

November 4, 2019

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening November 4, 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, John Kennard, Josephine Laird and Michael Manerchia. Also present was 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 October totaled \$114,288.81. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to receive and deposit. All in favor.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Manager presented the first reading of the proposed 2020 budget, showing total expenditures of \$5,815,852 with \$3,684,040 of this amount allocated to the General Fund. A public meeting on the entire budget will be scheduled for November 26, 2019, 6:00 PM. Motion M. Manerchia second by P. Ewing 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 requested authorization to advertise Ordinance No. O-19-6 fixing the tax rate for the year 2020 at 12.35 mills. Motion by W. Cox second by C. Evernham to advertise Ordinance No. O-19-6. All in favor.

Manager presented Borough Resolution No. R-19-11 appointing Barbacane Thornton and Company as independent auditors to examine financial statements of the Borough for the year ending December 31, 2019. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to adopt Resolution No. R-19-11. All in favor.

Manager mentioned that the Fall/Winter 2019 edition of the Marcus Hook News was distributed on November 4, 2019. The fall printing was the 61st edition of this publication since its inception in 1983. Motion by W. Cox second by P. Ewing to record and file. 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 \$195, which will be donated to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to record and file. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

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

Manager noted a letter of resignation was received from part-time police officer, Chris Ascher, effective October 8, 2019. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to receive and file. All in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Manager presented for second reading Borough 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. This ordinance was duly advertised on October 14, 2019. Motion by M. Manerchia second by C. Evernham to adopt Ordinance No. O-19-4. All in favor.

Manager presented for second reading Borough 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. This ordinance was duly advertised on October 14, 2019. Motion by P. Ewing second by M. Manerchia to adopt Ordinance No. O-19-5. All in favor.

Bids were opened on October 28, 2019, at 10 AM for the Spruce Street Improvements project, and tabulated as follows:

<u>Project</u>	Albert G. Cipolloni & Sons, Inc.	Ernel Company, Inc.	JMC Contractors, Inc.	Premier Concrete, Inc.
Base Bid: Spruce Street from Plaza to Pine				
1. Plain Cement Concrete Curb	\$211,260 Base Bid	\$158,470 Base Bid	\$215,400 Base Bid	\$192,555 Base Bid
2. Concrete Sidewalk & Adjustments Detectable Warning Surface at HC				
3. Ramp				
4. Remove Existing Utility Pole				
5. Street Lights				
6. Milling 1.5" HMA Superpave 9.5mm				
7. Wearing Course				
8. Pavement Markings				
9. PECO Charge Allowance				
Alternate Bid: Spruce Street from Pine to Chestnut				
10. Plain Cement Concrete Curb	\$184,820	\$142,900	\$169,100	\$173,555
11. Concrete Sidewalk & Adjustments Concrete Apron and Drive	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate
12. Adjustments Detectable Warning Surface at HC	\$396,080 Total	\$301,370 Total	\$384,500 Total	\$366,110 Total
13. Ramp				
14. Remove Existing Utility Pole				
15. Street Lights				
16. Milling 1.5" Superpave 9.5mm				
17. Wearing Course				
18. Pavement Markings				

Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia to accept the Spruce Street Improvements project bid from Ernel Company, Inc. in the amount of \$301,370. \$158,470 of this to be paid from Community Development Block Grant funds and \$142,900 of this to be paid from Borough Capital Expenditure funds. All in favor.

Manager noted the termination of a full-time laborer, John Rankin, effective October 29, 2019. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to receive and file. All in favor.

PARKS, RECREATION and SHADE TREES

Letter was received from JoAnne McElwee, noting her interest to serve on the Recreation and Park Board. Motion by J. Flynn second by P. Ewing to appoint JoAnne McElwee to the Recreation and Park Board, term to expire on December 31, 2021. All in favor.

The Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board, Cokesbury Methodist Church, Mary M. Campbell Library, Marcus Hook Police Department, Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department, Girl scouts Troop 51922, Marcus Hook Community Development Corporation, & the Myers Family were positively acknowledged for the Annual Table or Treat Event held on October 27th, 2019 at the Marcus Hook Community Center. Motion by M. Manerchia second by C. Everngham to record and file. All in favor.

The Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board announced Lunch with Santa, scheduled for Saturday, December 14th, at the Community Center, 12:00 – 2:00 PM. This event is open to Marcus Hook children aged infant to 10 years old, and attendees must be signed-up in advance. Sign-ups are being held at the Community Center on Nov. 18 & 19 from 6 - 8 PM. Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to record and file. All in favor.

Manager announced that the Marcus Hook Fishing Pier will close on November 30, 2019 and reopen on or about April 1, 2020. The Borough of Marcus Hook is following the recommendation from Urban Engineers, as outlined in their Structural Condition Survey performed in 2016. Urban Engineers recommended in their Structural Condition Survey, the closure of the Marcus Hook Fishing Pier during the winter season (December 1 - March 31). Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to record and file. All in favor.

Manager reported that Lyons Recreation has completed installation of the Miracle playground equipment at Mickey Vernon Park, which is part of the Mickey Vernon Park Improvement Project to revitalize the play areas there, as well as provide ADA accessibility to both play areas and to the softball field closest to Market Street, along with fencing, a new backstop, and landscaping work in the play areas. Lechmanik, Inc. will be on site during the month of November to complete the remainder of this project. Motion by J. Kennard second by J. Flynn to record and file. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor J. Flynn noted that he loves the new playground setup, and he noticed a lot of kids using the new equipment. He did note that there were a lot of older kids on the 10-spin, and his hope is that this piece of equipment holds up with the use of the bigger kids. Councilor J. Flynn also noted that there is a fox roaming the Borough again and it seems to be both domesticated and to have mange, after consulting with his friend who is on the Board of Directors of the Game Commission. Councilor J. Flynn reminded residents to stay away from this animal and not to feed it.

Councilor W. Cox wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and to give thanks to the Lord for being so fortunate to have been born and raised in the United States of America.

Councilor P. Ewing wanted to thank all of our Veterans in anticipation of Veterans Day and wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilor C. Everngham noted that she was out for the majority of the month of October having a knee replacement.

Councilor M. Manerchia wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and wanted to thank all of our Veterans, as they keep our declaration free. Councilor M. Manerchia noted that we have deer in Marcus Hook and to be careful if shooting these in the Borough on private property. Councilor M. Manerchia also reminded residents to be careful and cognizant of wet leaves as they can be just like ice.

Councilor J. Laird wanted to thank all of the participants in the Rec Board's Table or Treat and to also thank our Veterans and the Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board.

Manager A. Weldon wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Veterans Day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, wanted to know if the Mayor's Report was published online or included with the meeting minutes that are posted to the website. Manager A. Weldon let Lorraine know this was not included anywhere on our website or published online by the Borough. Lorraine also inquired about the fishing pier and what the status was of the repairs. Manager A. Weldon noted that this had been discussed at length at Council's agenda meetings and Council had decided that the required \$500,000 match for the RACP grant was too much to justify investing in repairing the pier at this time. Instead, the Borough is rescoping the grant to use those grant dollars to renovate the current Municipal Building/Police Station/Library, as this building will need significant renovations when Borough Administration moves to the new location in a few months. Lorraine mentioned that she will be unable to attend the next EAC Meeting on Thursday, November 7th in Lower Chi as she will be attending the Zoning Hearing for a fence height variance application on 9th Street. Lorraine further noted that she hopes Energy Transfer Partners will notify us in the future regarding leaks and events at the facility as there were 9 reportable incidents in the first half of 2019 and they didn't adequately notify the Borough of the largest, which was a leak of 500 tons of butane into the atmosphere. Lorraine feels that they aren't telling us anything. Manager A. Weldon noted that the Borough drafted a MOU with our solicitor to provide specific instances and ways in which they would be required to notify us and the subsequently provide reports on the nature of the incident, but this has not been responded to as of yet by ETP.

Tameka Gibson, 1012 Yates Avenue, commented that the new Mickey Vernon Park playground equipment is phenomenal, but the older kids are dominating some of the new equipment. Tameka feels that we need to do something for the teenage bracket of Borough children to help them stay positive and productive. Tameka thinks that even if we tried something and it failed before, we should try it again to see if we can make it successful, and volunteered her time to help supervise.

Marie Swanson, 22 Chestnut Street, questioned whether trash would be normally collected on Tuesday due to the filming of Mare of Easttown in the Village. Manager A. Weldon noted that the trash should be normally collected and there was no change to the collection schedule due to this filming work.

Tom Morphet, Alaska, commented that his family has been in Hook for over 100 years and have lived on Yates Avenue and Maple Street. Tom's father grew up on Yates Avenue and served in the Korean conflict and later worked as head librarian at Sunoco. He led a great lift. Tom's father wanted to purchase a lot on the Delaware River in the Borough, and actually swam in the river when he was a kid. Tom noted that the Mary M. Campbell Library changed his father's life and he is thinking of ideas for how he can give back to the Borough, most likely through something involving children. Tom has a background in journalism and has some ideas, but will likely approach Council going forward to put these ideas into motion.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Manager advised that the payment voucher for the time period from October 8, 2019 through November 4, 2019 totaled \$198,845.08. Motion by W. Cox second by M. Manerchia 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 7:40 PM.

Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary