

Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held August 10, 2021
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA

President Mazis with Council members Dalzell, Hudson, McKinney, and Mayor Kulman and Solicitor Harter present, called the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Marietta Borough Council to order at 7:00 PM. Absent from the meeting was Council members State, Carroll-Baltozer, and Marsh. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joseph McIlhenney – Milanof-Schock Library – Mr. McIlhenney introduced himself as the new library director for the Milanof-Schock Library. He has been in the position four months and looks forward to working with the community and stated our community has a top rate library.

Samuel Meckley – Rettew Associates – He has been assisting for the last six months on the Walkworks Grant that the Borough received in order to write an Active Transportation Plan. This is a plan that is for non-motorized transportation. The steering committee was formed and met several times. A survey was conducted to get feedback from citizens. Now we have a draft plan that is before Council to consider for the next month. Also, the next few weeks will allow more public comment and for the Council to review and comment on the draft plan. This plan will be adopted at the September Council meeting. The draft plan will be placed on the website and the Borough's Facebook page for public comment. Wherle asked how the survey was distributed; Meckley stated that it was placed on the Borough Facebook page, it was placed in the Marietta Traveler, and he was at Marietta Day and had a table up for public to stop by and he had hard copies of the survey, and we also had a public meeting in War Memorial Park for public comment.

Douglas Wherle – 9 Donegal Place – The neighbors and he are concerned with the parking at the Marietta Iron Furnace Park project. He hasn't been able to see any big plans. The area he did see was not adequate parking. The turnaround is too large and out of place for this area. He would like to know who oversees watching the area to make sure things are done correctly. Solicitor Harter stated that the Borough's engineer on the project will be going out along with Land Studies and our road crew. Wherle stated that in front of his house is a bump out that takes up most of his property. The Secretary Treasurer explained that there are 10 spaces for 4 residents and the bump out is in the Borough's right of way and is necessary for storm water management, which is why we got the grant. He would like to see these plans and make some needed changes before it goes too far. Where is the community effort to make sure all the voices are heard? I will be down to one spot. We should have diagonal parking. President Mazis stated that we took input for a year from residents, had a public hearing about this and have spoken to the residents in this area. This will be discussed next week in PZE at 6:00 PM. The community did not want it to be a throughway and the community wanted a turn around. It was consistent on what the community wanted and can be discussed next week.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President Mazis asked for a motion to approve the July 13th minutes. Council member Dalzell made a motion to accept the July 13th 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 continued work during the covid-19 period. He thanked all the people that are vaccinated and encouraged people to get vaccinated. The CDC has ranked Lancaster County as at the third worst level out of four levels for transmission of the virus. One of the Presidents duties is to set the perimeters of the meeting and he is asking that we follow the CDC guidance that we wear a mask for indoor meetings. Mazis thanked Steve Bailey for his heroic work with the National Night Out. It was a success. He thanked all the public services for being there that night. On July 27th Mazis participated in the EMS meeting with Sharon. They are working hard to come up with an ambulance authority. They are trying to come up with a fee that everyone would pay that is fare, so everyone will be equally responsible for this service and the fee will be lower than the current amount requested for donations. It is a complicated process, and it will probably take another year to be worked out. We did get the Multi-modal grant submitted in time to CDC to put the bike trail on the grass strip on Front Street and to complete Furnace Road repaving beyond the parking lot.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – Steve had to leave on an emergency call, and Chief Hall gave the report on behalf of Steve. They had a total for July of 16 calls, 34 officers, and 71 duty hours. The truck was cleaned, serviced, and stocked. He continued with the routine activities of monitoring the PA Health Department for updates on the progression of the Covid-19 virus. They suggest to people that they get the vaccination, but it is their decision. He monitors the weather reports and alerts the services and elected officials of any severe weather headed our way. Tammy Snedeker with the County EMS will be leaving for the private sector.

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

Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh – Council member Marsh was not present, Secretary Bradnick gave the report. The balance as of June 30, 2021, was \$25,380.83. Council member Dalzell 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 was not present; Council member Dalzell presented the report. The report dated July 2021. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$314,072.16 and a checking account balance of \$4,145.01. Council member Dalzell motioned to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Hudson. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Recycling –Freddy States – No report submitted.

Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick - The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated August 10, 2021 was presented. The total general fund accounts are \$1,471,354.57. Council member Dalzell motioned to approve the report as presented with a second by Council member McKinney. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Secretary – Sharon Bradnick – Council received the profit and loss statements for the month of July. At the end of July, we show that our income is in the amount of \$130,759.27 for the month. January through July we have total income of \$561,504.99.

Zoning Report – Tom Arnold – Tom Arnold was not present, and Solicitor Harter gave the report. Tom completed most of the housing inspections except for the 421 W. Market Street property.

He has issued four additional zoning permits to bring the total to forty-two for the year. He reminded people to mow their lawns and keep the weeds and brush under control. He has issued a total of thirty-one quick tickets for failure to mow lawns. There are still problems with 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. Residents need to have a compliant driveway to park to the rear of their property. People can't just park on the grass. He asked that residents make sure their addresses are visible on the outside of their property for emergency responders. August 2nd, he had a knee replacement and will be back in the office within a few weeks.

Vesta Furnace – Dave Haneman – Dave was not present, and the July and August minutes are in your packets for Council's review. President Mazis stated that the 2021 Pig Iron Fest will be held on Saturday, October 2, at the Chickies Day Use Area.

Mayor's Report - Harold Kulman – Mayor Kulman stated that he met with Chief Hall on July 21st. They spoke about community policing. This approach incorporates more interaction with the police and the businesses and residents in the borough. On July 23rd he went to a meeting with LCSWMA. They are concerned with the near misses in their vehicles on the way to their facility on route 441. They have cameras in their trucks. Nothing has been done, but this is going to be discussed at future meetings. On August 3rd, the Mayor was in the parade for the National Night Out throwing candy out. The Mayor thanked Steve Bailey for all the effort that he put in, being it was a last minute agenda that was put together. The change to the Sunshine law was placed in his box. Secretary Bradnick stated that she put a copy in everyone's box. President Mazis asked if all the committee meetings need to post their agenda's twenty-four hours in advance? Solicitor Harter stated that they do need to post their agenda if they are taking action on behalf of the Borough. Solicitor Harter stated that the Borough is already posting their agenda in advance and is compliance with the new version of the law, unlike many other Boroughs.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – President Mazis

President Mazis stated the Pioneer Fire Company asked to modify the MOU which would be in consistent with the Sager, Swisher recommendation. They ask to do a compilation of their records at year's end, which would cost less than a full-blown audit. They are coming to the next administrative meeting to discuss this request. Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer was in the public that evening and had suggestions for the housing officer. Our zoning officer had raised the issue that he has been doing both jobs and it is a lot for one person to do. We have a recommendation to go back to what we used to do and that is to have a separate housing officer. We will have Tom just do zoning and will hire a new Housing code officer. Mazis thanked Steve Bailey for his hard work in putting together the National Night Out since he had left on a call and was not able to tell him earlier. Mazis stated that he's sure that you heard on the news about all the Federal Covid money that comes to the states then comes to the municipalities. We received our first Covid relief money in the amount of \$136,279.31. Solicitor Harter explained to us that there are five categories that we can use this money for: 1. behavioral health, and EMS services, 2. to make up for negative financial income impacts, 3. lost public sector revenue, 4. afford premium pay to essential workers that worked through all during the pandemic, and 5. invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. The Borough has struggled to do our last two basins and DCED have not offered their grants this year to complete the work. Sewer basin E we could do phase II and pay the difference. Mazis asked for a motion regarding the covid relief money to pay \$4,000 to go to the NW EMS services to fulfill our obligation. To give the borough workers \$5,000 each clear for the two-year period for working through the pandemic.

The balance \$102,222.65 to be paid for the repair of Basin E Phase II. Council member Dalzell made the motion to pay NW EMS \$4,000, to pay premium pay of \$5,000 clear for two years in one payment to the borough workers and \$102,222.65 for sewer basin E, with a second by Council member Hudson. Council member McKinney asked why we can't give money to Steve Bailey for all the work he does as EMS director. Solicitor Harter stated that he is a volunteer and not an employee. Mazis stated that we will be receiving a second payment in the coming calendar year. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Mazis asked for a motion for Resolution 11-2021 to appoint Ronda Ney as the deputy housing officer, since we need someone to do housing inspections until we hire a new officer. Council member Dalzell made the motion to adopt Resolution 11-2021 to appoint Ronda Ney as deputy housing officer, with a second by Council member McKinney. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Dalzell made a motion to advertise for a new Housing Officer with a second by Council member Hudson. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Mazis stated that it was brought up that a lot of boroughs do an additional inspection on the rental unit when someone moves out and before someone new moves in. Currently we are doing it once a year. Council member Dalzell stated that they will discuss this during PZE.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Bill Dalzell

Council member Dalzell stated they met; the committee was not there but a member of public was. He discussed planting trees in our floodplain forest. We need to take steps to reserve this canopy for the future. The timeline has to be planned to be sustainable. Anything that we plant needs a long-term maintenance plan. During the planning commission meeting, Steve Debois and Dalzell are going to work on coming up with a volunteer group to take this on, after the State Forester meets with Dalzell and Mazis about the condition of the forest. Sharon passed on to him an item to work on regarding swimming pools, and he looked at the IPMC 2000 edition. There was nothing that in this edition relating to pools being in the front or the back yard. Solicitor Harter stated that give him a week to look at the zoning ordinance our current ordinance is silent, but our old ordinance does not allow it. Dalzell stated that they looked at yard sales also and didn't feel that this is an issue. You can have as many as you like, but if it looks like you are running a business then the zoning officer would investigate it. Solicitor Harter stated that the new ordinance is silent on the issue, and the old one has it in that your only allowed two a year. So, your new ordinance states that it continues to be in effect if the new ordinance does not mention the issue. This means that the old ordinance would still be in effect, so he needs to also look at this.

Public Outreach – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer

Council member Baltozer was not present and Council member Dalzell addressed the two special event applications. Dalzell made a motion to accept the special event application for MRA "Haunted Marietta" with a second by Council member Hudson. Dalzell amended his motion to accept pending arrangements with the Fire Police. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Dalzell made a motion to accept the MRA 55th Annual tour of homes and tree lighting with a second by Council member McKinney. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Public Safety – Jeffery Marsh

Council member Marsh was not present and nothing to report.

Public Works – Freddy States

Council member States was not present. Glenn Orr stated that they did remove the fence at War Memorial Park. Parking lines have been painted on West Market Street in the four hundred block. Along with the red and yellow curbs.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh – Nothing to report.

NWRT Committee – Glen Mazis – NWRT met July 27th and they discussed the speed limit signs on the trail and decided that we are not going to do this, as it would probably have a negative impact on safety. They were very thankful that Marietta Borough put the slow signs on the trail around curves. They thought it was so good that Conoy is going to put it on their trail by Shocks Mill Bridge.

G3 Grant Phase III Committee – Glen Mazis – The construction is occurring since late July, and they are on schedule.

Shade Tree Committee – Bill Dalzell – No meeting this month, John Enterline is moving out of the Borough. He needs to look for someone else to fill his position.

Walkworks Grant – Glen Mazis – You all have the draft Active Transportation Plan. Look it over and give your comments to Sam.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

New business was already discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

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 8:33 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick
Secretary/Treasurer