

December 3, 2018

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening December 3, 2018, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

Josephine Laird, Council President, called the meeting to order. A moment of silence was requested for the passing of George H.W. Bush, 41st President of the United States, as well as Rocco Gaspari, Sr. of Lower Chichester Township who passed away on November 27, 2018.

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors William Cox, Paula Ewing, Joseph Flynn, Josephine Laird, and Michael Manerchia. Also present were Mayor Gene Taylor and Borough Manager Andrew Weldon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by W. Cox second by M. 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 November totaled \$248,885.72. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to receive and deposit. All in favor.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Delaware County Board of Assessment Appeals has certified that the aggregate Real Estate Assessment for Marcus Hook Borough for the year 2019 is \$181,640,357. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to record and file. All in favor.

Manager presented final reading of the 2019 Marcus Hook Borough budget, stating that the availability of the budget for public inspection was duly advertised and was the subject of a public hearing on November 27, 2018. Total expenditures were noted at \$5,802,296 with \$3,751,360 of this amount allocated to the General Fund. Motion by P. Ewing second by W. Cox to adopt the 2019 Borough budget as proposed. All in favor.

Manager presented for second reading and adoption Borough Ordinance No. O-18-3, the Tax Levy Ordinance, fixing the tax rate for 2019 at 12.35 mills. This ordinance was duly advertised on November 14, 2018. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to adopt Ordinance No. O-18-3. All in favor.

Manager presented for second reading and adoption of Borough Ordinance No. O-18-4, amending the Code of the Borough of Marcus Hook, Chapter 76 Building Construction, Section 1, relating to the adoption of standards of the Uniform Construction Code, contained in Pa. Code Chapters 401 to 405, as amended from time to time. This ordinance was duly advertised on November 14, 2018. Motion by P. Ewing second by J. Flynn to adopt Ordinance No. O-18-4. All in favor.

Manager introduced Borough Resolution No. R-18-14 to support and endorse the application of the Borough of Marcus Hook for FY 2019 Community Development Block Grant funds from the forty-fifth program year for the Spruce Street Streetscape Project. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to adopt Resolution No. R-18-14. All in favor.

Manager mentioned the customary practice of free parking within the central business district during the Christmas/New Year holiday season. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to authorize free on-street meter parking within the central business district, two hour time limit, which began on November 22, 2018 and will end on January 2, 2019. All in favor.

Manager mentioned that the Borough is looking into replacing the camera system in the Borough with an updated system. Part of this process involves installing new cameras and related equipment on utility poles owned by PECO. PECO requires that all municipalities who wish to hang equipment on their poles enter into a Pole Attachment Agreement, whereby they will "lease" space to the Borough at the cost of \$120 per pole, per year. Motion by P. Ewing second by W. Cox to authorize the Borough to enter into a Pole Attachment Agreement with PECO. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of November, 2018. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Manager presented for second reading and adoption Borough Ordinance No. O-18-5, amending the Code of the Borough of Marcus Hook, Chapters 16, 73, 88, 102, 135, 157, 167, & 185, relating to the dissolution of the Board of Health in the Borough of Marcus Hook and placing health related issues, and enforcement of those health related violations on the Code Enforcement Officer and Health Officer. This ordinance was duly advertised on November 14, 2018. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to adopt Ordinance No. O-18-5. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

The Recreation and Park Board will present Lunch with Santa - Saturday, December 15th - Community Center - 12:00 PM. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to receive and file. All in favor.

Marcus Hook Borough Police, Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department, and Angel Food Pantry were positively acknowledged for their commendable service to the Borough of Marcus Hook by voluntarily contributing their time and energy to coordinate and oversee the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Motion by P. Ewing second by W. Cox to receive and file. All in favor.

Shannon Taylor, 17 Spruce Street, was positively acknowledged for her commendable service to the Borough of Marcus Hook by voluntarily contributing her time and energy to help decorate Market Square Memorial Park and host a Santa Claus greeting with snacks and refreshments on Thursday, November 29th. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to receive and file. All in favor.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Letter was received from Michael Manerchia, 12 E. Delaware Avenue noting his interest to serve on the Environmental Advisory Council as an alternate. Motion by P. Ewing second by W. Cox to appoint Michael Manerchia to the Environmental Advisory Council as an alternate, term to expire on December 31, 2019. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council President J. Laird read the MHTFD Fire Reports for the months of September, October, and November, 2018.

Councillor J. Flynn mentioned to Mayor Taylor that he should let Shannon know that she shouldn't get discouraged because of the inclement weather and having to cancel the parade this year. She did a great job and is hopeful that she can volunteer again next year.

Councillor W. Cox wanted to thank everyone on Council for a good year, and also wanted to thank the Marcus Hook Police Department, the Highway Department for a good job. A lot was asked of everyone this year and he is appreciative of their hard work. Councillor W. Cox also wanted to take a moment to think of Christ and Jesus Christ as we get closer to Christmas, as they are the reason for the holiday.

Mayor G. Taylor said that we have to do something about the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department and them not getting out on calls. This will be a point of discussion in coming meetings.

Councillor J. Laird thanked the Rec Board, Marcus Hook Highway Department, Marcus Hook Police Department, Council, and Shannon Taylor for all of their hard work and dedication. Councillor J. Laird also thanked Council for all getting along and working together for the greater good of the community.

Mayor and all of Borough Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tamika Gibson, 1012 Yates Avenue, inquired about the abandoned vehicles policy as her car was recently tagged as abandoned. Ms. Gibson acknowledged the car had a flat and she moved it within one day. However she was cited \$600 for the abandoned vehicle. She was wondering why the fine was so high. Council President J. Laird asked Mayor G. Taylor to look into this for her and get back to her personally.

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, thanked the Mayor and everyone on Council for their support of the Environmental Advisory Council and reminded all that there is an EAC meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 6th at 5:30 PM at the Marcus Hook Community Center. Lorraine also expressed concern regarding the missed fire calls on the MHTFD Monthly Reports and questioned what happens when our department can't make it out to a call. Dan Smith who was at the meeting and is a volunteer for MHTFD mentioned that we have mutual aid with the following stations: Claymont, Lower Chichester, Aston, Upper Chichester, Boothwyn, Ogden, and City of Chester for entrapments.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from November 6, 2018 through December 3, 2018 totaled \$174,703.85. Motion by J. Flynn second by P. Ewing to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary