Marietta Borough Council

**Minutes of Meeting held February 8, 2022**

**113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA**

President Hudson with Council members States, Marsh, Lauver, DeBottis, Dalzell 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 Mayor Carroll-Baltozer. The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance.

President Hudson stated that we have an opening on Council and two letters were submitted. The first letter from Harold Kulman and the second letter from Joshua Wills. Harold Kulman was on Council before and last held the position of Mayor. Joshua Wills has lived in the Borough for five years and has three children. Council spoken to him yesterday. He is an electrical engineer and had gone to York College. President Hudson asked for nominations. Council member States nominated Joshua Wills with a second by Council member Dalzell. No other nominations. Nominations closed. Vote for nomination for Joshua Wills carries unanimously.

President Hudson stated that Resolution 17-22 appoints Joshua Wills as Council member. Resolution carries unanimously by voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Linda Ross – Fairview Avenue – Just an update on the Plein Air. They have over 70 applicants. This year they are adding a quick draw which will be Saturday the 23rd from 10-2. Any artist can come and participate. We have some residents that are hosting for some artist, they are still looking for people to host artist in their homes.

President Hudson stated that this event was a great success last year and it’s great that we are getting so many applicants.

Pete Anger and Chris Rapp – Donegal Braves Football Cheer Association. They moved their home base over to War Memorial Park. They installed a new score board. They want everyone to know that they are not here for the youth only but also for the community. They are here to become part of the community. Last year they worked the Marietta Day, did a park cleanup, and spread some stone and mulch. They just want to let everyone know that they want to become invested in the park and community.

President Hudson stated that we are going to be talking about the parks, fixing them up is a big project for the Council. They want the parks utilized. Partnerships is the way to go.

Council member DeBottis stated that he is chair of Public Outreach and one of his responsibilities is scheduling these fields. He will be reaching out to them and the other organizations to see how we can put all the pieces together.

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

President Hudson asked for a motion to approve the January 11th minutes. Council member States made a motion to accept the January 11th minutes with a second by Council member Marsh. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Hudson stated that we received $331,261 grant from DCED Multi-modal for the work to be completed on Furnace Road and East Front Street trail.

We received another grant from DCNR in the amount of $350,000 to upgrade the Tot Lot on East Front Street in which it will be brought into ADA compliance and easier for the Senior Housing to use the park.

We also received a $40,000 grant from DCNR to do a Master Plan for War Memorial Park. This is where we will need involvement from the community and the organizations using the park on what they would like to see done.

REPORTS

**Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey** – They had for January a total of 14 calls, 26 officers, and 67 duty hours. The fire police truck is repaired and ready for service.

EMA report Bailey stated that everyone has the COVID report. He spoke with two doctors today and the people that are dying are unvaccinated people. He is also keeping track of the river and everything is flowing fine.

**Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon Smith** – Bryan Smith was present to give the report, he stated for the month of January, the fire company ran 22 fire calls, 12 QRS calls for a total of 23 calls. We had a bad accident in town, so people need to slow down going through town. The Pioneer Fire Company is having a meat bingo the first Saturday in March and they are currently doing on-line raffles.

**Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh** – Council member Marsh reported the balance as of December 31, 2021, was $0. There was a check returned to the Borough to close out the checking account in the amount of $3,801.89. 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** – The report dated January 2022. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of $394,082.90 and a checking account balance of $1,529.28. Council member States motioned to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**Recycling –Freddy States** – Council member States reported that we did not receive a recycling report for this month.

**Treasurer – Sharon Bradnick** – Bradnick was absent, and Ronda Ney stated everyone has the General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated February 8, 2022.

**Secretary – Sharon Bradnick** – Bradnick was absent no report given.

**Zoning Report – Ronald Kistler** – For the month of January he issued 1 zoning permit. He received six complaints regarding ice on sidewalks. In which he gave notice and followed up and they were taken care of. He had a complaint on a leaning fence. It was only leaning about six inches and with the freezing and thawing it looked like the posts were not secured properly. He did not feel that it was a safety issue. He’s sure the homeowner will fix it when the weather breaks. Kistler sent out a letter regarding parking on a lot. The owner phoned Kistler, and they been having a conversation. The owner was going to come in and pick up some information on what he can do with the lot according to the ordinance. Kistler attended the Planning Commission meeting and submitted different projects for them to discuss. He had an in-home meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Hiestand regarding the right of way line to see what his concerns were. The concerns were brought back to Sharon, and she reached out to the engineer to adjust the plans.

**Vesta Furnace – Dave Haneman –** Haneman stated that the next big thing for Vesta and Rivertownes is the River Fest at the end of June. At their meeting they questioned the lease that they had signed with Lancaster County Parks and now that Marietta Borough has taken over the land, they would like to sign a lease through the Borough for the Vesta Musselman property. Solicitor Harter stated that when the closing occurred there was an agreement between the Borough, County and Vesta Furnace signing the rights of the landlord from the County to Marietta Borough allowing everything to stay the same. Everything was signed and we can forward Haneman a copy of that.

Haneman stated that there is a really nice article on the Susquehanna Heritage website about the ice jams on the river, it is a real eye opener. Rivertownes is going to be 20 years old the end of October. This will be nice to celebrate. Elizabethtown College is continuing their historical surveys which they have done over the last couple of years.

**Mayor’s Report – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer –** Mayor Carroll-Baltozer was absent due to illness.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administrative – President Hudson

President Hudson stated that he did not hold a meeting. President Hudson questioned about GEARS running the Summer Recreation Program for Marietta. The administrative cost went up considerably from $3,500 to $10,000. Do we want to work with another municipality, or do we want to have it here? Hudson would like to see it continue in Marietta. Council member DeBottis stated that he is willing to take on raising the money to have the program. He will be reaching out to the businesses and getting in front of the person that he needs to work with to raise the funds so that the children here in Marietta do not have to pay. DeBottis stated that he has a list of donors in the past along with the list that the previous letters were sent to.

President Hudson asked for a motion to allow Alicia Brummer to hold paddle board classes at the boat launch. Solicitor Harter stated that the agreement is the same as last year. There are no changes, the agreement expires each year in November. This agreement is the same as last year. Council member Dalzell made the motion to adopt the access agreement with Alicia Brummer with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

President Hudson asked for a motion to appoint Glen Mazis to the Zoning Hearing Board. Council member Dalzell made a motion to adopt Resolution 16-2022 appointing Glen Mazis to the Zoning Hearing Board with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

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

Council member Dalzell stated that he held his meeting. They discussed some goals for the upcoming year. One of the biggest things is to address the river shore between the railroad tracks and the river. We are losing our trees and need to have them replaced. We want to do a forest management plan. We will lose the floodplain forest if we don’t act on this. Dalzell stated that they would also like to investigate how the Borough can use the second floor of the municipal building. There are some hurdles like make it ADA accessible. He is looking for suggestions on what we can use this space for.

Dalzell also attended the Planning Commission meeting and Ron our Zoning Officer brought a lot of things up to the Planning. He is going to run a few of these through his committee and will bring them up next month. They spoke about an ordinance for golf carts, a container ordinance for dumpsters. They also discussed Airbnb’s and Murals. The Planning Commission is doing more work on these two items.

Council member Dalzell stated that we need to appoint an alternative to the Planning Commission, so he made a motion to appoint Steve DeBottis as the alternative to the Planning Commission with a second by Council member States. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**Public Outreach – Steven DeBottis**

Council member DeBottis stated that we spoke about the summer recreation program, and he is going to be working on donations and a better letter to the businesses.

Council member DeBottis made a motion to accept the Memorial Day Parade event application with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member DeBottis made a motion to accept the Donegal Football and Cheer event application with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Charles Shireman asked that Marietta Borough do a vote to supply the insurance rider for the Memorial Day Parade.

Council member States made the motion for the Borough to get the insurance rider for the Memorial Day Parade with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member States make a motion to amend the agenda to also include Special Event Applications for Marietta Day and Donegal Tribe Softball, due to applications were received after the agenda was posted with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member DeBottis asked for a motion to accept the Donegal Tribe Softball event application pending the Borough receiving a copy of their insurance. Motion was made by Council member States with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

Council member DeBottis made a motion to approve the Marietta Day event application with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion carries unanimously by voice vote.

**Public Safety – Jeffery Marsh**

Council member Marsh stated they did not hold a meeting last month due to an emergency that came up. They are moving forward with the zoning officer to come up with an electric vehicle ordinance.

**Public Works – Freddy States**

Council member States stated they met this evening and spoke in regards to street projects that will be worked on this year. The Borough wiill be completing Furnace Road. They are also going to look at finishing Bailey Alley and North Bridge Street. They are going to look into putting in another parking lot on Furnace Road. They would like to purchase a new lawnmower for $6500, but is not in the budget. Street sweeping will be May 2nd and 3rd this year.

**Executive Session**

President Hudson asked for an executive session to go over some litigation matters that the Borough is undertaking.

Council dismissed for an executive session at 7:51 PM

Council reconvened from an executive session at 8:02 PM

Solicitor Harter informed Council of a pending litigation, with no vote taken.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh –** The Sewer Authority is running smoothly. They are still waiting for approval for the ground study. White Rudy was retained as their auditor.

**NWRT Committee –Jeffrey Hudson –** Nothing new, the next meeting is in April.

**Shade Tree Committee – Bill Dalzell –** They are meeting next Thursday at 6:00 PM. John Enterline is no longer a resident of Marietta, and they have an opening if anyone is interested in serving.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Pete Anger – Donegal Football – They would like to invest money into the park to make it better. All this is money they raise. There are some people on the board that were in question that they put all this money into the park and then they aren’t allowed to use the fields. What insurances do they have that they will be committed to this field in the future? Council member DeBottis stated that he sees no issue with this, and he is going to work with them. Council has worked hard to work with the organization to allow the Donegal Football to have the field at War Memorial Park.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Glen Orr stated that he has been working with the Donegal Football the last four years and they are a good organization to work with.

There being no further business before Council, on a motion by Council member States with a second by Council member Dalzell, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Bradnick

Secretary/Treasurer