

February 5, 2024

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Tuesday evening, February 5, 2024, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

David J. Clark, former Councilor and Council President for the years 1986 through 1992 and 1994 who passed away on January 17, 2024.

John T. Adams, long-time resident and crossing guard who passed away on January 10, 2024.

ROLL CALL

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

APPOINTMENT

Council President J. Laird appointed Joseph Flynn as a Council representative on the Marcus Hook Community Development Board of Directors to fill a current representative vacancy on the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by C. Evernham 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 January 2024 totaled \$175,761.66. Motion by C. Evernham, seconded by M. 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 January 2, 2024 through February 5, 2024 totaled \$179,945.74. Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by M. Manerchia to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Manager presented the Monthly Code Enforcement Reports for the months of November 2023 and December 2023. Motion by C. Evernham, seconded by J. Flynn to receive and file the Monthly Code Enforcement Reports.

Manager presented a new Code Enforcement Violation Ticket for approval. Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by L. Killinen. All in favor.

Manager stated that Interviews for the open Tax Collector position were held Monday, January 29, 2024. A motion to appoint Timothy J. Cislo, Sr. is recommended for the Tax Collector position. Motion by C. Evernham, seconded by M. Manerchia, to fill the current Tax Collector vacancy. All in favor.

Manager requested authorization for Engineer Charles Catania to advertise for bids for the replacement of a commercial flat roof at the Recreation Center. Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by C. Evernham. All in favor.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of January 2024. Motion by C. Evernham, seconded by L. Killinen to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

Manager recommended a motion to demolish the building at 29 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street if the owner does not comply. Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by J. Johnson. All in favor.

Manager requested authorization for Chief Ireland to apply for a Vest-A-Cop Grant. Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by C. Evernham. All in favor.

### PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Manager presented Borough Resolution No. R-24-2 authorizing an application to the Delaware County Council for an allocation of \$2,484 from the County Liquid Fuels tax Funds to be used toward the 2024 Roadway/Street Improvement Program. Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by J. Flynn to adopt Resolution No. R-24-2.

### PARKS AND RECREATION

Manager reported that a letter was received from Delaware County Council Chair, Dr. Monica Taylor, dated January 12, 2024, announcing that the Borough's application for funding in Round 4 of the DELCO Green Ways grant program for the Market Square Memorial Park and Mickey Vernon Park Improvement Project was approved by County Council in the amount of \$191,199. The project work elements that were listed in the grant application followed the recommendations in the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan recently completed and adopted by Borough Council. Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by J. Johnson to receive and file. All in favor.

Manager presented Resolution No. R-24-3 closing out Community Conservation Partnerships Program grant, Grant Agreement Number BRC-RCP-27-243, from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the Market Square Memorial Park Delaware River Pier Removal and Reconstruction Master Plan. Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by C. Evernham to adopt Resolution No. R-24-3. All in favor.

Manager submitted two change orders for approval submitted by Borough Engineer Charles Catania for the Market Square Memorial Park Renovation Project which was awarded to Albert G. Cipolloni, Jr. & Sons in the amount of \$90,879.30. This project proposes to upgrade and improve the cove area where the park meets the Delaware River to and including river bank stabilization. A DELCO Green Ways grant approved for this project totals \$211,025.00. Change Order No. 1 would replace the entire fence at the cove, not just a section as the plans show, at an additional cost of \$5,350.00. Change Order No. 2 would replace all of the 25 wooden bollards at the park that border Delaware Avenue with decorative steel bollards. The cost is \$16,900. Motion by J. Flynn, seconded by L. Killinen to approve Change Orders Nos. 1 and 2 for the Market Square Memorial Park Renovation Project as recommended by Engineer Charles Catania. All in favor.

Manager announced that the 2024 Easter Egg Event will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at noon on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Registration is February 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Borough Hall, 1111 Market Street. Motion by C. Evernham, seconded by J. Johnson. All in favor.

Manager presented the May 25, 2024 Memorial Day Parade line-up for Council approval. Motion by C. Evernham, seconded by L. Killinen. All in favor. J. Laird stated that we need to get a Grand Marshall. If anyone has suggestions, please let Council know.

Manager presented the 2024 Summer Concert line-up for Council approval. Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by C. Everngham. All in favor.

Manager presented a proposal from All Seasons Landscaping Co., Inc. in the amount of \$4,700.00 for tree removal and planting at Market Square Memorial Park and Mickey Vernon Park. Work to be done late February and early March. This agenda item has been tabled as more discussion is needed.

### PLANNING AND ZONING

Manager presented Ordinance O-24-1 for advertising. This Ordinance amends the code of the Borough of Marcus Hook Chapter 178, entitled subdivision and land development to include both residential and non-residential development under the Recreational Fee-In-Lieu Program. Motion by J. Flynn, seconded by J. Johnson, to advertise Ordinance O-24-1.

### COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Manager requested Council approval to authorize Catania Engineering Associations to proceed with bid advertisement for the Viscose Village Streetscape Project – Cedar Street from Pine Street to Chestnut Street. The Viscose Village Streetscape Project, Phase 4B, has been allocated \$200,000 in CDBG FY 2024 funds. Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by M. Manerchia to authorize Catania Engineering Associates to advertise bids Phase 4B of the Viscose Village Streetscape Project, Cedar Street – Pine Street to Chestnut Street. All in favor.

### ENVIRONMENTAL

Manager requested a motion to appoint Brandon Weigand to the Environmental Advisory Council. Motion by J. Weigand, seconded by M. Manerchia. All in favor.

### LIBRARY

1. The library will provide free tax forms for Marcus Hook residents.
2. Braskem recognition event will be at the library on Thursday, March 7th at 1:00 pm. Braskem donated \$10,000.00 to the library a few months ago.
3. The library received a good number of applicants for the Library Assistant position. Soon we will start to interview the applicants.
4. The library is offering various programs for all ages. We will have a Lunar New Year celebration Saturday, February 3rd at 1 pm.

### COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Killinen read the MHTFD Fire Report for the month of January 2024. C. Everngham commented that the banquet for Fire Chief Smith was a very nice affair.

M. Manerchia commented for everyone to be careful on the roads and watch for flooding on Green Street.

L. Killinen commented that he is very happy with the trash company.

M. Manerchia asked if anyone wanted to comment on the agenda meetings. C. Everngham explained that a good amount of residents come to the agenda meetings and not the Council Meetings. Agenda meeting minutes are not required. C. Everngham suggested to the residents if they want to be on record, please attend the Council Meeting so that your comments and concerns will be on record in the minutes.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorraine Daliesso, 1050 Yates Avenue, had the following comments. Ms. Daliesso read a report that she took at the last EAC Meeting. Ms. Daliesso brought up that the Fire

Chief brought up that they need a new truck and since it was agenda, it was not on record. She suggested that the Borough get a sound system in Council Chambers.

Darren Laws, Chester, stated this past Saturday he held a boxing event at Jonnie Slow's War Ready Boxing with approximately 300 people in attendance and there were no issues. He has awesome pictures to Council from the event. Mr. Laws will also be hosting a bingo night. Councilor Evernham asked Mr. Laws to give pictures from the boxing event to the Borough Clerk Courtney Sendek and she will include them in the newsletter. She also suggested to give Mrs. Sendek any of their upcoming events so that can be included in the newsletter as well. Mr. Laws met with Upper Chichester Council and suggested that they get involved in the events that Mr. Laws hosts. He also met with Chester High School football alumni players and would like to hold an event with the alumni football players from Marcus Hook. He asked Councilor Johnson if he would reach out to his brother Billy Johnson. Councilor Johnson told Mr. Laws he will reach out to his brother Billy tomorrow. Mr. Laws is looking to come up with some positive and diverse events in the surrounding towns and wanted to share it with Council. Council thanked Mr. Laws for all he is doing for the communities.

Awilda Laureano, 24 Chestnut Street, asked why there is no basketball courts in Marcus Hook. President Laird explained that they did have basketball courts previously and there was a near riot. Ms. Laureano said that this needs to change so the kids in Marcus Hook can play basketball. President Laird explained that the parents would need to be on the courts to supervise their children. Councilor Manerchia stated they spent \$15,000 to renovate the basketball courts three times after they were destroyed by the kids. Councilor Manerchia asked Ms. Laureano to come up with a plan and present it to Council. Councilor Weigand told Ms. Laureano that she approached the school about having a basketball league. Currently no one is using their facilities. Councilor Weigand's husband is on the School Board and he will certainly talk to the Board members to see what can be done. Councilor Weigand stated there is an insurance issue that needs to be taken care of first and she is looking into it. Councilor Weigand also said that there will need to be volunteers.

Councilor Manerchia asked the Fire President Alfonse Brooks and Fire Chief Dan Smith if they would like to give an update on what is going on at the firehouse. Fire President Brooks stated that they are waiting on a part for one of their trucks. The cost of the repair once the part comes in is \$20,000.00. Fire Chief Smith stated that the Solicitor is getting two quotes to do the firehouse audit. They are still waiting on his response. Councilor Manerchia told President Brooks and Fire Chief Smith that he is on board to get them a new truck. He asked when the fire truck will be repaired and was told it will take a month or two to get the truck back in service. Councilor Weigand asked how long they think the truck will be in service before it will need to be repaired again. Fire Chief Smith stated this is the second time it is being repaired.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by J. Laird to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Deborah Hurst  
Borough Secretary