

October 7, 2019

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening October 7, 2019, 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 Evernham, Paula Ewing, Joseph Flynn, 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 C. Evernham 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 \$262,298.61. Motion by M. Manerchia second by P. Ewing to receive and deposit. All in favor.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mayor and Council recognized Anthony "Tony" Capasso for his years of service to the Borough in the role of Fire Marshal. Tony has been committed to the Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department for many years as a past Chief, President of Company, and now Vice-President of the Company. We would like to thank Tony for his years of dedicated service to the residents of the Borough of Marcus Hook.

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 2020, as required by Act 205 of 1984. The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the uniformed pension plan is \$343,712 (331,022 for 2019) and for the non-uniformed plan the figure is \$45,419 (42,084 for 2019). Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to receive and file. All in favor.

Manager announced that the Borough has extended their contract with the Delaware County Public Schools' Health Care Trust as a Purchasing Municipal Entity for a period of three additional years, starting 1/1/2020 - 12/31/2022. This agreement has allowed the Borough to purchase health insurance for their full-time employees at a lower cost, and has resulted in a 0% increase in premium cost for 2019 & 2020. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to record and file. All in favor.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 18th 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. Approximately 268,600 new cases of female invasive Breast Cancer and 2,670 cases of male invasive Breast Cancer will be diagnosed in 2019. 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 apiece at the Municipal Building 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 J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to adopt Borough Resolution No. R-19-10, proclaiming October, 2019 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 18th, 2019 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.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of September, 2019. Motion by P. Ewing second by W. Cox to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

Mayor Taylor recommended the appointment of Mckenzie Sperratore as part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to appoint Mckenzie Sperratore to the position of part-time police officer, upon completion of all required clearances. All in favor.

Manager noted a letter of resignation was received from part-time police officer, Morgan Ditmer, effective September 12, 2019. Motion by C. Evernham second by P. Ewing to receive and file. All in favor.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Manager noted that there is an e-waste, bulk trash, and shredding event scheduled for Saturday, October 12th, 2019 from 9 AM - 11 AM at the Marcus Hook Highway Garage. The bulk trash event is free and limited to one item per household (which needs to be brought to the highway garage), the shredding is also free. The Borough is offering one free television disposal, per Borough of Marcus Hook household, additional televisions will be \$25 for normal televisions and \$50 for rear projection/console-type televisions. This event is limited to Marcus Hook residents only, so please be sure to bring proper identification. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to record and file. All in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Manager reported that a Position Vacancy Announcement was posted for the position of one part-time Laborer for the Highway Department, applications received, and interviews conducted. Benjamin VanCleve was offered and accepted the position of part-time laborer, first work day is October 8th, 2019. Motion by M. Manerchia second by W. Cox to approve and ratify the appointment of Benjamin VanCleve to a part-time position with the Highway Department. All in favor.

Manager presented the first reading and request of advertisement of Ordinance No. O-19-4, amending the code of the Borough of Marcus Hook, Chapter 191, Vehicles and Traffic, Sub-section 83 – Special Purpose Parking Zones/Residential Parking Zones. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to advertise Ordinance No. O-19-4. All in favor.

Manager presented the first reading and request of advertisement of Ordinance No. O-19-5, amending the Code of the Borough of Marcus Hook, Chapter 191, Vehicles and Traffic, adding a STOP sign on Spruce Street at the intersection of Spruce and Pine Streets. Motion by P. Ewing second by M. Manerchia to advertise Ordinance No. O-19-5. All in favor.

Manager reported that the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) amendment committee has voted to provide the Borough of Marcus Hook additional DCNR funding in the amount of \$24,100, as a result of higher than budgeted costs at the time of application for the Mickey Vernon Park Ball Field and Playground Accessibility and Improvements Project. This additional funding being processed and is expected to take 4-6 weeks. This project was awarded to Lechmanik,

Inc. at the September, 2019 Council Meeting, and they are expected to begin work in November. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to record and file. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

The Recreation and Park Board will be hosting Table or Treat on Sunday, October 27th, 2019 from 1PM – 3PM at Market Square Memorial Park. Motion by M. Manerchia second by P. Ewing to receive and file. All in favor.

LIBRARY

Letter received from Linda Cobourn, President of Library Board, requesting removal of Michael Kay Robinson, formerly of 31 Cedar Street, from the Library Board due to her relocation and inactivity on the Board. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to remove Michael Kay Robinson from the Library Board. All in favor.

Letter received from Debra Johenning, 10 W. 8th Street, noting her interest to serve on the Library Board. Motion by J. Flynn second by W. Cox to appoint Debra Johenning to the Library Board, term to expire December 31, 2021 upon receipt of all required clearances. All in favor.

Manager reported that the Mary M. Campbell Library was selected to be awarded two separate grants from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries; the first is the Wee Build Program, which consists of 20 sets of building materials and manipulatives that encourage creativity and open play for children, the second is a Tinkering Kit for Out-of-School Time fun in our library, which consists of various creative kits and sets, as well as 2 chromebooks, 2 iPads and covers, and a digital camera. These grants will be utilized with our existing programs to promote a healthy and educational environment for the children in our Library. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to receive and file. All in favor.

HISTORY

The Marcus Hook Preservation Society was positively acknowledged for coordinating the Pirate Festival held on September 21st, 2019 at Market Square Memorial Park. The event was well attended and was a big success. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to record and file. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor J. Flynn reminded residents that deer have been crossing Penn Avenue as it's mating season for these animals. Councilor J. Flynn also noticed that tractor trailers and ice cream trucks have not been following the double yellow line along Penn Avenue around where the sharp bend is, so for residents to be careful back there.

Councilor W. Cox wanted to thank the Highway Department for such a fantastic job that they do for the Borough and how they help save tax payers money. Councilor W. Cox pointed out that we had one tree removed at Mickey Vernon Park by a contractor for a cost of \$1,325, while the Highway Department removed about 7 or 8 other trees down there on their own.

Councilor P. Ewing reported that the MHTFD in September responded to 38 fire alarms.

Councilor C. Everngham wanted to make residents aware that she received a letter from American Water Resources to cover her water service into her house for \$5 a month. Councilor C. Everngham looked into this company and found some unfavorable reviews from customers who were having a hard time being reimbursed for their expenses when they had to replace their water service.

Councilor M. Manerchia thanked everyone who came for the Pirate Festival. Councilor M. Manerchia also wanted to thank the Highway Department for all of their

hard work, there was a constant flow of people at the Festival and the Preservation Society made around \$6,000 to put towards restoration of the Plank House. Councilor M. Manerchia wanted to remind everyone that Fall is here and there are leaves on the ground; water and leaves don't mix well so just be careful driving. Finally, Councilor M. Manerchia reminded residents that the Borough purchased a new leaf machine and this will be around in the coming weeks to collect leaves as they continue to fall.

Mayor G. Taylor reminded residents to dial 911 if they have any problems on Mischief Night and that Halloween in the Borough will be from 6 – 8PM on October 31st.

Manager A. Weldon reminded residents that the remainder of Green Street from 6th Street to Delaware Avenue was repaved. Unfortunately a leak has occurred at 5th and Green Streets and Chester Water Authority was taking care of the fix and patch to the street.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, mentioned the fact that she didn't have a chance to attend the most recent EAC Meeting (Thursday, October 3rd, 2019), so she was looking for the most recent meeting minutes. Councilor P. Ewing noted she was also unable to attend the most recent EAC Meeting. Manager A. Weldon noted he would reach out to Regina Beck from the EAC to attempt to obtain these minutes and disburse to Lorraine and Paula.

Skip Morello, 1021 Market Street, commended Councilor M. Manerchia on a good job at the Pirate Festival. Skip mentioned to Councilor C. Everngham that he used to do marketing for American Water Resources and that they seemed questionable.

Jillian Hudson-Hughes, 1121 Green Street, thanked Mayor and Council for approving and having speed bumps installed from 11th to 12th Street on Green Street and Washington Avenue. Jillian commented that these speed bumps seem to be slowing people down coming from the train station.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from September 4, 2019 through October 7, 2019 totaled \$134,226.46. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Manerchia second by W. Cox to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary