

November 4, 2024

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Tuesday evening, November 4, 2024, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

Josephine Laird, Council President, called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors Cheryl Evernham, John Johnson, Joseph Flynn, Larry Killinen, Josephine Laird, Michael Manerchia, and Janette Weigand. Also present were Mayor, Gene Taylor, and Borough Manager, Jacqui Guenther.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Michael Manerchia to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and that they stand as written. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF RECEIPT VOUCHER

Manager advised that the receipt voucher for the month of October 2024 totaled \$57,173.66. by Motion Larry Killinen, seconded by Michael Manerchia to receive and deposit. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from October 8, 2024 through November 4, 2024, totaled \$259662.26. Motion by Janette Weigand, seconded by Michael Manerchia to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The manager presented the first reading of the proposed 2025 budget, showing total Expenditures of \$5,118,893 and Revenues of \$5,287,493. All of this amount allocated to the General Fund. A public meeting on the entire budget will be scheduled for November 26, 2024, 5:30 PM, prior to the 6:00 PM monthly Agenda Meeting. The manager stated that the expenditures could change significantly as the FOP contract is still being negotiated. Motion by Michael Manerchia second by Larry Killinen to accept the proposed budget as presented, advertise that the budget is now open for public inspection, and advertise the time, date and place of the public hearing. All in favor.

The manager requested authorization to advertise Ordinance No. 0-24-4 fixing the tax rate for the year 2025 at 11.39 mills. Motion by Janette Weigand seconded by Michael Manerchia to advertise Ordinance No. 0-24-4. All in favor.

Manager asked for approval to increase Ben VanCleve's hourly rate by \$1.50 hour for taking on the added responsibility of the Foreman in Slayde's absence, this would be retroactive. Upon Slayde's return Ben's hourly rate would revert to his original hourly rate. Motion by Michael Manerchia, seconded by John Johnson to approve and execute. All in favor.

The Manager requested authorization to approve Resolution No. 0-24-14 authorizing our Engineer to apply for the Statewide Local Share Assessment grant in the amount of \$1,331,814.00. from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for the Marcus Hook Fire Department Fire Apparatus Upgrade. Motion by Michael Manerchia seconded by Larry Killinen to approve and execute Ordinance No. 0-24-5. All in favor.

The manager requested approval for the Fire Truck payment in the amount of \$438,900.00 to Deep South Fire Trucks Inc. for the final payment of the new Pumper Fire Truck. Motion by Janette Weigand, seconded by John Johnson to approve and execute. Carried. All in favor. The Fire House will reimburse the Borough for additions made to the fire truck in the amount of \$43,050.00.

The manager requested approval for payment number #2 to Cipolloni in the amount of \$ \$103,146.69 for the Pine to Chestnut Streetscape. Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Joseph Flynn to approve and execute. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of October. Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Joseph Flynn, to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. Motion carried. All in favor.

The Manager announced that the CFA Board awarded Marcus Hook Borough a \$140,000 LSA Statewide grant for the Patrol Vehicle Acquisition Project for the purchase of 2 new patrol vehicles. Congratulations to Chief Ireland on receiving this grant.

For the LSA Statewide Grant Patrol Vehicle Acquisition Project, change to reflect the purchase of two (2) new vehicles. The proposed breakdown submitted for the grant is as follows:

1. Patrol vehicle \$51,000
2. Emergency lighting and equipment \$14,292.45
3. Installation of emergency lighting and equipment \$4,725
4. Total per vehicle \$70,017.45

The Chief applied for three (3) vehicles and the CFA Board approved two (2).

Manager stated Chief made an application to CSX for the First Responder Toy Express 2024 for support of toys for the Marcus Hook Recreation-"Grinchmas" Christmas Event. He received notice we will receive support (toys) for the event.

Manager asked Borough Council to accept the resignation of Part -Time Police Officer Justin Fornwalt who has accepted a Full-Time position elsewhere. Motion by Larry Killinen seconded by Joseph Flynn to approve. Motion carried. All in favor.

Manager asked Borough Council to accept the resignation of Full -Time Police Officer Claire Burkert. Motion by Larry Killinen seconded by Cheryl Evernham to approve. Motion carried by Majority vote, 4 yeas, Cheryl Evernham, John Johnson, Joseph Flynn, Larry Killinen, Josephine Laird and Janette Weigand; one nay, Michael Manerchia.

The manager stated she received a request from the Chief for council authorization to apply for public grant funds. Specifically, the Local Share Account Statewide Grant Program. This is the same grant we asked Charles to apply for a new ladder fire truck. I don't think we should be competing for the same grant because they spread it out among all the applicants. My recommendation is to apply for the Fire Truck grant since the Chief received this grant for 2 police cars this year. The manager stated that our priority should be the fire truck, and the Chief could apply for the next round. The chief stated that he was informed that he should apply for more than one grant in the likelihood we would get multiple grants. The manager stated that the Chief applied for both grants this year and we only received the grant for the police vehicles so that scenario is unlikely. The Chief explained that they wanted to get a grant for a drone. Motion by Joseph Flynn, seconded by Larry Killinen, to approve Chief's grant application for the Drone. 2 nays: Josephine Laird and Michael Manerchia; 5 yeas: Janette Weigand, Joseph Flynn, John Johnson, Larry Killinen and Cheryl Evernham. Motion carried by majority vote.

The Manager stated that the mayor would like to start a law enforcement drone program. Uses would include the following: surveillance, search and rescue, crime scene investigation, traffic accident reconstruction, crowd monitoring, tactical operations, drug investigations, perimeter security, evidence gathering, inspection of dangerous areas, fugitive apprehension, monitoring illegal activities, and community policing. Motion by Joseph Fynn, seconded by Larry Killinen to approve and execute. Motion Carried by majority vote: 4 yeas, John Johnson, Joseph Flynn, Larry Killinen, and Janette Weigand; three nays, Cheryl Evernham, Josephine Laird and Michael Manerchia.

HIGHWAY AND SANITATION

The manager requested approval for payment to Intercon Truck Equipment for the purchase of snow equipment as referenced in their proposal, in the amount of \$19,335.00. This purchase is through Co-Stars. Motion by Michael Manerchia, seconded by Joseph Flynn to approve and execute. All in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING

ENGINEERING

1. 2024 Street Repaving Project
 - Moore Bros substantially complete
2. Cedar St – Pine to Chestnut Streetscape (CDBG Grant)
 - AG Cipolloni approximately 50% complete
 - Payment #2 for approval
3. Walnut St – Pine to Dalton Streetscape (CDBG Grant)
 - Approval letter from County received
 - Kick-off meeting held
 - Borough needs to sign CDBG agreement
4. Market Sq. Memorial Park – Delco Greenways Phase 1 grant
 - Moore Bros Enterprises contracts for \$50,025 prepared for signatures
5. Market Sq. Memorial Park/Mickey Vernon Park – Delco Greenways Phase 2
 - Bids due Oct 24 on PennBID online bidding platform
6. DCED Local Share Account Grant Opportunity
 - DCED announces a new round of Local Share Account (Gaming Revenue) grant application from Sept 1 to Nov 30
 - Projects \$25,000 to \$1,000,000; No match required in this round
 - Broad range of eligible projects: Acquisition, Construction, Demolition, Infrastructure, purchase of vehicles, machinery, and/or equipment
 - Resolution selecting project and authorizing submission
7. Prologis
 - Final site inspection completed. List of repairs provided to Prologis
8. RACP Grant
 - Working with RACP consultant to provide closeout documents

ENVIRONMENT

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has scheduled a Public Information Session for Energy Transfer Marketing and Terminals (ETMT) five-year Air Quality Title V Operating Permit renewal. This is a permit required under the Federal Clean Air Act. The information meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at the Marcus Hook Community Center from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. Motion by Cheryl Evernham seconded by Janette Weigand to receive and file. All in favor.

FIRE HOUSE MARCUS HOOK TRAINER FIRE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT
October 2024

| INCIDENT TYPE | # INCIDENTS |
|--|-------------|
| Building fire | 1 |
| Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition | 1 |
| Medical assist, assist EMS crew | 1 |
| Motor vehicle accident with injuries | 3 |
| Gas leak (natural gas or LPG) | 2 |
| Cover assignment, standby, move up | 3 |
| Dispatched & cancelled en route | 15 |
| No incident found on arrival at dispatch address | 1 |
| Smoke scare, odor of smoke | 1 |
| False alarm or false call, other | 1 |
| CO detector activation due to malfunction | 3 |
| TOTAL INCIDENTS: | 32 |

Marcus Hook/Trainer CALLS: 20 CALLS

MUTUAL AID CALLS: 12 CALLS

CALLS FROM 6AM – 6PM: 15 CALLS

CALLS FROM 6PM – 6AM: 17 CALLS

TOP RUNNER FOR THE MONTH: Ray Betts with 19 Calls

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Dan Smith

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No report.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The manager reported that the following bids were received by the Borough of Marcus Hook on October 23, 2024 for the Market Square Memorial Park and Mickey Vernon Park Improvement Project. This project is supported by funds from the fourth year of the Delaware County Green Ways grant program (Grant Award No: DGW.230693.R4.E.2023).

1. Albert G. Cipolloni Jr. & Sons \$ 232,802.14
2. Depaul and Company, Inc. \$ 253,243.00

Equipment costs to be purchased by the Borough directly through COSTARS are budgeted at \$95,415.40. This brings the project total to \$328,217.54 which is \$137,017.54 over budget. Motion by Larry Killinen seconded by Joseph Flynn to reject all bids and re-advertise. All in favor.

The manager requested approval to repair the gym equipment at the Community Center in the amount of \$4,185.95 to Empire Fitness Services as outlined on their proposed estimate. Motion by Joseph Flynn, seconded by Michael Manerchia to approve and execute. All in favor.

The manager thanked Monroe Energy for cleaning up Market Square Park. They picked up trash, the bulk of which was collected along the exterior of the promenade fencing (on the rocks along the Delaware River). They thought the timing would be helpful following the “Table or Treat” event on Sunday. The trash was then disposed of at their facility.

LIBRARY REPORT: Mary M. Campbell Marcus Hook Public Library Monthly Report

1. The library is pleased to announce that Monroe Energy will donate \$9,600 to cover the 2025 service fees for our 25 Wi-Fi hotspots. This generous support helps keep our community connected.
2. We had a fantastic experience participating in "Table or Treat." A big thank you to the Marcus Hook Recreation Board for the opportunity.

3. The library's "Free Halloween Costumes for Kids" event was a great success! We gave away a total of 21 costumes to kids in our community.
4. The library would like to hire Daniel Longdale as a Library Assistant for 20 hours a week at \$15.00 per hour, once he provides all necessary clearances. Motion by Joseph Flynn, seconded by Michael Manerchia, to Hire Daniel Longdale for 20 hours per week at the rate of \$15.00 per hour pending all necessary clearances. All in favor.
5. The second session of the Braskem & Library STEM Education Series will be held on Wednesday, November 6th, at 5:30 p.m.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Michael Manerchia reminded people not to flick cigarettes into leaves because it could create a fire. He also informed the public that there is a homeless man who sleeps next to the light in the park and that he sometimes curls up into a ball and it looks like a pile of clothes and to keep in mind this is a person.

Chief Ireland thanked Joe Massaro for sponsoring the "Breakfast with a Badge" event. He also thanked the Rec Board for the table or treat event.

Janette Weigand inquired about street sweeping and was informed that the Highway Department does have the equipment to do street sweeping but they needed instructions on how to operate the machinery.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The police chief asked for approval to purchase Microsoft Office 2024 instead of Microsoft 365. The Police Chief stated that Microsoft 365 would cost \$17,000.00. The Manager said that's absurd. The 2024 license would have to be repurchased for each machine every 4 to 5 years. Office 365 continually updates and has email.

Steve Giancristoforo explained his reasoning for using hover mail.

The manager explained that the entire borough should be on the same operating system which includes email and calendars. The manager stated that Borough Council has heard from Steve G. and that they needed to hear from Michael Retter from Advanced Innovations. The manager also reminded Borough Council that the Chief agreed to implement Office 365 and that was approved by Borough Council at a previous meeting.

Fire Chief Dan Smith thanked the Borough for purchasing the new fire truck and said it would be in service by 2025.

Will Ottinger, who resides on Cedar Street, asked who implemented the County Burn Ban Notice. The manager replied that she was notified by a staff member, Bobby Hughes, who also contacted the Borough Council President and Vice President as well as Council Member Michael Manerchia. The manager then directed Bobby to ask Courtney to post it on social media. Whereupon discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Larry Killinen, seconded by Joseph Flynn. Motion carried. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqui Guenther
Borough Manager