

July 1, 2019

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening July 1, 2019, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present were Councillors William Cox, Cheryl Evernham, Paula Ewing, Joseph Flynn, John Kennard, Josephine Laird and Michael Manerchia. Also present was 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 June totaled \$115,649.43. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to receive and deposit. All in favor.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A Certificate of Recognition was presented to Pastor Sandy Cislo on behalf of the members of Cokesbury United Methodist Church on Market Street in Marcus Hook Borough for their positive contributions to the Borough and surrounding towns through their food programs and various other civic-minded and community centered programs.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Manager mentioned that the Spring/Summer 2019 edition of the Marcus Hook News was distributed on June 24, 2019. The Spring/Summer printing was the 60th edition of this publication since its inception in 1983. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to record and file. All in favor.

Manager noted that the Borough's Emergency Operations Plan update is underway with Ed Doyle, CSERT having met with the Borough as well as the Marcus Hook Police Department, Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department, and Conrail to date. In the next few weeks, Ed will be meeting with all of the local industry; Braskem, Energy Transfer Partners, Honeywell, and Monroe Energy to determine how we can work together in the event of a catastrophic event in town to most effectively manage the situation. This will be followed by a draft version of the plan going before Mayor and Council to review and approve. Motion by M. Manerchia second by J. Kennard to record and file. All in favor.

Manager announced the Borough has been awarded \$59,200 in federal funds by way of a 5310 Federal Transportation Grant that the Borough applied for on August 31, 2018. These dollars will be used to purchase a new handicapped accessible vehicle that the Borough will utilize to provide transportation to Marcus Hook Senior Citizens, Marcus Hook Borough Organizations, or for Emergency Services. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to authorize the purchase of a 23' handicapped accessible vehicle from Roher Bus Company at a total cost of \$74,000, which was budgeted for in the 2019 Capital Expenditures Budget. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Manager requested approval to enter into an annual service agreement with iWorQ Systems for the purpose of implementing management and permitting software for the Borough's Code Enforcement Department. The annual cost is \$2,500 for the software and data package, and a one-time set-up fee of \$837, totaling \$3,337. Motion by C. Everngham second by J. Kennard to enter into an annual service agreement with iWorQ Systems at a total cost of \$3,337. All in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Manager informed residents that Road-Con, Inc. will be closing the Market Street Bridge for a 30 day period, tentatively starting on July 15th to continue work on the bridge. This is the last anticipated full-bridge closure for the project with the bridge anticipated to be completed by October, 2019 and the ADA accessible ramps scheduled to be completed by April, 2020. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to record and file. All in favor.

Council's Highway Committee presented the following recommendations for summer/seasonal employment with the Highway Department: Joshua Johnson, 303 Green Street, and Brian Cannon, 58 Green Lane, Aston, PA for a 24 hour week at \$12.00 per hour, beginning July 8, 2019 and ending in August, 2019. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to approve the recommendation of the Highway Committee covering summer/seasonal employment offering employment to Joshua Johnson and Brian Cannon, as summer laborers, 24 hours per week, \$12.00 per hour. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

Councillor J. Flynn reported that 65 participants attended the 10th Annual Father's Day Fishing Derby held on June 16, 2019, with 33 children receiving free rods and reels. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Everngham to record and file. All in favor.

Acknowledged were the members of the Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board who coordinated the Flea Market/Yard Sale at the Marcus Hook Community Center on June 15th and participated in the 10th Annual Father's Day Fishing Derby by selling food and refreshments. Motion by P. Ewing second by J. Flynn to receive and file. All in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Manager noted that the design submission for the Mickey Vernon Park Ball Field and Playground Accessibility and Improvements Project was recently provided to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The next step in this grant process is for DCNR to approve these designs and for the Borough to advertise for the bidding of this project. The estimated approval date for designs is July 15th and bid advertisement on July 18th. Motion by M. Manerchia second by P. Ewing to receive and file. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor W. Cox thanked Councilor J. Flynn for hosting the fishing derby and donating his time, efforts, and money to put on such a great event for the kids. Councilor W. Cox also wished everyone a safe 4th of July and God Bless America.

Councilor P. Ewing congratulated Cokesbury United Methodist Church for such a great job that they do and also wished everyone a happy and safe 4th of July and God Bless America.

Councilor M. Manerchia wished everyone a Happy 4th of July and noted that there are state laws against igniting fireworks; if residents see these going off in town they should dial 911.

Councilor J. Laird echoed what Councilor M. Manerchia said about fireworks and dialing 911. Councilor J. Laird attended the Chester Water Authority (CWA) hearing earlier in the day and noted that if CWA is sold then the rates will most likely rise, and if CWA's rates rise then so will DELCORA's rates. Councilor J. Laird urged residents to come out to the summer concerts at Market Square Memorial Park, as they're completely free to all and sponsored by local businesses and contributions.

Manager A. Weldon informed residents that while the Borough does not specifically have any fireworks ordinances in place, Pennsylvania State Laws would still apply for all residents. Manager A. Weldon read applicable fireworks State Laws aloud:

- 1) They cannot be ignited or discharged on a public or private property without express permission of the property owner.
- 2) They cannot be discharged from or within a motor vehicle or building.
- 3) They cannot be discharged toward a motor vehicle or building.
- 4) They cannot be discharged within 150 feet of an occupied structure.
- 5) They cannot be discharged while the person is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or another drug.

Manager A. Weldon noted that at the CWA hearing earlier in the day a 30 day injunction was filed to temporarily stop the sale of CWA's assets.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, reminded everyone in attendance that she sent a letter to State Senator Killion regarding the rail traffic in the Borough and safety improvements at those crossings and his office has reached out to the Borough. Lorraine also mentioned that she attended the CWA hearing earlier in the day and she noticed that there were many CWA employees and lawyers present. Lorraine was taken aback by the fact that Aqua had their own lawyers at this hearing. Lorraine noted that a consultant from Aqua was caught in a lie on the stand relating to a violation of the sunshine act and a meeting that was not duly advertised. Lorraine further noted that the Mayor from Chester didn't have a lot to say, however she felt that CWA did a nice job and echoed statements from earlier that a 30 day injunction has been filed to temporarily stop the sale of CWA's assets. Lorraine continued that the board of CWA is made up of 3 members from Chester City, 3 members from Delaware County, and 3 members from Chester County.

Annie Kersey, 303 Market Street, inquired about how residents can show support to CWA. Councilor J. Laird commented that residents can submit their comments in writing to CWA, and further they can notify their elected officials that they support CWA in this proceeding.

Councilor M. Manerchia added that two weeks ago Aqua Americas purchased a large water company in the western United States.

Skip Morello, 1021 Market Street, asked Manager Weldon to clarify the fireworks laws that were read during Council Reports section of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from June 4, 2019 through July 1, 2019 totaled \$113,733.28. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Manerchia second by C. Evernham to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary