

Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held May 11, 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.

Michael Reiner and Alissa Harrison with Sager, Swisher & Company were on the zoom meeting to present the annual audit report to council. The report was reviewed a few weeks ago by Glen Mazis and Sharon Bradnick in a meeting with Reiner and Harrison. Michael Reiner went over the audit with the council. The unassigned fund balance shows an \$875,000 balance. Marietta over spent the expenditures by \$20,000 for the year due to an omission at the year's end of passing a motion to make an adjustment of funds. Marietta received enough revenue to offset the overspending in expenditures. The auditor reported a clean audit, and that Marietta is in good financial shape. Bradnick asked what she needs to do to make sure that the adjustments are made properly so that we do not overspend the budget in the future. Mike stated that the Borough needs to look to see if any other adjustments are needed come January because we still have bills that need paid through December. We would need to do a resolution for the adjustments in January.

Council member Marsh made a motion to accept the audit with a second by Council member Carroll. Motion carries unanimously. Council member Marsh made a motion to advertise the budget with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Buzz Altland – 26 S. Locust Street – first time on meeting.

Linda Ross – Fairview Avenue – The organizers were thrilled with the public response for the Plein-air Art Show. The artists drew a lot of interest, and the exhibition was well attended with most of the paintings being sold. The artists liked the subjects to be painted in the area and felt welcomed. It was a success, and they are going to try and make this an annual event.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President Mazis asked for a motion to approve the April 13th minutes. Council member States made a motion to accept the April 13th minutes with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Mazis stated that the Plein-air was a boost to the community. The residents like talking to the artists, watching the artists at work. He was glad it went so well and looks forward to them returning next year. Marietta Day was also quite successful with many people in attendance.

President Mazis thanked all the essential workers and first responders for their continued work during the covid-19 period. The governor's order is still in effect till the 17th of May at 50% and the restrictions will be lifted come May 31. However, there is still three more weeks. We still have the emergency order, and if you can, please still wear your mask and wash your hands. We are so close in licking this. Do not leave your guard down.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – They had a total for April of 11 calls, 19 officers, and 62.5 duty hours. The truck was cleaned and sanitized. They discussed at their meeting and stressing to his guys that to look at their surroundings in terms of the virus. If you are in an enclosed area or an area that you are not familiar with, then go ahead and wear masks. We do not want to have the surge like other countries are currently experiencing. Volunteers are needed to join the Fire Police, as they are down on volunteers. They were in the Make-A-Wish convoy on Mother's Day. The entrance fee was \$500. They placed two jars out for donations, one at Mount Joy Diner and one at Gus's in Mount Joy and they received the money to enter the Make-A-Wish convoy. They have been in the Make-A-Wish convoy for 5 years and they donated a little over \$508.00. On Memorial Day they will be covering Marietta's and Bainbridge's Memorial Day Parades.

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

Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh – Council member Marsh stated the balance as of March 31, 2021 was \$6,955.02. 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 State's report was dated April 2021. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$265,005.40 and a checking account balance of \$233.63. 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 April was 33,540 pounds recycled, totaling 93.58 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 May 11, 2021. The total general fund accounts are \$951,938.04. 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 April. At the end of April, we show that our income in the amount of \$76,456.69 for the month. January through April we have a deficit of \$10,516.20. We also received a deposit from tax payments in the amount of \$537,926.74 that has not been processed, because Bradnick is waiting for the backup documents.

Zoning Report – Tom Arnold – Tom Arnold stated that he has completed 50% of the housing inspections. He has issued 6 zoning permits to bring the total to twenty-two for the year. He reminded people to mow their lawns and keep the weeds and brush under control. He has issued eight quick tickets for failure to mow lawns. He started to see vehicles that are not inspected and/or registered parked throughout the Borough. Remember the Code requires all vehicles to be registered and inspected when parked on the street or on any property within the Borough. He asked that residents make sure their addresses are visible on the outside of their property for emergency responders. He encourages all residents to sweep and beautify their properties.

Mayor's Report - Harold Kulman – Mayor Kulman stated that they have completed seven interviews for the position of Police Chief of the Regional force with the help of the Chief's Association, and they are now down to three applicants. These remaining interviews will be held on May 20th. He spoke about the accident that happened on South Clay Street. The complaint is that people are coming off Rt 441 to try and beat the light, so they are not completely stopping at the stop sign at South Clay Street and East Hazel Avenue. He took the time one day and counted 50 cars that came off 441 and 11 bicycles. Not one bicycle stopped at the stop signs. It seems like we are not doing anything. We need to do something. Mayor Kulman rescinded his state of emergency proclamation for the COVID-19 emergency.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – President Mazis

President Mazis stated that the administrative committee rescinded the old policies that were incorrect. Also, the committee compared the insurance coverage, and we get much higher coverage with comparable cost with our current policy, so we stayed with Murray. We have been with them for awhile and we took their recommendation and stayed with what we have. We raised the issue on continuing with Zoom meetings versus in-person meetings and it was unanimous of the committee to continue with Zoom meetings. Also, the idea of a microphones and a sound system to do it in a complete way it would be too costly for a Borough our size. We done this before, a Council member that was stationed in Alaska would attend our meetings by Zoom. We can discuss this in a moment. We put in the Traveler about citizens getting put on a list for street trees if they want a free street tree. John Inch is willing to donate trees to the town. This will be further discussed under PZE. Glen opened the discussion on holding in-person meetings. The governors' restrictions will cease at the end of the month. Solicitor Harter stated that the governor announced that on May 17th they are going to increase the capacity for indoor capacity and outdoor capacity. Fifty percent indoor and seventy-five percent outdoor capacity. Then starting on Memorial Day, all restrictions will be lifted except the wearing of masks. Mazis asked who would like to continue with zoom meetings or continue with in-person meetings. Bradnick stated that we phoned municipalities in the area and out of fourteen municipalities, only two are holding zoom meetings, one of them being Marietta. Council member Carroll-Baltozer made a motion to start in-person meetings at our July meeting with a second by Council member Hudson. After a long discussion amongst council motion carries unanimously by voice vote, as all agreed they wanted to meet in person as soon as it was safe but wanted to wait one more month to make sure there was not a surge and to give people time to be vaccinated.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Bill Dalzell

Council member Dalzell stated they met last month. They have been looking over the Heritage Plan to find the correct way of implementing this. Glen had already brought up the John Inch is going to be donating street trees to residents and planting them. Everyone needs to spread the word. The trees are not guaranteed for everyone since it will be necessary, to look at where we need to prioritize trees according to where they are needed and, see if we can get people put on the list. This is a great opportunity and is better than a grant. We will continue to go for grants to try and get trees.

Public Outreach – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer

Council member Baltozer stated that they discussed GEARS and the summer recreation program. Hopefully, our cost will be cut down, especially without all the requirements with the

CDC now that the virus is waning. We have fourteen children signed up. We have approximately \$7,000 towards the cost. A shout out and thank you to Jagtrux, McCleary's, Railroad House, Donegal Mutual, Community House, and MBA as our biggest supporters so far this year. It is very important to have our town get out and be together.

Council member Baltozer stated that we had two event applications. The first being Donegal Baseball/Softball Association with Legacy Baseball which is the name of the traveling team. They are updating their application to add their name. It is the same group of kids. She made a motion to add Legacy name to the DBSA baseball application, with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

The second special event application is for "The Bridge Busted: Rivertown Redemption" would like to hold their event October 2nd on Front Street from Bank Street to Perry Street. Baltozer made a motion to have "The Bridge Busted: Rivertown Redemption" in Marietta to Front Street with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote. President Mazis asked that Rebecca get in touch with Dave Hanaman about making sure what dates will be needed for Pig Iron Festival. They were looking at holding the Pig Iron Festival on October 2nd, and we do not want to have a conflict of dates. You may want to get in touch with him.

President Mazis stated that he told Rebecca that there will be a Baseball Association that wants to do these special tournaments next year and they would give us \$10,000 to fix up the fields and the Borough would earn \$1,000 - \$2,000 from their share of the fees each weekend. We will need to fit this in with the new master plan, if we get that grant.

Public Safety – Jeffery Marsh

Council member Marsh stated they met, and they spoke about the accident on East Hazel Avenue and South Clay Street. Their suggestion was that we could paint signage on East Hazel Avenue, like strips on the road. They spoke about the bikes on the road regarding the recumbent bikes not having flags on them and they are hard to see. They had an incident at the Senior Housing and were not able to get in the building. They phoned the complex to locate the lock box.

Council member McKinney asked if we could have our public works department put flashing red lights on the stop signs at East Hazel Avenue and South Clay Street. After a long discussion on placing flashing red lights on a stop sign, the issue needs to be investigated. Solicitor Harter stated that you can not alter stop signs or put flashing red lights on the stop sign without getting permission from PENNDOT. Council stated that we need to have the police monitor this area.

Public Works – Freddy States

Council member States stated he came into the office and went over streets that need to be paved. We had the engineer out to give us an opinion of probable construction cost for Aaron Street, N. Porter St., N. Jones St., and a no name alley that we call Bailey Ave.. The cost came in at \$133,457.50. We have \$94,000 of liquid fuels money. There is no harm in putting this out to bid to see what it comes back at. If it goes over we can take it from the fund balance. President Mazis suggested that a better way to proceed would be to make one of the streets be an "alternate" on the bid, which allows the Borough the choice how to proceed. Solicitor Harter agreed, and Councilman States said he would proceed in this fashion and the motion was amended. This would finish up the west side of town. Council member States made a motion to put these streets out for bid with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries

unanimously by voice vote.

States stated that we have one person that applied for the lawnmowing position. The street sweeping is lined up for May 17th and May 18th. The men will be going to a seminar on May 19th on cracksealing. The parking lot on W. Hazel will be stoned for parking for the trail by the end of May.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh – The sewer authority completed software updates, security gate, led lights in the building this year. They completed the refinancing in April. They discussed the rate increase which will be a \$2.00 EDU increase in the fourth quarter. We need to pass this on to the consumer. There was a discussion on increasing the rate for sewer by \$4.00 starting the fourth quarter. A resolution will be presented at the next council meeting for discussion.

NWRT Committee – Glen Mazis – The committee met April 27, 2021 at Riverside Park. There is a new app for the Northwest River Trail, which gives you information about the trail, such as, where amenities are, where to park, and notifications about flooding, etc. You can go to the Internet play store and get the app. They would like to have a senior trail day. There will be an announcement this summer for seniors to sign up. They will give them tours in golf carts. There is a go fund me project to have signs on the trail giving the history off the Native Americans. They would like Marietta Borough to pass a motion to have painted on our curves on the trail “slow for curves”, and on the sharp curves they would like us to paint a line going down the middle of the curves to keep people on their own side of the trail. Council member Dalzell made a motion to have “slow curves” and a line painted down the middle of the curves on the trail with a second by Council member States. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote. Glen Mazis stated that we already have the slow stencil, and we have an arrow that we can use.

President Mazis stated that they also would like the Council to report if we are in favor of doing an ordinance having a 10-mph speed limit on the trail. All the municipalities and townships associated with the trail must agree. Council had a long discussion regarding 10-mph speed limit. After the long discussion council agreed that they would entertain a 15-mph speed limit.

G3 Grant Phase III Committee – Glen Mazis – Bids are due by the end of the month. Construction will be from August 1 to September 30th. The trail will be out of commission in this area during that period.

Shade Tree Committee – Bill Dalzell – Most everything was reported under PZE. Bill met up with Brandon Tennis who works for Lancaster County Conservancy. He showed Bill things on the trail regarding our trees. The forest is not healthy. There is a lot of black locust and a lot of sugar maples. We do not have any smaller trees coming up to replace the older trees as they fall down. Brandon offered to meet with the state forester to meet with us and educate us on what we need to do to keep our Rivershore Forest healthy.

Walkworks Grant – Glen Mazis – We had a stakeholder meeting and there will be a public meeting in War Memorial Park on June 24th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm to get more public input.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Council member Dalzell ask if we need to do anything since the restrictions are being lifted in regard to the open container resolution. Solicitor Harter stated that our open container ordinance would be enforceable come May 31st, and then would cease as part of how the ordinance was written. The restaurants would be at full capacity at that point. This is nothing that was tied to the emergency declaration. It was discussed that we might want to consider at some time that the open container restriction could be lifted in order to allow everyone to walk wherever they want with an open container, since there were no reported problems with the change.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Ross – Fairview Avenue – She wanted to let everyone know that she agrees with Council that the 10 mph is to slow, but you also have to realize that our trail is one of the only trail that is paved. Also, she wanted to point out that the Plein-air art event was an incredible PR opportunity for the town. The artists were from all over the area and a lot of them were never in Marietta. They thought the town was so charming. This was great PR along with the candlelight tour and the garden tour. There is a sign that is up in town that has a large obscenity displayed and it is not something that we want in our town especially when we are trying to promote our town. President Mazis stated that action had already been taken and this situation will be dealt with tomorrow morning by the Zoning and code enforcement officer.

Harold Altland – 26 S. Locust St. – Like to know how long it would take to put red lights on the stop sign. Solicitor Harter stated that it may take up to three months, because we will be dealing with PENNDOT. Altland stated another problem he is having is on South Bridge that parks on the West side of Bridge street and it makes it hard to turn off Market Street. It narrows the street, and we should only allow parking on one side of the street. Also, who wants us to put a speed limit on the trail. President Mazis stated that the Northwest River trail committee met and asked if all the municipalities would be interested in placing speed limit signs on the trail.

Glenn Orr thanks the Football Association for the great job that they did up at War Memorial Park. The stone that they put around and the mulching that was done was, a great job and it looks nice.

There being no further business before Council, on a motion by Council member Carroll-Baltozer with a second by Council member McKinney, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer