

March 1, 2021

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening March 1, 2021, 7:00 PM, via Teleconference due to the COVID-19 health crisis.

#### CALL TO ORDER

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

#### ROLL CALL

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

The following individuals were also present on the call: John Ireland – Chief of Police.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by W. Cox 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 February totaled \$320,012.19. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to receive and deposit. All in favor.

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Manager noted that unpaid 2020 Borough real estate taxes in the amount of \$59,451.42, with penalties in the amount of \$5,945.31 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 2020 was 97.35%. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to receive and file. All in favor.

Manager presented Borough Resolution No. R-21-4, a Resolution adopting the restated Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Municipal Retirement Trust and Joinder Agreement which constitute the Borough of Marcus Hook's Police Pension Plan. Motion by J. Flynn second by B. Mercadante to approve Resolution No. R-21-4. All in favor.

Manager presented the Monthly Code Enforcement Report for the month of February, 2021. Motion by W. Cox second by B. Mercadante 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 February, 2021. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

The Borough of Marcus Hook has extended the CodeRED Services Agreement with OnSolve, LLC for the period March 12, 2021 – March 11, 2022 at an annual cost of \$2,500. Motion by M. Manerchia second by B. Mercadante to receive and file. All in favor.

Chief Ireland requested authorization to submit two grant applications for funding to purchase bulletproof vests for two officers. Both applications will be submitted to Vest-A-Cop, which is a foundation started to assist in providing resources to local first responders in order to procure lifesaving equipment. This grant will fund up to 90% of the purchase of two bulletproof vests. The remaining costs to purchase two bulletproof vests, not covered by these two grants, will be paid from the police uniform operating budget. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to approve the filing of two grant applications to Vest-A-Cop for the purchase of two bulletproof vests. All in favor.

#### PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has advised that the upcoming street resurfacing project, Delaware County Group #6-20-D12, consisting of 1 ½" paving, includes SR 0013, 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Marcus Hook, for its entire length. The project is scheduled for a March 8, 2021 bid letting. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Everngham to record and file. All in favor.

#### PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

Acknowledged and summarized was the 2020 Annual Report of the Marcus Hook Shade Tree Commission which included the planned 2021 program submitted to Borough Council on February 10, 2021. This year's Arbor Day is scheduled for Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, and the Borough will be planting a tree in Robert Haebel Plaza park. Motion by C. Everngham second by M. Manerchia to receive and file the 2020 Annual Report of the Shade Tree Commission. All in favor.

The Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board will be putting Easter buckets together for Borough Children who sign up for this Easter event. Signups for the Easter bucket event are required and residents with children aged infant through 10 years of age can do so via email to [rec@marcushookboro.org](mailto:rec@marcushookboro.org) through March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Buckets will be distributed at the Marcus Hook Community Center on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:00 PM. You MUST be present to receive your child's bucket. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to record and file. All in favor.

Council Recreation Committee Chair C. Everngham announced the entertainment line-up for the Marcus Hook Summer Music Festival - 2021, the thirty-fifth consecutive year, as follows: June 29 – Rose Tree Pops Patriotic Salute, July 6 – The Discoteks, July 13 – Quaker City String Band, July 20 – Boy in Black, July 27 – The Crowdaddies, and August 3 – Fabulous Greaseband. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to approve the Entertainment Contracts totaling in the amount of \$10,300 for the summer concerts on June 29<sup>th</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> & August 3<sup>rd</sup> at Market Square Memorial Park. All in favor.

Manager reminded residents that the Annual Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 starting at 12 Noon. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to approve the Entertainment Contracts totaling in the amount of \$15,900 for the Memorial Day Parade. All in favor.

Manager introduced Borough Resolution No. R-21-5 to support and endorse the application of the Borough of Marcus Hook to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for Grant funds to undertake the project "Market Square Memorial Park Delaware River Pier Removal and Reconstruction Master Plan". Motion by M. Manerchia second by J. Flynn to adopt Resolution No. R-21-5. All in favor.

## PLANNING AND ZONING

The Marcus Hook Planning Commission at a meeting on February 16, 2021 reviewed the zoning text and map amendment submitted by Duke Realty Limited Partnership to rezone 19 parcels located on the southern side of Tenth Street and between the Marcus Hook Creek on the east and the Conrail Linwood rail spur on the west to an Industrial Transition-2 zoning district and to include standards for warehouse, e-commerce fulfillment/delivery center and/or similar storage facility use. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the plan and to move forward. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to receive and file the Marcus Hook Planning Commission's recommendation on the Duke Realty zoning text and map amendment. All in favor.

The Delaware County Planning Department at a meeting on February 18, 2021 reviewed the zoning text and map amendment submitted by Duke Realty Limited Partnership to rezone 19 parcels located on the southern side of Tenth Street and between the Marcus Hook Creek on the east and the Conrail Linwood rail spur on the west to an Industrial Transition-2 zoning district and to include standards for warehouse, e-commerce fulfillment/delivery center and/or similar storage facility use. The Planning Department recommended disapproval of the plan due to inconsistencies with the Marcus Hook and Delaware County 2035 Comprehensive Plans and impacts on the surrounding neighborhoods. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to receive and file the Delaware County Planning Department's recommendation and comments on the Duke Realty zoning text and map amendment. All in favor.

Manager presented for the second reading and adoption Borough Ordinance number O-21-3, amending the zoning map and text of Marcus Hook Borough pursuant to the application submitted by Duke Realty Limited Partnership for property of approximately 30 acres, consisting of 19 land parcels, located on the southern side of Tenth Street between Marcus Hook Creek on the east and Conrail Linwood rail spur on the west, on lands of Keystone Community Alliance. This ordinance was the subject of a public hearing on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. Motion by W. Cox second by B. Mercadante to adopt Ordinance No. O-21-3. All in favor.

## COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor W. Cox questioned, even though Blueball Avenue has been taken off of this year's repaving schedule by PennDOT, if we could reach out to the local industry to have them trench down to the railroad tracks to provide relief for the water that sits along the side of the road. Manager Weldon noted that he had mentioned this to PennDOT to fix and he will make this a priority to be corrected.

Councilor C. Evernham noted that she was glad 10<sup>th</sup> Street was being repaved.

Councilor J. Flynn questioned with the main fishing pier being closed, can we reopen the small pier. Councilor J. Flynn recalled that the repairs seemed to be relatively minimal for the small pier, so can we get these items fixed to open the small pier for 2021. Manager Weldon noted he would speak to Highway about possibility of repairing these items and report back to Borough Council.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

## APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from February 2, 2021 through March 1, 2021 totaled \$147,970.63. Motion by W. Cox second by B. Mercadante to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Andrew Weldon  
Borough Secretary