

March 5, 2018

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening March 5, 2018, 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, Joseph Flynn, John Kennard, Anna Kersey, 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.

#### APPROVAL OF RECEIPT VOUCHER

Manager advised that the receipt voucher for the month of February totaled \$476,265.05. Motion by W. Cox second by A. Kersey to receive and deposit. All in favor.

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Manager mentioned that the winter 2018 edition of the Marcus Hook News was distributed on February 22, 2018. The winter printing was the 58<sup>th</sup> edition of this publication since its inception in 1983. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Kennard to record and file. All in favor.

Manager noted that unpaid 2017 Borough real estate taxes in the amount of \$81,144.09 was submitted to the Delaware County Tax Claim Bureau by the Borough Tax Collector for collection as delinquent. The percent of Borough real estate taxes collected for 2017 was 93.5%. Motion by J. Flynn second by W. Cox to receive and file. All in favor.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of February, 2018. Motion by J. Kennard second by A. Kersey to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

Mayor Taylor recommended the appointment of Nicholas DiBerardo, Christopher Reynolds, and Ryan Feeley as part-time police officers. Motion by M. Manerchia second by W. Cox to appoint Nicholas DiBerardo, Christopher Reynolds, and Ryan Feeley to the position of part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. All in favor.

The Borough of Marcus Hook has extended the CodeRED Services Agreement with OnSolve, LLC for the period March 12, 2018 – March 11, 2019 at an annual cost of \$2,500. As part of the proposal from Honeywell International, as agreed upon by Borough Council at the March 3, 2014 Council Meeting, the costs of the notification system will be reimbursed by Honeywell International for a period of 15 years. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Kennard to receive and file.

#### PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Manager reported that the Borough will be advertising surplus property for sale this month, a 1994 Bobcat Loader and an Aladdin Pressure Washer. Bids can be

placed on municibids.com through March 23, 2018 at 2:00 PM, when the auction will close. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to record and file. All in favor.

Manager presented the first reading and request of advertisement of ordinance number O-18-1, amending the Code of the Borough of Marcus Hook, Chapter 157, Property Maintenance, adding article V, to be entitled "Graffiti". Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to advertise ordinance number O-18-1. All in favor.

Manager presented the first reading and request of advertisement of ordinance number O-18-2, amending the Code of the Borough of Marcus Hook, Chapter 191, Vehicles and Traffic, Section 82, Schedule XVIII, Special Purpose Parking Zones/ Residential Parking Zones. Motion by J. Kennard second by W. Cox to advertise ordinance number O-18-2. All in favor.

### PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

Acknowledged and summarized was the 2017 Annual Report of the Marcus Hook Shade Tree Commission which included the planned 2018 program submitted to Borough Council on February 23, 2018. This year's Arbor Day program is scheduled for Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM, at Mickey Vernon Park. Motion by W. Cox second by A. Kersey to receive and file the 2017 Annual Report of the Shade Tree Commission. All in favor.

Upcoming Recreation and Park Board scheduled events are the St. Patrick's Day Craft Event, Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, from Noon to 1, for children aged 5 - 13 years old. Children's Easter "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt", Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> (age limit 10 years old), starting from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Motion by J. Flynn second by J. Kennard to record and file. All in favor.

### HISTORY

The Marcus Hook Preservation Society requested permission to hold their monthly meetings at the Community Center on the second Monday, 7 PM of each month. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Kennard to approve this request. All in favor.

Manager announced that the Marcus Hook Preservation Society will be celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Annual Marcus Hook Pirate Festival in 2018. The celebration will start on Friday September 14<sup>th</sup> with "A Pirate's Life" from, a ticketed event featuring live music, vendors, as well as food and drink that will be from 5 PM – 10 PM. On Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM – 6 PM, the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Marcus Hook Pirate Festival will take place, with both events scheduled at the Market Square Memorial Park. Motion by J. Kennard second by A. Kersey to record and file. All in favor.

### COUNCIL REPORTS

Councillor J. Laird reported that the MHTFD in February responded to 23 fire alarms.

Councilor M. Manerchia urged residents to watch out for pot holes in the Borough and to make sure they report them to the Borough.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue thanked the Cokesbury Church for stepping up and allowing residents without power to charge their electronic devices and warm up. Lorraine also recommended the Borough look into setting up a place with generators to enable residents affected by future storms to go to have access to outlets to charge electronic devices and to warm up. Lorraine said if the Borough decided to start a committee for this disaster relief then she would volunteer. Lorraine concluded by expressing her opinion that the Borough failed at responding to the large-scale power outage.

Betsy Meyers, 208 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street responded to Lorraine and noted that the only reason the Cokesbury Church opened up was due to the fact that they had power throughout the storm, where many of the Borough buildings were without power.

Christine Reeder, 9 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street commented that she was concerned with the Borough's response, she didn't know that the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department was open, nor that the Community Center was open after 9PM on Sunday night.

Michael Laird, 21 Cedar Street commented that we have a communication problem, however during a storm when half of the town's electric is out, there is an inherent communication problem. Michael referenced a fire truck or ambulance riding around town to possibly alert residents.

Gail LaVallee, volunteered for helping at the Marcus Hook Community Center if we chose to open this during a power outage.

Brian Kersey, 303 Market Street commented that if it snows and people are stuck then they can always call the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department and they will rescue them. Brian also urged residents to dial 911 if they had an emergency.

Pam Verdi, 37 Spruce Street commented that she signed up for the Borough's Code Red notification system, but didn't receive a message from the Borough when they recently issued a Code Red. Manager Weldon took Pam's phone number and will call her to make sure she is properly signed up.

Councillor J. Laird noted that the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department was open, and that the Community Center was open later in the evening on Sunday.

Councillor M. Manerchia commented that this was a new experience for everyone, as the Borough has not lost power many times, or for a long duration in the past. Councillor M. Manerchia also noted that the Borough has to come up with a plan to respond to these types of incidents, and finally he noted that if you lost power, you must report it to PECO as soon as possible.

Manager A. Weldon commented that Mayor and Borough Council did all they could with respect to alerting PECO and escalating these power outages, and the reality is had Mayor and Council not reached out to PECO that it would be likely that many homes and businesses within the Borough would still be without power. Manager Weldon also noted that the Community Center was opened to residents as soon as full heat and power was restored to the building.

#### APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from February 6, 2018 through March 5, 2018 totaled \$138,949.21. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion by J. Kennard second by A. Kersey to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Andrew Weldon  
Borough Secretary