

November 2, 2020

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening November 2, 2020, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors Cheryl Evernham, Paula Ewing, Joseph Flynn, Josephine Laird, Michael Manerchia, and Brian Mercadante. Also present were Mayor Gene Taylor and Borough Manager Andrew Weldon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by M. Manerchia second by J. Flynn 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 October totaled \$160,285.59. Motion by C. Evernham second by P. Ewing to receive and deposit. All in favor.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Certificates of Recognition were presented to Ronald "Stanz" Stansbury and Ed Hess who will serve as the Grand Marshals for the 2020 Veterans Day Parade in Marcus Hook Borough this Saturday, November 7th at 12:00 PM.

Ron served in the U.S. Air Force from 1964 – 1968 and was deployed in Vietnam from Dec. 1966 – Dec. 1967, having been awarded two Air Force Commendation Medals and the Air Medal, the Air Force's second highest commendation.

Ed served in the U.S. Army in the 34th Infantry Division from 1943 – 1945 and was deployed to North Africa and Italy during World War II. Ed, having left the Army as a Master Sergeant, was awarded with the Combat Infantry Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, the European American Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 4 Bronze Battle Stars, the World War II Victory Medal, the American Theatre Medal and the World War II Honorable Ruptured Duck Service Pin.

Thank you to Ron and Ed for their service to the Country and for honoring the Borough by serving as Grand Marshals in our Veterans Day Parade!

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Manager presented the first reading of the proposed 2021 budget, showing total expenditures of \$5,637,322 with \$3,736,245 of this amount allocated to the General Fund. A public meeting on the entire budget will be scheduled for December 1, 2020, 5:30 PM, prior to the 6:00 PM monthly Agenda Meeting. Motion C. Evernham second by M. Manerchia to accept the proposed budget as presented, advertise the budget is open for public inspection, and advertise the time, date and place of the public hearing. All in favor.

Manager presented Borough Resolution No. R-20-11 appointing Barbacane Thornton and Company as independent auditors to examine financial statements of the Borough for the year ending December 31, 2020. Motion by B. Mercadante second by P. Ewing to adopt Resolution No. R-20-11. All in favor.

Manager announced that the funds collected for Breast Cancer Awareness Month through the sale of awareness pins and wrist bands amounted to \$200, which will be donated to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to record and file. All in favor.

Manager presented the Monthly Code Enforcement Report for the month of October, 2020. Motion by P. Ewing second by C. Evernham to receive and file the Monthly Code Enforcement Report. All in favor.

Manager presented for the second reading and adoption Borough Ordinance No. O-20-4, to amend the Code of the Borough of Marcus Hook, Chapter 31, Article II, Employee Membership in the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS), to amend its Municipal Pension Plan administered by the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System pursuant to Article IV of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law; agreeing to be bound by all provisions of the of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law as amended and as applicable to member municipalities; agreeing that the System shall administer and provide the benefits set forth in the amended Municipal Pension Plan Contract entered into between the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board and Marcus Hook Borough, and it shall become effective and specifically repeal Ordinance Number O-13-3 either immediately upon adoption of this Ordinance or on September 1, 2020, which is the effective date of the Contract, whichever is later. This ordinance was duly advertised on October 19, 2020. Motion by B. Mercadante second by M. Manerchia to adopt Ordinance No. O-20-4. All in favor.

Manager noted the need to reroute stormwater and condensate lines at the Marcus Hook Community Center, due to the fact that the existing stormwater drain line is collapsed under the floor. Manager obtained three bids from licensed plumbers as follows:

East Coast Plumbing & HVAC, Inc. - \$13,850
Wm Henderson Plumbing & Heating, Inc. - \$11,950
Vandenbraak Plumbing, Inc. - \$10,575

Motion by J. Flynn second by P. Ewing to ratify an unbudgeted allocation from the general fund and to award the project to Vandenbraak Plumbing, Inc. to reroute stormwater and condensate lines at the Marcus Hook Community Center in the amount of \$10,575. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of October, 2020. Motion by M. Manerchia second by B. Mercadante to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

The Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board were positively acknowledged for the Halloween Event for Borough children held on October 25th, 2020 at the Marcus Hook Community Center. 45 children from the Borough received buckets filled with candy and crafts for Halloween. Motion by C. Evernham second by P. Ewing to record and file. All in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Zoning application received from James McCullough for property located at 100 East 10th Street to change the nonconforming use of the building, located in the Residential-2 zoning district, from the previous use as a thrift shop to a repair and sale of used appliances business. Motion by M. Manerchia second by J. Flynn to approve the proposed change of use of the building located 100 East 10th Street (Tax Folio #24-00-00772-00) from its previous use as a thrift shop for a repair and sale of used appliance store, such use being no less restrictive than the previous use and no more objectionable in its external effects than the previous nonconforming use providing there is no outdoor storage and no product display outdoors. All in favor.

The Zoning Hearing Board at a public hearing held on October 29, 2020, issued a decision denying the application of TVM Investments for a variance from Section 196-68 (Uses Permitted By Right in the Transit-Oriented Development District) of the Marcus Hook Zoning Ordinance to install up to 20 storage containers on the property identified as tax folio 24-00-00778-00. At the outset of the hearing officers re-elected for a one year term were Dan Smith - Chairman, Robert Kersey - Vice Chairman, and Lorraine Daliesso - Secretary. Motion by P. Ewing second by B. Mercadante to receive and file. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor J. Laird informed residents that the polling place for Tuesday, November 3rd's general election for ALL Borough residents is located at the Marcus Hook Community Center, which is located at 7 W. Delaware Avenue, Marcus Hook, PA 19061. The hours are 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

Councilor M. Manerchia urged everyone who is registered to get out and vote. It doesn't matter if you're a republican, democrat, or pirate party, just go and vote it's everyone's duty. Councilor M. Manerchia also wished residents a Happy Thanksgiving, and urged everyone to keep their masks on. Finally, Councilor M. Manerchia expressed a thank you to our Veterans, but not to forget the Veterans of the Civil and Revolutionary Wars. The Marcus Hook Preservation Society will be participating in the Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 7th and Councilor M. Manerchia noted the first submarine purchased by the United States was built here in Marcus Hook, it was called the Alligator and Abraham Lincoln purchased this while visiting Philadelphia.

Councilor C. Everngham informed residents that trash would be picked up, as normal, on Tuesday of this week.

Councilor P. Ewing thanked Veterans for their service.

Councilor P. Ewing reported that the MHTFD in September responded to 40 fire alarms and in October responded to 34 fire alarms.

Mayor G. Taylor reminded residents that the Veterans Day Parade begins at Noon on Saturday, November 7th. Mayor G. Taylor also informed residents that the Borough would be placing chairs at 3rd and Market for any Veterans to come and sit to enjoy the parade. Mayor G. Taylor finally wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Veterans Day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from October 6, 2020 through November 2, 2020 totaled \$152,366.67. Motion by C. Everngham second by M. Manerchia to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Manerchia second by C. Everngham to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary