

December 6, 2021

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening December 6, 2021, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors William Cox, Cheryl Everngham, Paula Ewing, Joseph Flynn, Josephine Laird, Michael Manerchia, and Brian Mercadante. 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 November 1, 2021 Council Meeting and the November 9, 2021 Special 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 \$242,226.16. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Everngham 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 2022 is \$317,137,582. Motion by M. Manerchia second by B. Mercadante to record and file. All in favor.

Manager presented final reading of the 2022 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 30, 2021. Total expenditures were noted at \$6,094,202 with \$4,012,235 of this amount allocated to the General Fund. Motion by C. Everngham second by M. Manerchia to adopt the 2022 Borough budget as proposed. All in favor.

Manager presented for second reading and adoption Borough Ordinance No. O-21-6, the Tax Levy Ordinance, fixing the tax rate for 2022 at 7.84 mills. This Ordinance was duly advertised on November 10, 2021. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to adopt Ordinance No. O-21-6. All in favor.

Manager introduced Borough Resolution No. R-21-17 to support and endorse the application of the Borough of Marcus Hook for PY 2022 Community Development Block Grant funds from the forty-eighth program year for the Cedar Street Streetscape Project. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to adopt Resolution No. R-21-17. All in favor.

Manager presented the Monthly Code Enforcement Report for the month of November, 2021. Motion by P. Ewing second by C. Everngham 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 W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to authorize free on-street meter parking within the central business district, two hour time limit, which began on November 24, 2021 and will end on January 3, 2022. All in favor.

Manager noted that the hiring committee, for the upcoming vacancy for the position of Municipal Clerk, met and conducted interviews and an offer of employment was made to Courtney Sendek. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to ratify the appointment of Courtney Sendek to the position of Municipal Clerk with a start date of December 6, 2021.

Manager presented an Agreement of Sale between the Borough of Marcus Hook and James Robinson, Chester, PA, for the property in the Borough of Marcus Hook with parcel number 24-00-00935-00 in the amount of \$5,000. This property is ground located at 0 Washington Street with dimensions 18' X 100'. Motion by C. Evernham second by J. Flynn to authorize the Borough of Marcus Hook to enter into an Agreement of Sale with James Robinson, Chester, PA for parcel number 24-00-00935-00 in the amount of \$5,000. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of November, 2021. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

Mayor Taylor recommended appointment of Michael Morrison to the Special Fire Police in the Borough of Marcus Hook. The Marcus Hook Special Fire Police are included in the 1st and 11th District Fire Police based out of Aston, PA. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to appoint Michael Morrison to the Special Fire Police in the Borough of Marcus Hook. All in favor.

Manager presented a Towing and Storage Agreement with Guy's Collision Center, Inc. covering abandoned vehicles, and vehicles involved in auto accidents or impounded because of an involvement in a crime or in a criminal conduct. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to approve the Towing and Storage Agreement with Guy's Collision Center, Inc.. All in favor.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Delaware County has scheduled its 2022 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events for April 23rd - Emergency Services Training Center (Tentative), June 11th - Rose Tree Park, September 10th - Emergency Services Training Center (Tentative), and October 15th - Upper Chichester Twp. Municipal Building (Tentative). 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 23rd and October 8th, 2022 to be held at the Municipal Building from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to receive and file. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

The Recreation and Park Board will be hosting a Brunch with Santa Event for Borough Children - Saturday, December 18th - Community Center - 12:00 PM. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to receive and file. All in favor.

Marcus Hook Borough Police Department, 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 C. Evernham second by M. Manerchia to receive and file. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor P. Ewing read the MHTFD Fire Report for the month of November, 2021.

Councilor J. Flynn noted that there are 106 children signed up for the Recreation and Park Board's Brunch with Santa Event on December 18th, and that there are two time slots to help accommodate the large number of children. The Rec Board will let the parents know which time slot they should be attending. Councilor J. Flynn is looking forward to the event. Councilor J. Flynn also congratulated Mayor Taylor and Councilors Evernham and Mercadante for their victories in the latest election.

Councilor M. Manerchia wished everyone a Merry Christmas and cautioned drivers to be careful on the road with the forecasted, upcoming snow on Wednesday.

Councilor C. Evernham wanted to give kudos to the Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board, they are working very hard to get the Christmas event organized. Councilor C. Evernham especially noted that Gail Montella has done a great job. Councilor C. Evernham is looking forward to the 18th and wanted to wish everyone Happy Holidays.

Councilor W. Cox noted that after 11-12 years serving as a Borough Councilor he noted that it is a pleasure working with the current group of officials, despite not always agreeing on things, for that he is grateful. Councilor W. Cox also wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and remember to thank the lord on Christmas.

Councilor P. Ewing extended a welcome and congratulations to Courtney Sendek. Councilor P. Ewing also wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mayor G. Taylor wished congratulations to all of the newly-elected officials. Mayor G. Taylor also noted that the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department held their annual Christmas party on Saturday and Slayde Turner was the top call runner for 2021 in the department.

Councilor J. Laird wanted to thank all of the candidates who ran in 2021, and would like to all put the collective best foot forward. Councilor J. Laird wanted to give kudos to both Courtney Sendek and the Recreation and Park Board.

Manager A. Weldon wished congratulations to the newly-elected officials, and wished congratulations to Courtney Sendek and noted that he is looking forward to working together.

Police Chief J. Ireland wanted to recognize the Marcus Hook Highway Department for the nice job they did in decorating the Business District for the holidays.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, noted that the EAC held the first in-person meeting in quite some time on Thursday, December 2nd. Energy Transfer and Braskem's representatives could not attend the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Trainer Borough, however it does not appear this will take place because there hasn't been a lot of communication from the EAC's in Trainer Borough or Lower Chichester Township. Lorraine stated that she requested the refineries to reach out to the local municipalities to question the lack of participation.

Councilor C. Evernham questioned if Lower Chichester was involved in the EAC to which Manager A. Weldon noted that they are included.

Lorraine noted that she read the by-laws and that six people are allowed to vote on EAC matters, two from each municipality. She doesn't know how to get Trainer and Lower Chichester to participate. Lorraine mentioned that she is involved with a local

group whose mission is environmentally centric and they are interested in protesting the fact that the other towns have not been participating.

Lorraine finally noted that Monroe Energy provided information at the most recent EAC meeting that they are planning to reduce their usage of the Delaware River water by 94%, and that she thanked them for their help in fighting the commercial warehouse fire at the former FMC site.

Councilor M. Manerchia questioned if there was an update with the leaking PECO manhole to which Manager A. Weldon responded that he had spoken to DEP Regional Director, Pat Patterson who noted the DEP has requested monitoring well samples from the local industry.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from November 2, 2021 through December 6, 2021 totaled \$210,712.30. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary