signed up.

Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon Smith – They ran nine (9) fire calls and six (6) QRS calls for a total of fifteen (15) calls for January. The fund drive will be going out within a month.

Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh – Council member Marsh stated that it was nice to see the Fire Company at War Memorial Park doing training. The balance as of January 31, 2021 was \$12,727.78. Council member Marsh made the motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member McKinney. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Sewer –Freddy States – Council member States report was dated February 2021. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$184,123.45 and a checking account balance of \$2,829.11. 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 February was 24,900 pounds recycled, totaling 12.45 tons. Council member States made a motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Carroll-Baltozer. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick - The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated March 9, 2021. The total general fund accounts are \$877,962.54. Council member Dalzell motioned to approve the report as presented with a second by Council member States. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Secretary – Sharon Bradnick – Council received the profit and loss statements for the month of February. At the end of February, we show that our income is in the negative of \$253.83 for the month. January through February we have an income of negative \$1,355.93. The auditors have been in and gathered all the information and took this back to their office to work on. This should be finalized and a time will be set up for them to go over with the Administrative Committee and the Mayor and any other Council members who wish to attend.

Zoning Report – Tom Arnold – Tom was not present, and Councilmen States gave the report. There are a few remaining inspections for 2020, partly due to the COVID. We are getting ready to schedule the annual inspections for 2021. He abides by CDC regulations by wearing a mask. He issued 20 quick tickets, for which one has asked for a hearing. Some residents have questioned the policy regarding snow removal. The policy is that there must be at least a 36" path cleared no later than 24 hours after the snow has stopped. As always, he asks that the residents make sure their addresses are visible on the outside of their property.

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. We received forty-three applicants. Mayor Kulman explained at length that he initiated the hiring process be facilitated by the State Association of Police Chief's professional agency and this procedure was adopted by the commission. They have screened the initial pool and are getting to the interview process of 6 applicants that will be jointly interviewed by members of the agency and the commission with the goal of narrowing the group to three finalists. This will take four to six months to get through this process. We hope to pick someone around July or August.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – President Mazis

President Mazis stated that we had no meeting. We have one motion to make regarding the Fire Company's allocation of funds. Mazis asked Fire Chief Smith if they are paying the debt with other funds, because the MOU states that they need to take the first 14,000 and pay to debt

then the next 10,000 to save for a fire truck and the remaining funds for capital expenditures. Brandon stated that they apply for a grant for debt reduction and receive this each year and along with their fund raising. These funds cover the debt payment. They would like to put \$32,434.63 towards the truck fund and the remaining \$14,000 use for capital expenditures for repaving the parking lot. The parking lot has not been done for over sixteen years. Council member Dalzell made a motion that we allow the fire company to allocate funds to pay for the paving of their parking lot, with a second by Council member States. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote. Mazis commended the company for putting this sizeable amount into the Truck fund and asked how close they were to having enough for a down payment for a new truck. Fire Chief Smith said they were close and is setting up a committee to investigate the needs to the Fire Company and different possible trucks, so they make the right choice and use the funds wisely. The committee will come to a decision by next year.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Bill Dalzell

Council member Dalzell stated they had their meeting last month and they discussed how the Heritage Plan is currently being implemented, and how we can improve or alter the message. We need to make it more accessible to those doing house projects. The committee also spoke about another item that is on our five year plan: the vaccine museum. This was spoken about several years ago and we want to pick this back up and see what the Borough can do to make this happen.

President Mazis stated what better time to work on this, with the COVID crisis and the current interest in vaccines and need for education about them. It was suggested to look at having the museum in the Municipal Building on the second floor and this way we could possibly get sponsors for the building renovated and also the museum.

Council member Dalzell stated the only other items is the Ordinance 02-2021, which makes updates to the Parks and Recreation Commission Ordinance which, has been discussed the last few months. These changes will more reflect what we want the commission to be about. Dalzell made a motion to adopt Ordinance 02-2021 that amends and restates chapter 53 of the Borough's Parks and Recreation Commission, with a second by Council member Carroll-Baltozer. President Mazis asked some questions in regards to how the terms run. Mazis also asked if it could be specified that budget requests would be considered by Council as part of the yearly budget process at the end of the year. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote. Council member Dalzell asked that we put out a notice on our Facebook that we are looking for people to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Council member McKinney stated that he spoke with Steve Bailey in regards to all of his pictures displaying the history of Marietta, and the Borough needs to find a place to display them, so that he can get these pictures out of his home, and into the public eye. Mazis stated that this can be discussed at the PZE Committee. Council member Dalzell stated that they may be able to reach out to Millersville University to have the pictures digitized in order that they could also be displayed on the internet.

Public Outreach – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer

Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated that she has an event application for the Memorial Day Parade to be held on May 31st. She made the motion with a second by Council member States. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote. Secretary Bradnick asked if Council would like to be in the parade with a float. If so, they need to let us know so we can dress up a float, President Mazis said he would participate and suggested we give out candy to the children. Secretary

Bradnick said she would get Tootsie rolls. Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated we need in addition to candy, to get dog biscuits.

Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated that she has an event application for Lancaster Half Marathon that will run May 2, 2021 from Koser Park to Decatur Street and back. This was approved last year, but was cancelled due to the COVID. Carroll-Baltozer made the motion to accept the application with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member McKinney stated that it would be nice if we could get a runner's road race on the streets of Marietta similar to the Bike Race. President Mazis stated that he would love if Louis would work on this in the Outreach Committee. He would love to see a road race in town and mentioned they are significant fund-raisers.

Council member Carroll-Baltozer stated she has an event application for Donegal Baseball-Softball Association baseball practice at War Memorial Park from March 8th to June 30th. Carroll-Baltozer made the motion to approve the application with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Joe Clark – W. Front Street – presented a progress report on his work on the "Welcome Bags." He will have these on display for the Council to inspect during the first week of April. He will bring one into the Borough office for display. The first bags will go out to the new development at 421 W. Market Street and then they will have bags for single family homes. Linda Ross put together a two-page summary on the history of the buildings in Marietta, so that people new in town know what they are looking at. This will go in the bag. Hopefully, at the April council meeting Council will approve the welcome bags so they can move forward.

Public Safety – Jeffery Marsh

Council member Marsh stated that at their meeting on February 25 they were joined by Michele Shaffer with EMS, which was helpful and will be helpful, if she continues to attend. The new speed sign is up and working well. The cameras will be placed in the Borough office. The fire police will be out for Marietta Day to direct traffic,

Public Works – Freddy States

Council member States stated they met earlier, the first part of the meeting was a hearing in regard to a quick ticket that was disputed. The ticket was waived due to insufficient evidence. They then discussed that plowing went well and Prospect Avenue held up well. As a result, this process will be used in other alleys. They had a total of forty overtime hours for snow removal and went through fifty tons of salt. They are also leaving the water fountain off this year in Flanagan Park due to the COVID. Ray Vegso was at this meeting and stated when we look at doing the work on East Front Street, we need to look at widening the street in that area to allow parking on both sides for it to be a two-way street.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh – The sewer authority is running smoothly. They are having a security gate installed.

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

G3 Grant Phase III Committee – Glen Mazis – The permitting process is underway. We now have a budget and schedule which will allow the construction to be completed in the fall. We are getting the Chesapeake Bay Trust part of the larger grant project extended due to things being held up with COVID.

Shade Tree Committee – Bill Dalzell – They met last month, and they finished the first phase of the tree census. They are planning an arbor tree planting event and more information will come on that.

Walkworks Grant – Glen Mazis – We have already spoke in regard to this. Just remember to come to the Planning Commission on March 16th to participate in the public input meeting, This will be by zoom. Also go out on our website and complete the WalkWorks survey.

OLD BUSINESS

The standup paddle board pop-up business agreement was discussed last month and Borough Council approved for Alicia Brommer to have her pop-up business but we need a business agreement signed between her and the Borough. Council needs to make a motion to allow President Mazis to sign the agreement on behalf of the Borough.

Council member Carroll-Baltozer made a motion to authorize President Mazis to sign the agreement on behalf of the Borough, with a second by Council member Hudson. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Louis McKinney – he would like to get a survey of senior citizens in town that need help shoveling their walks. Maybe we can come up with a list of kids in town that would be willing to help out elders. President Mazis stated that bring this up in the Outreach Committee to see if you can put together a list of kids that would be willing to help seniors, since at this point you will have until next fall.

Linda Ross – Fairview Ave. – The Plein Air Painter's Festival starts in April and we have had an overwhelming response by artists. We have had to cut off the list. They currently have sixty artists that will be doing their artwork in the week previous and the paintings will be on display at the Community House from April 23-25th. If you go to the website MariettaArtAlive.com you can stay updated on the artists who are participating. It has been a great turnout and they hope this will be an annual event.

There being no further business before Council, on a motion by Council member Dalzell with a second by Council member McKinney, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer