

December 2, 2024

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Tuesday evening, December 2, 2024, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors, Joseph Flynn, Larry Killinen, Josephine Laird, Michael Manerchia, and Janette Weigand. Also present was Borough Manager, Jacqui Guenther.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Janette Weigand to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the CDBG Grant Hearing on November 26, 2024 @ 5:00 P.M. and that they stand as written. Motion carried. All in favor.

Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Joseph Flynn to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and that they stand as written. Motion carried. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF RECEIPT VOUCHER

The manager advised that the receipt voucher for the month of November 2024 totaled \$243,606.48. Motion by Joseph Flynn, seconded by Michael Manerchia to receive and deposit. Motion Carried. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

The manager advised that the payment voucher for the time-period from November 5, 2024, through December 2, 2024, totaled \$261,257.84. Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Janette Weigand to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Delaware County Board of Assessment Appeals has certified that the aggregate Real Estate Assessment for Marcus Hook Borough for the year 2025 is \$306,162,566 the total of tax-exempt properties for 2025 is \$13,859,380. Motion by Michael Manerchia, seconded by Larry Killinen to record and file. All in favor.

The manager presented the final reading of the proposed 2025 budget and stated that the availability of the budget for public inspection was duly advertised on November 8, 2024, and was the subject of a public hearing on November 26, 2024. Total expenditure was noted at \$6,247,813 with \$5,301,726 of this amount allocated to the General Fund. Motion by Joseph Flynn, seconded by Larry Killinen to adopt the 2025 Borough budget as proposed. All in favor.

The manager presented the second reading of Ordinance No. 0-24-04, the Tax Levy Ordinance, fixing the tax rate for the year 2025 at 11.21 mills. This Ordinance was duly advertised on November 8, 2024. Motion by Janette Weigand, seconded by Michael Manerchia to adopt Ordinance No. 0-24-05. All in favor.

The manager thanked Monroe Energy for donating coats to all elementary students.

The manager mentioned the customary practice of free parking within the central business district during the Christmas/New Year holiday season. Motion by Janette Weigand, seconded by Larry Killinen to authorize free on-street meter parking within the central business district, with a two-hour time limit, to begin on November 26, 2024, and will end on January 2, 2025.

The Manager requested authorization on behalf of Borough Council to nominate the Viscose Memorial Sign at Robert E. Haebel Plaza, constructed by Prologis, for the 2025 Heritage Commission of Delaware County Annual Preservation Awards. Motion by Michael Manerchia seconded by Janette Weigand to nominate the Viscose Memorial Sign for the Delaware County Heritage Commission's 47th Annual Preservation Awards as a special project that was developed and constructed as part of the Prologis land development plan for the former Viscose/FMC site. All in favor.

The Manager stated that Energy Transfer has asked to be allowed to proceed with building as per their permits, for the installation of the pilings, without paying the fee in lieu of. They plan to meet with Borough Council to discuss this issue in the next few weeks. Motion for Charles Catania to release the permit to Transfer Energy for the installation of the pilings Michael Manerchia, seconded by Larry Killinen to approve and execute. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Chief John Ireland presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of November. Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Joseph Flynn, to receive and file the Public Safety Report. Motion carried. All in favor.

The manager stated that the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the police has concluded. Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Joseph Flynn to approve and execute. All in favor.

The Chief stated that he would like to hire Elizabeth Rivera as a part-time crossing guard. Motion by Janette Weigand, seconded by Larry Killinen, to approve and execute contingent upon all clearances. All in favor.

The Chief stated that Police Training for Case Updates was conducted and that their food drive went well.

The chief stated that the Police Department received a \$1,000 donation from Enterprise Products.

ENGINEERING REPORT:

1. PY25 CDBG Application
 - Application due January 3, 2025
 - Walnut Street - Dalton to Pine; estimated cost \$282,000
2. Cedar St – Pine to Chestnut Streetscape (CDBG Grant)
 - AG Cipolloni substantially completed
3. Walnut St – Pine to Dalton Streetscape (CDBG Grant)
 - Preliminary Design/Topographic Survey underway
4. Market Sq Memorial Park – Delco Greenways Phase 1 grant
 - Moore Bros Enterprises tentatively set to start week of Dec 2, 2024
5. Market Sq Memorial Park/Mickey Vernon Park – Delco Greenways Phase 2
 - Rebid set for January 22, 2025

6. DCED Local Share Account Grant Opportunity
 - DCED announces new round of Local Share Account (Gaming Revenue) grant application from Sept 1 to Nov 30
 - Projects \$25,000 to \$1,000,000; No match required in this round
 - Resolution authorizing submission for the purchase of new fire truck
7. Prologis
 - Final site inspection completed. All work completed except for replacement of dead trees, set for early Spring
8. RACP Grant
 - Working with RACP consultant to provide closeout documents
9. COVID-19 ARPA Small Water & Sewer Grant
 - \$50,634 grant for stormwater quality improvements (MS4 requirement)
 - Rain Gardens – Haebel Plaza & Williamson Field
10. DELCO OHCD Ida Storm Relief
 - County applying for grant for stormwater projects in CDBG Areas
 - Marcus Hook eligible – possible projects

FIRE REPORT: MARCUS HOOK TRAINER FIRE DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER 2024

Larry Killinen presented the MHTFD Report for November 2024.

The manager stated that Dan Smith, Fire Chief, has requested that Borough Council consider Appointing Mike Colgan as Fire Police for the MHTFD in 2025. Mike has successfully completed fire police training from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Larry Killinen nominated Mike Colgan to the Mayor for consideration of this appointment. Due to the Mayor not being in attendance this will need to be put on the next Agenda for the Mayor's Consideration.

Josephine Laird called for a motion to reappoint Larry Weigand as the Fire Marshal. Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Joseph Flynn to approve and execute. All in favor.

LIBRARY

1. The library's 2025 State Aid Plan has been approved.
2. The library has received a \$9,600 check from Monroe Energy to cover the 2025 service fees for our 25 Wi-Fi hotspots.
3. Thank you to our seniors for inviting us to their Thanksgiving lunch.
4. The library's Holiday Reading Challenge will run from December 1 to January 2, is open to all ages, and offers a chance to win prizes!
5. Join us for "Berenstain Bears Story Time," presented by Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union, on Tuesday, December 3rd at 2:30 PM.

HIGHWAY AND SANITATION

PLANNING AND ZONING

Larry Killinen stated that the Planning Commission will meet on Thursday night to discuss plans for a daycare within the Borough.

ENVIRONMENT

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The manager introduced Resolution No. R-24-13 to support and endorse the application of the Borough of Marcus Hook for the PY 2025 Community Development Block Grant funds from the fifty-first (51st) program year for the Streetscape Improvements in Viscose Village, Phase 5B - Walnut Street – Dalton Lane to Pine Street. Motion by Larry Killinen, seconded by Joseph Flynn to adopt Resolution R-24-13. All in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

All Council Members wished everyone a safe and Merry Christmas.

Larry Killinen stated that dogs were running at large in the Plaza and asked Police Chief Ireland to address this issue.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Cox stated that everyone should reflect on the season about how fortunate we all are.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Joseph Flynn, seconded by Larry Killinen. Motion carried. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqui Guenther
Borough Manager