

January 6, 2020

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening January 6, 2020, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

OATH OF OFFICE

Magisterial District Judge David Griffin administered the oath of office to Councilors William Cox, Paula Ewing, Josephine Laird, and Michael Manerchia.

CALL TO ORDER

Gene Taylor, Mayor, called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors William Cox, Cheryl Everngham, Paula Ewing, Joseph Flynn, John Kennard, 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.

COUNCIL AND BOROUGH REORGANIZATION

Mayor Taylor stated that this was a reorganization meeting and requested nominations for President and Vice-President of Council.

Motion by W. Cox to nominate Josephine Laird as President of Borough Council. All in favor.

Motion by J. Laird to nominate W. Cox as Vice-President of Borough Council. All in favor.

Motion by W. Cox to nominate J. Flynn as President Pro Tem who will preside in the event that both the President and Vice-President are absent from a meeting at which there is still a quorum. All in favor.

Motion by W. Cox to nominate Robert Kersey as Chairman of the Vacancy Board. All in favor.

Councilor J. Kennard advanced a motion continuing the appointment of Mark P. Much as Borough Solicitor. Motion was seconded by J. Flynn. All in favor.

Councilor W. Cox advanced a motion continuing the appointment of Charles J. Catania, Jr. as Borough Engineer. Motion was seconded by J. Flynn. All in favor.

Councilor J. Flynn advanced a motion continuing the appointment of Michelle Fanelli as Health Officer. Motion was seconded by C. Everngham. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF RECEIPT VOUCHER

Manager advised that the receipt voucher for the month of December totaled \$108,080.57. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Everngham to receive and deposit. All in favor.

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Manager advised that the Borough renewed its 2020 Workers' Compensation, Employer's Liability and Heart and Lung/Act 477 coverages effective January 1, 2020, at a premium rate of \$52,753, a \$1,113 decrease from the previous year primarily attributable to a reduction in the rating as well as a decrease in the Borough's Experience Modification Factor. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to record and file. All in favor.

Manager presented Borough Resolution No. R-20-1, a Fee Schedule Resolution, authorizing fees and charges pursuant to the codified ordinances of the Borough and/or as allowed under Pennsylvania state law. Motion by C. Evernham second by J. Kennard to adopt Resolution No. R-20-1. All in favor.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of December, 2019. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

Mayor Taylor recommended the reappointment of the following part time police officers for 2020: Douglas Staffelbach, James Dalrymple, Brandon Paslay, John Kuryan, Christopher Reynolds, Matthew Elliott, Ryan Feeley, Michael Tierney, and Justin Fornwalt. Motion by J. Kennard second by C. Evernham to reappoint the above-named part time police officers for 2020.

Manager presented for second reading and adoption of Borough Ordinance number O-20-1, amending the Borough Code Section 31 and Police Pension Plan to include a five (5) year Act 44 Retirement Program for eligible full-time police officers. This ordinance was duly advertised on December 11, 2019. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to adopt Ordinance No. O-20-1. All in favor.

Manager received a letter from the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department advising effective January 1, 2020, the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department elected Ken Smith Jr. as the Department Fire Chief, Joseph Smith as the Department Captain, and Bobby Kersey Jr. as the Fire Marshal. Motion by J. Flynn second by C. Evernham to record and file. All in favor.

## PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Manager and Council's Highway Committee noted the need to increase staff capacity in the Highway Department and recommended part-time laborer, Benjamin VanCleve, be promoted to a full-time laborer position effective January 6, 2020. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to appoint part-time Highway Department laborer, Benjamin Van Cleve, to a full-time laborer position within the Highway Department effective January 6, 2020. All in favor.

## PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

Manager reported that the Recreation and Park Board's Lunch with Santa was held on December 14, 2019. There were 67 Borough children in attendance. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to record and file. All in favor.

## COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Manager reported that the Borough's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program application (46<sup>TH</sup> Year / FY 2020) for the Viscose Village Streetscape Project was submitted to the Delaware County Office of Housing and Community Development on December 12, 2019. CDBG funds requested totaled \$391,250 based on the construction cost estimate for streetscape work on Cedar Street, \$212,750 for Plaza to Pine Streets and \$178,500 for Pine to Chestnut Streets. Motion by C. Evernham second by P. Ewing to record and file. All in favor.

## COUNCIL REPORTS

Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to reappoint the following individuals to various boards and commissions: Eileen Troutman and Linda Cobourn to the Library Board - 3 year term expiring December 31, 2022; Larry Killinen and Carol Sparks to the Planning Commission - 4 year term expiring December 31, 2023; Lorraine Daliessio to the Zoning Hearing Board - 5 year term expiring December 31, 2024; Lorraine Daliessio to the Environmental Advisory Council - 3 year term expiring December 31, 2022; and, Michael Manerchia to the Environmental Advisory Council, as an Alternate Member – 3 year term expiring December 31, 2022. All in favor.

Councilor P. Ewing read the MHTFD Fire Reports for the months of November and December, 2019.

Councilor J. Flynn noted that dog licenses are now due effective 1/1/2020, you can get them from the Delaware County Courthouse in Media or from Brookhaven Borough. These are very important and help to save time and effort in the event of a lost or stolen dog.

Councilor W. Cox wanted to thank Marie Swanson and the rest of the Recreation and Park Board for all of their efforts in 2019 and also thanked the Highway Department for all of their efforts day in and day out as well as for the work they did decorating the Borough for the holidays.

Councilor J. Kennard noted that the Borough has no control over the train horns; this is mandated by the Federal Railroad Administration.

Councilor P. Ewing reminded residents that when signing documents in the New Year to make sure they always put the year as "2020", instead of just "20".

Councilor C. Evernham asked what help we could offer to those who were affected by the unsightly graffiti that showed up in town on Christmas. Councilor J. Laird noted that Walt Omler from the County would be a good resource. Manager Weldon noted that all of the graffiti has been cleaned off aside from two private property owners, for which Code Enforcement had spoken to these owners and noted they were in the process of having these areas painted.

Councilor M. Manerchia noted that dredging has begun in the Delaware River again and you may see these contractors and workers in and around the Borough.

Mayor G. Taylor congratulated all of the elected officials who were sworn-in this evening and thanked Borough Council for supporting the Marcus Hook Police Department in recently agreeing to a five year contract.

Councilor J. Laird thanked all of Council for their support and putting their faith in her again to serve as Council President. Councilor J. Laird also noted that the graffiti incident is being addressed.

Manager Weldon congratulated the elected officials who were sworn-in this evening and reminded residents that this would be one of the last Council Meetings held at 1015 Green Street, as Borough Administration and Council Chambers would be moving to the newly constructed building at 1111 Market Street. An official move date hasn't been set, but it will be in the next month or two.

Mayor Taylor and Borough Council wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, provided a report on the Environmental Advisory Council, at the most recent meeting officers were elected, and they held a discussion on various grants that are out there (including one to clean up Marcus Hook Creek) and gave Lorraine permission to follow up on these opportunities. Lorraine has been taking modules for grant writing. Lorraine expressed her desire for more residents to show up to these meetings. The next EAC meeting is taking place at the Linwood Senior Center on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

Marie Swanson, 22 Chestnut Street, announced that the Recreation and Park Board would be hosting "Candy Bingo" on Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 1-3PM at the Marcus Hook Community Center for children aged 5-11 years.

Paul Troutman, 1117 Washington Lane, felt that once Road-Con was finished paving Maiden Lane that it would become a "Speedway" again and urged Council to conduct a traffic study and look into installing speed bumps there. Chief Ireland noted that the Borough would be able to conduct a traffic study.

## APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from December 3, 2019 through January 6, 2020 totaled \$169,552.28. Motion by C. Evernham second by W. Cox 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 7:24 PM.

Andrew Weldon  
Borough Secretary