

Marietta Borough Council
Minutes of Meeting held April 11, 2023
113 East Market Street, Marietta, PA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ray Vegso -Pine Street/Silk Mill – Wanted to make sure that when the football field is redone at War Memorial Park, that the footballs don't hit the Silk Mill. He also has a concern about the collection of batteries. Not many people are going to drive to a special place. Can't we get our trash service to pick them up or have a collection point in the borough, for example the borough office or the fire department? The last thing would be in terms of long-term planning and seeking grants, wants to remind us that we need to do something about using the 2nd floor of the borough office. There are so many good potential uses. One of which would be to start using it as a rotating museum. We have a lot of stuff we could put in there. Steve Bailey would probably have a lot of stuff we could use.

Council member DeBottis stated that there is information on the borough's website about battery disposal. After putting the batteries in a specified bag that is available through the borough, you can put the bag beside your trash receptacles to be picked up on regular trash day.

Raeann Schatz – Fairview Ave – Asked if there have been any meetings of the new EMS Authority to include the representative of the municipalities. In the newspaper, it stated that residents won't have to pay the annual bill if their health insurance pays towards the ambulance bill around it. This has been in the paper twice. She thought everyone got a bill and that's the way it was. The article also stated that those without health insurance can get 50% off their bill. Why would that be if the goal is to charge everyone. Vice President Hudson stated that he didn't think the article was correct, but he would check on it. He asked to make a copy of the article so he can research it and get back to her. President States stated that there has been some misquotes in multiple publications.

Charles Shireman – Marietta Memorial Day Parade Committee –would like to take the opportunity to invite all the council members to participate in the Memorial Day Parade this year. If they are interested, please let Julie know.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President States asked for a motion to approve the March 14th minutes. Council member Dalzell made a motion to accept the March 14th minutes with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Furnace Road is being paved as well as the trail. DH Funk started the project on April 3rd. We are still having an issue with the bikers and trail people still trying to come through the construction site. When we are closing it down, it's because DH Funk has a liability at that site. We are getting a lot of phone calls with people being upset. We ask for your patience until this project is completed.

This weekend, Saturday, April 15th, is the Cherry Blossom Festival from 1-6pm. Front Street will be

closed between McCleary's and River Trail Brewing. There will be bands at both ends. There will be wristbands for sale for \$10. The proceeds will go to the Beautification Committee through MABA and the funds will be used to revamp the square.

At the end of April, we will be starting the renovation of the tennis/pickleball courts at War Memorial Park. Very excited to get that project done.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – A total of 19 calls, 29 officers, and 79.5 duty hours. Responded to 6 fire related calls, 9 accidents, 3 meetings & trainings, and 1 public service. We need volunteers as always. If you know anyone, please have them contact us.

March 15th Steve attended what was to be a brief meeting of municipal EMA coordinators dealing with railroad accidents in our area. They wanted to know the capabilities each municipal coordinator had in their area. This turned into a very serious training session lasting well over 3 hours. Came away from this with a lot of information which Steve will incorporate a lot of it into our emergency plan as he updates it. Steve met with the President of Council, as well as the mayor to discuss some of the more important information with them that he wants to implement right away and get their opinion on. Some borough residents contacted Steve to say they want to be involved with the setup of a new emergency plan for the borough and help rewrite what we have in place. After doing the training, Steve received a certification from Lancaster County Emergency Management which will go into his file.

There is a fire warning and watch in effect. The weather is at the point where rapid wildfire alert is up and starting tomorrow, it will be nasty and wind gusts up to 30 mph. This could go on until next Monday.

Pioneer Fire Company — no report

Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh – President States reported the balance as of January 31, 2023, was \$163.89. Total withdrawals were \$4,557.97. Total deposits were \$5,500.00 from the Borough. Balance as of February 28, 2023, is \$1905.92 President States made the motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Vice President Hudson. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Sewer – Freddy States – President States gave the report dated March 2023. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$339,822.90. Total receipts \$15,130.43. Interest \$14.91. Total receipts and interest are \$15,145.34. Disbursements \$15,190.78. Ending balance of \$339,777.46. Checking account beginning balance \$2,521.23. Total receipts \$0, interest \$0.02. Total receipts and interest are \$0.02. Disbursements \$480.00. Ending balance \$2,041.25. Ending balance is \$2,041.25. The monthly ending balance breakdown as of March 31, 2023 checking account is \$2,041.25, money market-savings is \$339,077.46 for a grand total of \$341,818.71. President States motioned to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Marsh. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Treasurer – Julie Hall – The General Fund Monthly Breakdown dated April 4, 2023, was presented to council. The total general fund accounts are \$882,750.16.

Secretary – Julie Hall – Council received the profit and loss statements for the months January–March. At the end of March, we show that our income is \$93,101.96 for the month. Council member Dalzell motioned to accept the treasurer/secretary report as presented with a second by Vice President Hudson. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Zoning – Ron Kistler – no report

Vesta Furnace – Dave Haneman – Marietta Art Alive “Spaces Within” closed. It's a juried show with 25 artists. Plein Air starts tomorrow morning. The weather forecast is good for at least the first week. We will probably see some of the artists around town.

Quick Drawl is going to be held in Columbia on Saturday from 10am to noon.

Elizabethtown College students will be at the Community House on Sunday giving some reports on the work they have been doing with the history of some of the homes in town.

Rebecca Murphey was elected as a member of Columbia Rivertowne. She and her husband Kelley will make a good asset to Rivertowne.

Columbia Mover and Shakers – have not gotten back any information back from them. Will give them another month to supply some of that before making an actual decision about them being underneath Rivertowne's umbrella.

RiverFest is coming up the end of June. Jim McClure will be speaking on the history of the bridges. Should be a really interesting lecture.

They have decided that they will be doing the Paddle of the Battle. That was a real big attendance last year,

Marietta Garden Tour is June 25th. They have asked to be part of the advertisement for RiverFest. They did receive funding for the Pennsylvania Canal Panel which will probably be down on the East side of Chiques Creek. A big thank you to the Eater Foundation for that.

Mayor's Report – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer – Officer Rivera just celebrated 20 years of service with SRPD and Officer Meador was named Officer of the Year.

LCSWMA is working with the Police Department to patrol 441 to make that road safer. LCSWMA is covering all OT the officers are using to patrol the road.

A big shout out to MABA. The spread they did on all the businesses in the community was really amazing.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – President States

We started marking off different meetings outside of Marietta Council and are trying to make sure at least one or two different Council members make it to different dinners or breakfasts. We want to make sure that we are creating relationships with people that are writing grants and making sure we are always in the know with the people who are making those decisions.

There was a DCNR grant that was due on April 5th. We are working with Ann Yost on War Memorial Park, and she recommended that we wait and apply for the one in May from DCED. If we get that grant, the DCED grant can then be used as matching funds toward the next round for DCNR. We are hoping we can compile both of those so we can then do a big part of War Memorial Park. We have not gotten anywhere yet with the Golf Cart Ordinance. President States will reach out to Brandon Harter to make sure we have it written correctly before we do anything.

Sidewalk requirements for East Front Street. This is always a touchy subject. Whenever we redo streets in Marietta, that's when we bring the sidewalks into compliance. It's not that we want anyone to have to redo their sidewalks, but we do need to upgrade and move toward more ADA accessible as we go. We are not going to enforce them to the standard of new ADA where you have to rip it out and put in 4-foot-wide sidewalks with 2% slope. We are looking for existing sidewalks to have a 3-foot cart path, level and as close to 2% slope as possible and smooth transition from property to property. The Borough is responsible for bump outs and ADA crosswalks. President States walked the sidewalks of that street with our Roadmaster and our Engineer from ARRO. We made a list of everything that needs to be done. In the next month or so we will be

meeting with folks to explain what they have to do. President States promised that he will try to talk people into keeping their bricks in and as historical as possible.

Vice President Hudson will now be chairing the Public Outreach Committee.

We had someone bring up the possibility of electric car charging stations at War Memorial Park. We are looking to possibly putting them in at the Railroad Depot. If we can do that, there would be 2 stations there. A town like Marietta is very difficult because we are running into an issue with people buying electric cars, which is great, but they live on Market Street where they don't have access to the back of their property, so they are plugging their cars in and pulling them over the sidewalks, which is a tripping hazard not to mention a very dangerous due to the voltage. If we can put some charging stations in as it gets more and more popular to have electric cars, it would benefit everybody.

We had a sewer line collapse on Gay Street that the borough is in charge of fixing.

Last month Ann Yost was here and gave the presentation for the War Memorial Park Master Plan. We need a motion to approve the War Memorial Park Master Plan Resolution. Council member Dazell made a motion to approve the War Memorial Park Master Plan Resolution with a second from Vice President Hudson. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Our contract for electricity with our provider runs out in December. Our current contract is for 4 cents per kilowatt. The best rate we could get now is 7.4 cents per kilowatt, which is almost double. The new provider is AEP Energy.

President States made a motion to approve AEP as our new energy provider with a second from Council member Dazell. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

We need to upgrade our entire QuickBooks system because you have to have a certain system when you do payroll, and you have to keep upgrading it. Right now, it would be around \$1200 to upgrade. We only have 7 checks we cut bi-weekly. We looked at another payroll company, same one that McCleary's and Railroad House uses, and it would cost approximately \$47 a month plus \$3.75 per check. The cost is \$1112.00 a year to outsource the payroll. If we go with this company and end up not wanting to stay with them, we can always bring it back in house.

President States made a motion to approve outsourcing payroll with a second from Council member DeBottis. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Bill Dalzell

The committee met briefly to discuss a suggestion made by Josh to look into getting funding for another bicycle repair stand for Furnace Road like the one on Decatur Street. The one on Decatur Street was provided through a grant from the Lancaster County Bicycle Club. The grant is in January, which we will apply for.

Public Outreach – Vice President Hudson

There was not a meeting but there will be one this Thursday.

Vice President Hudson presented a special event application for Hanging Café Lights sponsored by Steve Ulrich, MABA. Vice President Hudson asked Steve to give a brief description of what he is doing and why. Steve stated that we all know the Christmas lights that go up before Candlelight Tour and come down late January/early February. He visited several towns where in those periods when it's not holiday season, they have these café lights hanging across the streets and it adds a certain ambiance and says that we have a business district even after dark. The Business Association would be taking over the PPL bill from the Lions Club. The Lions Club would still be paying for the lights during the holiday season.

Council member DeBottis made a motion to approve with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Vice President Hudson presented a special event application for Hope Ride Against Cancer sponsored by Donegal Insurance Group. It will be Sunday, May 21st 7am-5pm. They expect over 100 participants. Julie will call them to see what the route is for the event since there is construction going on right now and she is not sure if the construction will be completed by that date.

Council member DeBottis made a motion to approve pending the route and/or construction being completed, as well as providing certificate of insurance with a second by Council member Dalzell. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Vice President Hudson presented a special event application for Yoga Teacher Training by Vital Tree Yoga. They would like an outdoor space within walking distance of Vital Tree Yoga. Their preference is War Memorial Park, and the 2nd choice would be Flanagan Park. Mayor Carroll Baltozer stated that the park they would be using would not interfere with any of the sports that are held at the park. Council member Dalzell made the motion to approve with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Safety – Miles Lauver – no meeting

Public Works – Jeff Marsh

President States held the meeting in Council member Marsh's absence. President States and Bill Haldeman, Roadmaster went over a few items that they need to attend to. One of them being the softball teams are being attacked by bees in the dugouts. President States asked Bill to call Akita Pest Control and schedule them to come out.

They went over the applications for the part-time seasonal help. Bill will call all three applicants and see what they are looking for. This is very part-time, 20-25 hours per pay.

They discussed Hazel Alley where the little bridge is. Someone hit the pvc ballard on the one side. Our guys will take care of getting that fixed.

We were going to disassemble the baseball/softball scoreboard and get rid of it. The softball league would actually like us to cut the base and relocate it so they can utilize it.

We will be moving the trail cam to Furnace Road so we can actually see what's going on down there with all the bikers that are going through the construction.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh – no report

Shade Tree Committee – Bill Dalzell – Major projects at the moment are the distribution of trees on Marietta Day. They have a spot at the S-bend. Quite a lot of trees to give away. There will be street trees as well as just putting them in your yard. Any trees that are not taken will be planted in the flood plain forest. They are going to need a way to get the trees down to the landing site. Brandon Hess will reach out to Bill concerning that. They are also trying to get donations of mulch for those landing sites.

There will be another volunteer workday on Saturday, April 29th at 10am. There will also be a tree planting at the Community House on the same day.

War Memorial Park – President Freddy States – just approved the master plan. The construction for the tennis/pickleball courts will be starting at the end of the month.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carl Jones – West Market - what is going on with the line painting at the bottom of the park? He would also like to see one of the pedestrian crossing ballards in the street there as well to slow down cars. President States stated that we did look into it and those corners have to be updated to be in ADA compliance, which they are not. This is a much bigger project than we think.

Harold Kulman – West Market Street – wanted to talk about the golf cart ordinance. Last month we mentioned that we wanted our solicitor to look at it. Did that happen? President States stated that our solicitor was not at the meeting last month, so we carried it over. Mr. Kulman is upset about the electric scooters and bikes going through town. He almost hit one that was flying by him. This is a real annoyance. The safety in our streets in this town is not good. If you come up any side street coming on to Market, you have to go way out into the street before you can see if anything is coming. Mr. Kulman would be glad to help out in any way he can. Solicitor Harter wanted to add the caveat that we do not have universal power to regulate what goes on the roads. The state and PennDOT requirements trump whatever we might do. If they license a scooter to be on the road, we can tell it that they can't be here.

President States made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with a second from Vice President Hudson. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Hall
Secretary/Treasurer