

October 2, 2023

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening October 2, 2023, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors William Cox, Cheryl Everngham, Joseph Flynn, John Johnson, Larry Killinen, Josephine Laird and Michael Manerchia, Also present were Mayor Gene Taylor and Borough Manager Deborah Hurst.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by J. Flynn, seconded by L. Killinen 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 September totaled \$198,670.66. Motion by W. Cox, seconded by C. Everngham to receive and deposit. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from September 6, 2023 through October 2, 2023 totaled \$276,641.04. Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by M. Manerchia to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Borough Council was advised prior to the last business day of September the expected municipal financial obligation for the uniformed and non-uniformed pension plans in 2024, as required by Act 205 of 1984. The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the uniformed pension plan is \$432,263 (\$350,089 for 2023) and for the non-uniformed plan the figure is \$27,092 (\$31,954 for 2023). Motion by L. Killinen second by M. Manerchia to receive and file. All in favor.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 20th is National Mammography Day. Breast Cancer is the most common cancer among women except for non-melanoma skin cancers; it's also the second leading cause of cancer death in women, exceeded only by lung cancer. According to the CDC, approximately 250,000 new cases of female invasive Breast Cancer and 2,300 cases of male invasive Breast Cancer are diagnosed each year. Death rates from Breast Cancer have been declining, and this change is believed to be the result of treatment advances, earlier detection, and increased awareness. A Mammography, or an "x-ray of the breast", is recognized as the single most effective method of detecting breast changes that may be cancer long before physical symptoms can be seen or felt. The Borough will hold a drive where we will be selling breast cancer awareness wristbands and pins for \$5 and Councilor J. Flynn donated pink and white, hand-crafted stuffed bears, we will be selling for \$10 a piece at the Municipal Building, Marcus Hook Police Station, and Mary M. Campbell Library during the month of October, with all proceeds received to be donated to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by J. Johnson to adopt Borough Resolution No. R-23-9, proclaiming October, 2023 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 20, 2023 as Mammography Day in the Borough of Marcus Hook, as well as resolving to donate all proceeds from our breast cancer awareness drive to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. All in favor.

Manager presented the Monthly Code Enforcement Report for the month of September, 2023. Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by W. Cox 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 September, 2023. Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by W. Cox to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

The Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department would like approval to hold a Tag Day in October. The date is still to be determined. Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by L. Killinen to approve the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Company to hold a Tag Day in October. All in favor.

Manager noted that the Marcus Hook Police Department is requesting approval to take part in the "No Shave November Campaign". No-Shave November is a month long campaign to raise awareness in which participants forgo shaving and grooming for the month of November in order to raise awareness and funding for cancer prevention, research and education. Motion by L. Killinen, seconded by J. Johnson to approve the Marcus Hook Police Department to take part in the "No Shave November Campaign". All in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAY

The Borough of Marcus Hook plans on hosting a bulk trash/e-waste/shredding event at the Marcus Hook Highway Garage on Saturday, October 21, 2023 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Residents are entitled to one free bulk trash item, free television disposals, and free shredding. Collected items will be turned over to ECOvanta for recycling, at no cost to the Borough of Marcus Hook. Motion by J. Johnson, seconded by J. Flynn to record and file. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION AND SHADE TREES

Manager reported that there are two openings on the Recreation Board. President Gail LaVallee has resigned. Lauren Ottinger has been appointed President. Residents interested in joining the Recreation Board should contact Lauren Ottinger through the Recreation Board website. All members are required to get a child abuse clearance, FBI clearance and PA State clearance.

LIBRARY

Manager read the following report submitted by Librarian, Tianjia Wang:

1. Braskem's check was received. We will start to purchase the items previously discussed.
2. The library participated in the 15th annual Pirate Festival on September 16, 2023. It's a great way to introduce the library to our community and thank you Michael Manerchia for the opportunity.
3. The library's 100 year anniversary / grand reopening celebration will be held on October 21st from 11 am to 4 pm.
4. The library won an Eco Drive wall hanging toy for kids from the state. There's only one winner in the Delaware County library system.
5. The library will host a card making program with the Marcus Hook Seniors Group at their October 13th meeting.

Motion by J. Flynn, seconded by C. Everngham to receive and file. All in favor.

HISTORY

The Marcus Hook Preservation Society was positively acknowledged for coordinating the Pirate Festival held on September 16th. The Marcus Hook Preservation Society unveiled the National Register roadside marker funded by the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The Pomeroy Foundation provides grants so public properties and historic districts on the National Register of Historic Places can commemorate their designation and share this achievement with their community. The Plank House, at 221 Market Street in Marcus Hook, PA is the recipient of this prestigious marker. Councilor M. Manerchia thanked everyone for attending. They netted \$4,300.00 from the Pirate Festival. Councilor J. Laird congratulated Councilor M. Manerchia. Councilor C. Everngham said it was a wonderful turnout and believed that was due to the great advertising sign on I-95. Councilor L. Killinen commented that it was great to have the bus provided.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor M. Manerchia wished everyone and Happy Halloween and reminded residents to be careful of the kids “trick or treating”.

Councilor W. Cox to be cautious of the solicitors going door to door.

Councilor L. Killinen reported the September MHTFD report. MHTFD responded to 40 fire alarms in September 2023. Councilor L. Killinen congratulated the highway department for the great job they did cleaning all the weeds in the sidewalk cracks. He also mentioned that the fire company is parking their vehicles at the Borough Hall Garage while work is being done at the firehouse. Councilor C. Everngham commented she does not have a problem with that. The representatives on the Senior Account have been changed.

Councilor L. Killinen warned residents to be aware that there are scams going onto resident’s internet. Councilor Laird comments that it happens over the phone and warned residents when a caller ask “can you hear me”, hang up so they cannot use your voice.

Chief Ireland commented that the days are getting shorter and asked residents to be careful.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Skip Morello, 1021 Market Street, commented he received two scam calls from someone saying asking for police donations. Residents should be aware.

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, reminded that there is an EAC meeting Thursday in Trainer. Councilor C. Everngham has already reached out to the EAC Secretary. She also asked what happened with the hose that was going into the sewer at 418 Market Street. B. Hughes checked Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Monday and there is no hose going into the sewer. B. Hughes told her to call 911 if she sees the hose going into the sewer again. Councilor C. Everngham told her to take pictures if it happens again.

Lauren Ottinger, 4 Cedar Street, reminded everyone that the “trunk and treat” Recreation Board event will be held Sunday, October 29th starting at 6:00 p.m. Councilor C. Everngham asked if the Recreation Board will be provide tables and table cloths. Ms. Ottinger stated they will. This event will happen rain or shine.

Denise Jones, 15 Chestnut Street, introduced herself. President Laird thanked her for coming to the meeting tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Manerchia, seconded by L. Killinen to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7.32 PM.

Deborah A. Hurst
Borough Secretary