

December 7, 2020

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening December 7, 2020, 7:00 PM, via Teleconference due to the COVID-19 health crisis.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors William Cox, Cheryl Evernham, 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 \$284,678.01. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham 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 2021 is \$316,276,342. Motion by P. Ewing second by W. Cox to record and file. All in favor.

Manager presented final reading of the 2021 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 December 1, 2020. Total expenditures were noted at \$5,732,563 with \$3,739,295 of this amount allocated to the General Fund. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to adopt the 2021 Borough budget as proposed. All in favor.

Manager presented Borough Resolution No. R-20-12, the Tax Levy Resolution, fixing the tax rate for 2021 at 7.09 mills. Act 51 of 2019 amended the Borough Code to establish a new process of adopting an annual property tax rate. Act 51 of 2019 now permits boroughs to enact the tax rate by resolution if the property tax rate stays the same or is decreased. The Borough's millage rate is being reduced from 12.35 mills in 2020 to 7.09 mills in 2021. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to adopt Resolution No. R-20-12. All in favor.

Manager introduced Borough Resolution No. R-20-13 to support and endorse the application of the Borough of Marcus Hook for FY 2021 Community Development Block Grant funds from the forty-seventh program year for the Cedar Street Streetscape Project. Motion by C. Evernham second by M. Manerchia to adopt Resolution No. R-20-13. All in favor.

Manager presented the Monthly Code Enforcement Report for the month of November, 2020. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to receive and file the Monthly Code Enforcement Report. 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 P. Ewing second by W. Cox to authorize free on-street meter parking within the central business district, two hour time limit, which began on November 26, 2020 and will end on January 7, 2021. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of November, 2020. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

Manager noted a letter of resignation was received from part-time police officer, Brandon Paslay, effective November 30, 2020. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to accept Brandon Paslay's letter of resignation as a part-time police officer. All in favor.

Mayor Taylor recommended the conditional appointment of Amanda DeLuca as part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. Motion by C. Everngham second by J. Flynn to conditionally appoint Amanda DeLuca to the position of part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. All in favor.

Mayor Taylor recommended the conditional appointment of Ginger Dunbar as part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to conditionally appoint Ginger Dunbar to the position of part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. All in favor.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Delaware County has scheduled its 2021 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events for April 24th - Emergency Services Training Center, June 19th – Delaware County Community College, September 18th – Emergency Services Training Center, and October 16th - Upper Chichester Twp. Municipal Building. These events are only for Household Hazardous Waste, no electronics or latex paint will be accepted, and they are by appointment only – registration is required by calling the Solid Waste Authority at 610-892-9627. Marcus Hook Borough is planning bulk trash/electronic waste recycling/shredding events for April 24th and October 2nd, 2021 to be held at the Municipal Building from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to receive and file. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

The Recreation and Park Board will be hosting a Holiday Gift Giving Event for Borough Children - Sunday, December 13th - Community Center - 1:30 PM. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia 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 their annual Thanksgiving Food Drives. These food drives are imperative and allow for the less fortunate to enjoy a delicious holiday meal. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to receive and file. All in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Manager advised that TVM Investments, Inc. on November 25, 2020 filed an appeal with the Court of Common Pleas from the decision of the Zoning Hearing Board regarding its application for a variance for property identified as 18 E. 10th Street. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to receive and file. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor P. Ewing read the MHTFD Fire Report for the month of November, 2020.

Mayor and Borough Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Safe and Happy New Year.

Councilor W. Cox questioned why a large PennDOT dump truck has been parking in the handicapped spot at the Marcus Hook Community Center. He said it parks in the spot and just sits there for extended periods of time. Manager Weldon said he will look into this.

Councilor M. Manerchia reminded everyone that if anyone knew of anyone in need this holiday season to contact the Borough. Councilor M. Manerchia also urged everyone to continue wearing their masks.

Councilor J. Flynn noted that more people are purchasing real Christmas trees this year and reminded those people to make sure they keep their trees watered to prevent any fire hazards.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from November 3, 2020 through December 7, 2020 totaled \$251,826.02. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary