

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

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

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

President Hudson announced that he is resigning from his position as President of Council. He has a lot of things on his plate this upcoming year and will be traveling some. President Hudson still wants to be on council and still wants to serve the borough. Vice President States made the motion to accept Presidents Hudson's resignation with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Marsh made a motion to appoint Vice President States as President of council with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote. Council member Marsh made a motion to appoint Jeffrey Hudson as Vice President with a second by Council member Wills.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carl Jones – 619 W. Market St. – Stated that he brought up at last meeting his concern about getting a crossing sign in the crosswalks at Market Street and Pine Street. With children walking to the park, he is concerned that there could be an accident. President States will look into this. He also stated that he would like to see a no outlet sign put up on S. Decatur Street. There are tractor trailers coming up there and they must back down the street. There is nowhere for them to swing around due to the new gate that was put up. With parking on both sides of the street, it's very hard for a tractor trailer to get through. President States will look into this also.

Dave Eichler – 159 Longenecker Rd, Mt. Joy – as a conservation officer of the PA Fish & Boat Commission, he would like to extend his thanks to Marietta Borough for taking the opportunity to mark several spots at the access boat trailer park. He is very happy that we took the effort to mark those spaces.

Jonathan Good – Donegal Tribe Softball Organization. Has some questions about maintenance of the field. There was a screen missing right next to the trees. Seems to be missing. Is that the organization's responsibility to locate or replace? Council member DeBottis will look into it and get back to him. There is a removable mound that we can remove and utilize the field.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

President States asked for a motion to approve the December 13th minutes. Council member Marsh made a motion to accept the December 13th minutes with a second by Council member Wills. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President States announced that in December four bars in Marietta, three on Front Street and one on Market, got together and held the Kringle Krawl. They raised \$2,740.00 for the Pioneer Fire

Company. President States presented the check to Brandon Smith, Fire Chief. They sold \$10 wristbands and had live music. They hope to continue and grow this event to be a big fundraiser for the fire company.

REPORTS

Fire Police/EMA – Steve Bailey – They had for December a total of 21 calls, 35 officers, and 93 duty hours. They are in serious need of volunteers. For the 2022 year, they had a total of 167 calls, 329 officers, and 954 duty hours.

Steve would like to remind everyone that winter driving season is here and wants everyone to be sure that their vehicle is ready for it. He also wants to remind everyone that extreme cold will make traffic cones brittle. If you run over them, they will need to be replaced. They already had to replace several. Just a reminder that they do serve a purpose and are there to protect you.

Emergency Management Report – The week of December 19th a severe cold front moved into the area. County called a Code Blue on December 21st. A meeting was held on December 22nd to coordinate our plans for numbers of warming stations and locations if evacuations were needed. All units checked their equipment and available personnel. On December 27th, Code Blue was cleared.

Steve gave an update on modernizing the emergency plan for the borough. He would like to make up a form for all the businesses in town where they could update all their contact information. He will contact our solicitor to make sure he is not putting any information on the form that would violate any privacy laws. This will be confidential information.

Pioneer Fire Company – Brandon Smith – For the month of December they did 17 Fire Calls and 11 QRS Calls for a total of 28 calls. He did not have a year-end report as they are still waiting for the county to finish their reports. The fire company would like to thank President States for the Kringle Krawl. Some of the firemen were down at the event and said it was a great time.

Pioneer Fire Company Financial Statement – Jeffery Marsh – Council member Marsh reported the balance as of October 31, 2022, was \$5,817.49. Balance as of 11/30/22 is \$38.78. Council member Marsh stated that the withdrawals were high due to repairs of the tanker and yearly maintenance of the other vehicles. Council member Marsh made the motion to accept the report as presented with a second by Council member Wills. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Sewer – Freddy States – President States gave the report dated December 2022. The sewer fund has a savings account balance of \$304,802.72 and a checking account balance of \$6,492.03. 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 January 10, 2023, was presented. The total general fund accounts are \$773,370.56.

Secretary – Julie Hall – Council received the profit and loss statements for the month of December. At the end of December, we show that our income is negative \$58,654.97 for the month. January through December we have an income of \$595,753.32.

Zoning – Ron Kistler – 2 zoning and 1 building permits were issued, 4 courtesy letters were sent, 1 Reinspection housing, 6 violations abated and 1 notice of intent enforcement letter.

Vesta Furnace – Dave Haneman – Haneman stated the board met however because they did not have a quorum, it was not an official meeting. The Plein Air Event is scheduled for April 12-23, 2023. Registration was put out on January 2nd and at least 30 plus at the present time of artists that have registered. The quick drawl will be in Columbia this year on the 15th, which is a Saturday. The Quick Drawl will also include students and kids this year at no cost to them. The art exhibit and sale will be held on the 21-23 at the Community House. RiverFest will be June 23-25. The 24th, which is a Friday night, there will be a listing of local restaurants on the website. They will list their special. Walking tours in Marietta. James Landis will be doing one and there will be walking tours down at the Furnace. There will be music on Front Street from 1-6pm on Saturday. On Sunday there will be the Paddle Battle, which is a guided Kayak tour. There will also be a major re-enactment of the burning of the bridge early evening on Sunday.

Mayor's Report – Rebecca Carroll-Baltozer – After attending the meeting concerning the Code Blue, the fire company voiced their concerns about the 421 Project. The homes that are along Market Street do not have house numbers on Market Street. This is because the back of the houses face Market Street. It would be very helpful in the case of an emergency to have numbers on those units. We will contact the management company to see if there is anything they can do.

As we work through the budget, Mayor Carroll Baltoser would like Safety to try to look at the parking meters and to have conversations to see where the income in on the parking meters, the amount of man hours we are paying to service the meters. We are paying the police every day as an incident to service the meters.

Contracts were signed by the Chief of Police and Lieutenant. They are on a 2-year contract so that when there is change and re-election, they can look at the contracts and re-evaluate if needed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – Vice-President Hudson

Vice-President Hudson stated that there was no meeting in December. We do have several Resolutions to approve.

Council member DeBottis made a motion to move to approve Resolution 01-2023 – Disposition of Records and a second by Council member Wills. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Hudson made a motion to approve Resolution 02-2023 – Vacancy Board Chair – Rick Thomas and a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Hudson made a motion to approve Resolution 03-2023 – Housing Hearing Board – Michelle Shaffer with a second by Council member Wills. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Hudson made a motion to approve Resolution 04-2023 – Zoning Hearing Board – Wayne Pearson with a second by Council member Marsh. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council member Hudson made a motion to re-advertise the NW EMS Authority Ordinance – removing Penn Township with a second by Council member DeBottis. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote. This is only if this is necessary.

Planning/Zoning/Environmental – Bill Dalzell

Council member Dalzell was not present. No meeting was held in December.

Public Outreach – Steven DeBottis

Council member DeBottis was not present. Application was submitted by Donegal Tribe Softball for the Spring of 2023 season. Council member DeBottis would like to make a motion to approve pending an insurance certificate with a second by Council Member Wills. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Safety – Jeffery Marsh

Council member Marsh stated they did not meet in December.

Public Works – Freddy States

Council member States stated they did have a meeting this evening just to get ready for the winter with salt. They were asked to look into a salt brine. Columbia Borough does this to their roads. It is presalting the roads with a salt water mixture. We did look into this, but it is very costly and very messy. Columbia Borough did state that if they could go back, they would not do it.

Furnance Road has a lot of pot holes. BN Excavating and our guys went down to look at it. BN had a some stone and smoothed it out for us. Land by the sewer plant has been all cleared and seeded. Looks great.

Pine trees in the square are pretty bad. Recommend looking at replacing them in the spring.

President States asked for a motion to approve the War Memorial Park Master Plan. This is a 4.8 million dollar project. This will be at least a 5-10 year plan broken out in phases. The first phase is the tennis/pickle ball courts. Council member DeBottis made a motion to approve the plan with a second by Wills. Motion is carried unanimously by voice vote.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY – Jeffery Marsh – Met on December 27th. The stump removal project is underway and weather permitting should be completed by spring. We had our engineer re-evaluate the calculation for the tapping fees. Currently the Borough charges \$2,712.00 and the Authority charges \$2,688.00. That is the combination for all new applications for tapping fees.

Shade Tree Committee – Bill Dalzell – Council Member Dalzell was not present to report. Linda Ross stated on his behalf that they will be having a volunteer work morning January 28th from 10:00-12:00 and will be meeting at the Chestnut Street crossing. This is to cut the vines that are growing and choking out the trees. They would like to do this every month. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation has the 10 Million Trees Program that they are applying for. They will have some trees to give away on Marietta Day.

War Memorial Park – Freddy States – President States stated that we finalized the park plan.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Harold Coleman – 114 West Market St. - the biggest expense is our police department. He would like to know what we are paying this year for the police department. What is the difference between the budget last year and this year? Mayor Carroll Baltoser stated that President States and herself spent many hours going over every line to get the budget balanced. Secretary Hall stated that the Borough's portion is approx. \$600,000.00 a year. Mayor Carroll Baltoser also stated that the budget included another SRO.

Stephanie Privette - 278 W Market St. – is there a way to get agendas and more information available to residents so that they know what is going on. Solicitor Halter stated that the agenda and minutes are on our website. We will look to see if it's on the main meeting page to try to make it easier.

There being no further business before Council, on a motion by Council member DeBottis with a second by Council member Hudson, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

BOROUGH SEAL

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Hall
Secretary/Treasurer