

June 6, 2022

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening June 6, 2022, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

Josephine Laird, Council President, called the meeting to order, and requested William Cox, Council Vice-President to preside over tonight's meeting.

A moment of silence was requested for Robert C. Sides, former Borough Councilor from 1979 – 1983, and former Fire Chief of the Marcus Hook Fire Company, who passed away on May 22, 2022.

ROLL CALL

Present were Councillors William Cox, Cheryl Evernham, Joseph Flynn, Larry Killinen, Josephine Laird, Michael Manerchia, and Brian Mercadante. Also present were Mayor Gene Taylor and Borough Manager Andrew Weldon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by C. Evernham 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 May totaled \$251,528.41. Motion by L. Killinen second by C. Evernham to receive and deposit. All in favor.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Manager presented two tax assessment appeals from the NACOL LLC for two parcels of property listed under the following folio nos. 24-00-00508-00 and 24-00-00509-00. For 2021 and going forward, the properties will have the following adjustments in assessed value and Fair Market Value:

	Original Assessed Value/FMV	Adjusted Assessed Value/FMV
24-00-00508-00	\$31,900	\$10,000
24-00-00509-00	\$347,930	\$100,000
Total	\$379,830	\$110,000

Motion by J. Flynn second by L. Killinen to accept the tax assessment appeal amounts as outlined above for folio nos. 24-00-00508-00 and 24-00-00509-00 for the tax year 2021 and going forward. All in favor.

Manager presented the Monthly Code Enforcement Report for the month of May, 2022. Motion by M. Manerchia second by J. Laird to receive and file the Monthly Code Enforcement Report. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of May, 2022. Motion by C. Evernham second by J. Laird to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

Mayor Taylor recommended the conditional appointment of Cody Megasich as a part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. Motion by M. Manerchia second by C. Evernham to conditionally appoint Cody Megasich to the position of part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. All in favor.

Manager reported that a Position Vacancy Announcement was posted for the position of Police Clerk for the Marcus Hook Police Department, applications received, and interviews conducted. Elaine Lawley was offered and accepted the position of Police Clerk, first work day is June 28, 2022. Motion by M. Manerchia second by L. Killinen to approve and ratify the appointment of Elaine Lawley to the position of Police Clerk. All in favor.

Chief Ireland requested authorization to submit a grant application for funding to purchase four bulletproof vests for four officers. The application will be submitted to the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership, which was created by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998, and is a unique US Department of Justice initiative designed to provide a critical resource to State and Local Law Enforcement. This grant will fund up to 50% of the purchase of bulletproof vests. The remaining costs to purchase the bulletproof vests, not covered by this grant, will be paid from the police uniform operating budget. Motion by J. Flynn second by B. Mercadante to approve the filing of a grant application to the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership for the purchase of four bulletproof vests. All in favor.

Manager presented the first reading of Borough Ordinance No. O-22-4, which would extend the Borough curfew by one hour to 9:00 PM between the Memorial Day and Labor Day Holidays. Motion by J. Flynn second by B. Mercadante to authorize advertisement of Borough Ordinance No. O-22-4. All in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Manager reported that a Position Vacancy Announcement was posted for the position of one full-time Laborer for the Highway Department, applications received, and interviews conducted. Christopher Santiago was offered and accepted the position of full-time laborer, first work day is June 7, 2022. Motion by M. Manerchia second by J. Laird to approve and ratify the appointment of Christopher Santiago to a full-time position with the Highway Department. All in favor.

Council's Highway Committee presented the following recommendations for summer/seasonal employment with the Highway Department: Joseph McKnett, 10 Chestnut Street and Jake Persing, 812 Bethel Ave., Upper Chichester, PA for a 24 hour week at \$12.00 per hour, beginning June 22, 2022 and June 13, 2022, respectively and ending in August, 2022. Motion by L. Killinen second by M. Manerchia to approve the recommendation of the Highway Committee covering summer/seasonal employment offering employment to Joseph McKnett and Jake Persing, as summer laborers, 24 hours per week, \$12.00 per hour. All in favor.

The Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement (number TSMA-23413) with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation which Borough Council approved when adopting Resolution No. R-22-10 on May 2, 2022 was returned on May 17, 2022 fully executed by PennDOT officials and has been uploaded to TSAMS (Traffic Signal Asset Management System) in the Signal Owner module. Motion by C. Everngham second by M. Manerchia to record and file. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

Manager presented a grant agreement from the County of Delaware in the amount of \$42,750 from the Delaware County Green Ways Municipal Grant Program for the purpose of preparing a Mini-Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to approve entering into a grant agreement with the County of Delaware in the amount of \$42,750 for the purpose of preparing a Mini-Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan. All in favor.

Manager presented a grant agreement from the County of Delaware in the amount of \$87,600 from the Delaware County Green Ways Municipal Grant Program for the purpose of preparing a Market Square Memorial Park Delaware River Pier Removal and Reconstruction Master Plan. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to approve entering into a grant agreement with the County of Delaware in the amount of \$87,600 for the purpose of preparing a Market Square Memorial Park Delaware River Pier Removal and Reconstruction Master Plan. All in favor.

Manager requested for advertisement a Request For Proposals (RFP) for both the Mini-Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan as well as the Market Square Memorial Park Delaware River Pier Removal and Reconstruction Master Plan. Motion by B. Mercadante second by L. Killinen to approve advertisement of a Request For Proposals for both the Mini-Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan as well as the Market Square Memorial Park Delaware River Pier Removal and Reconstruction Master Plan. All in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Letter received from William Cox, 206 Market Street, advising of his resignation from the Planning Commission, effective immediately. Motion by J. Flynn second by J. Laird to accept the resignation of William Cox from the Planning Commission. All in favor.

Manager presented for the second reading and adoption Borough Ordinance number O-22-3 entitled Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act (LERTA) Designation providing for tax exemption for new construction to aging and deteriorated industrial property pursuant to Act. No. 76 of 1977. This ordinance was the subject of a public hearing on March 1, 2022. Motion by J. Flynn second by B. Mercadante to adopt Ordinance No. O-22-3. All in favor.

ENVIRONMENT

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in a letter from Regional Director Patrick Paterson, dated May 11, 2022, to the United States Environmental Protection Agency indicated their support to initiate de-proposal of the East 10th Street Site from the National Priorities List as the site is currently undergoing investigation and remediation through DEP's Land Recycling and Cleanup Program. Motion by B. Mercadante second by M. Manerchia to receive and file. All in favor.

Positively acknowledged was Braskem for coordinating, with Pennsylvania Cleanways d/b/a Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful for trash and marine debris removal along the Delaware River and Marcus Hook Creek. On May 4, 2022 volunteers from Braskem came together to remove trash and other marine debris at Market Square Memorial Park along the banks of the Delaware River and collected trash and debris along Marcus Hook Creek between 10th Street (US Route 13) and just south of the AMTRAK rail corridor. Motion by C. Everngham second by M. Manerchia to record and file. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor L. Killinen reported that the MHTFD in April responded to 25 fire alarms and in May responded to 45 fire alarms.

Councilor M. Manerchia suggested that since the Marcus Hook Police Department have temporarily moved to the Marcus Hook Community Center, we should put up a sign of some sort out front to indicate that the Marcus Hook Police Department are currently occupying that building.

Councilor C. Everngham cautioned drivers since schools will be letting out later this week.

Councilor W. Cox questioned the railroad work that recently took place at the intersection of 4th and Green Streets; will they be repaving this as it's currently filled with rocks.

Manager Weldon noted that he spoke to Joe Massaro, Governmental Relations Representative from Energy Transfer and he apologized for the lack of communication to the Borough on this work, and said it was performed by Conrail. He will be looking into this and get back to us with more information on when this will be repaved.

Councilor J. Laird reminded residents that the 2022 summer concert schedules were available and Mayor Taylor had disbursed these to meeting attendees.

Mayor G. Taylor expressed concern that the railroad tracks at 4th and Market Streets were blocked by a train for 15 minutes while Allied Universal (security for the Marcus Hook Industrial Complex) delivered paperwork to the conductor of the train.

Chief J. Ireland noted that this is a standard operating procedure for trains that enter the Marcus Hook Industrial Complex; they stop before Market Street at 4th and Market Streets and wait for Allied Universal, or another representative from the Marcus Hook Industrial Complex to approach the train and then will proceed into the Complex.

Manager Weldon noted he would reach out to Energy Transfer to express concern over this lengthy wait time to see if this can be expedited in any way.

Mayor G. Taylor requested that the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department notate on their monthly fire report which calls were located in Marcus Hook Borough and which calls were located in Trainer Borough.

Manager A. Weldon wished a Happy Father's Day to all of the fathers out there.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, noted that there was an EAC meeting on Thursday, June 2nd at the Marcus Hook Municipal Building. Lorraine noted that this is the last EAC meeting until September, which will also be held at the Marcus Hook Municipal Building. Lorraine noted how she brought up the topic of trains blocking streets at the EAC meeting.

Lorraine questioned the part of the meeting that spoke of the EPA. Manager A. Weldon re-read that section of the meeting and informed everyone that a letter was sent from PA DEP to the US EPA requesting removal of the E. 10th Street Site from the National Priorities List.

Lorraine also questioned whether the full amount of the \$87,600 grant would be used for a Master Plan, to which Manager A. Weldon noted that it very well could, as these types of plans are very comprehensive and specialized and may even contain some degree of engineered drawings for a new fishing pier.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from May 3, 2022 through June 6, 2022 totaled \$212,195.63. Motion by L. Killinen second by J. Laird to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by C. Evernham second by L. Killinen to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary