

August 5, 2024

The regular meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Monday evening, August 5, 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 Cheryl Evernham, Joseph Flynn, Larry Killinen, Josephine Laird, Michael Manerchia, and Janette Weigand. Also present was Mayor Gene Taylor, Bruce Dorbian - Director of Planning and Development, and Christopher Boggs for Solicitor Mark Much.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by L. Killinen seconded 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

Councilor J. Laird advised that the receipt voucher for the month of July 2024 totaled \$45,904.11. Motion by M. Manerchia second by L. Killinen to receive and deposit. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOROUGH BILLS

Councilor J. Laird advised that the payment voucher for the time period from July 2, 2024 through August 5, 2024, totaled \$324,150.59. Motion by J. Weigand second by M. Manerchia to approve payment of Borough bills. All in favor.

CEREMONIAL OATH OF OFFICE

Magisterial District Judge Shepard Gardner conducted the ceremonial swearing in of Full-Time Police Officers Joshua DiSylvestro and Bassam Farid.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

It was announced that Deborah Hurst has been relieved of her duties as Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer/Right-to-Know Officer effective August 1, 2024. Motion by J. Laird second by L. Killinen to approve and ratify Council's action to terminate the employment of Deborah Hurst as Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer/Right-to-Know Officer. YES: Evernham, Flynn, Laird, Killinen, Weigand. NO: Manerchia. Motion carried 5-1.

Councilor J. Laird presented the name of Jacqui Guenther to serve as Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer/Right-to-Know Officer effective immediately. Motion by J. Laird second by L. Killinen to appoint Jacqui Guenther as Borough Manager/Secretary/Treasurer/Right-to-Know Officer effective immediately. All in favor.

Councilor J. Laird reviewed a Representative Agreement with the Woody Law Offices, P.C. for the firm's representation of Marcus Hook Borough in its dispute with Trainer Borough relating to the use, possession, and/or enjoyment of the Marcus Hook Trainer Firehouse and to negotiate a resolution of the dispute concerning the Firehouse. Motion by L. Killinen second by J. Flynn to approve a Representation Agreement with the Woody Law Offices, P.C. pending the receipt of a letter from the Trainer Borough Council noting their desire to further discuss the terms of the Intermunicipal Services Cooperation Agreement. All in favor.

Presented was the Monthly Code Enforcement Report for the month of July 2024. Motion by M. Manerchia second by C. Evernham to receive and file the Monthly Code Enforcement Report. All in favor.

Councilor J. Laird requested a motion to approve Ordinance No. O-24-3 authorizing the Incurrence of Non-electoral Debt Pursuant to the Issuance of the General Obligation Notes, 2024 Series in the aggregate amount of \$1,000,000.00 from the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority. Motion by J. Weigand second by L. Killinen to approve Ordinance No. O-24-3. All in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Taylor presented the Police Report and related statistics for the month of July 2024. Motion by C. Evernham second by L. Killinen to receive and file the Mayor's Public Safety Report. All in favor.

HIGHWAY AND SANITATION

Councilor J. Laird requested authorization to accept the low bid from Moore Brothers Enterprise Ltd. in the amount of \$51,875.00 for the 2024 Road Program. Motion by L. Killinen second by C. Evernham to accept the Moore Brothers Enterprise Ltd. bid of \$51,875.00 for the 2024 Road Program. All in favor.

Councilor J. Laird requested a motion to approve Resolution No. R-24-10 designating Josephine M. Laird, Council President the designated signature authority for the PennDOT 5 Year Winter Maintenance Services Agreement. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to approve Resolution No. R-24-10 and to designate Josephine M. Laird, Council President, as the designated signatory for the PennDOT 5 Year Winter Maintenance Services Agreement. All in favor.

PARKS & RECREATION

Councilor J. Laird reported a balance of funds remains from Round 3 of the DELCO Green Ways Grant Program for the Market Square Memorial Park Riverfront Enhancement Project. Approval has been received from Delaware County to allocate these funds toward additional improvements at the park. With the remaining funds available (approximately \$75,000) the following improvement items have been identified: concrete walkway repairs at two locations, concrete area at the entrance to small pier, pavilion roof replacement, curb edging protection along riverfront. Motion by J. Weigand second by M. Manerchia to authorize Catania Engineering Associates to finalize plans and specification for this work and advertise for bids. All in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING

The Marcus Hook Planning Commission at a meeting held on August 5, 2024 reviewed the zoning text amendment submitted by Borough Council pursuant to Ordinance No. O-24-2 (introduced for first reading on June 3, 2024) to regulate the use of Portable Storage Containers. The Planning Commission recommended approval with consideration given to the staff comments of the Delaware County Planning Department. Motion by L. Killinen second by C. Evernham to advertise a public hearing on this zoning text amendment for August 27, 5:30 PM. All in favor.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilor J. Laird announced that a letter was received from the Delaware County Council, dated July 16, 2024, advising that FY 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding was approved for the next phase of the Viscose Village Streetscape Project, Walnut Street – Dalton Lane to Pine Street, in the amount of \$236,125. Motion by J. Flynn second by M. Manerchia to receive and file. All in favor.

LIBRARY

The Library report for the month was presented by Council C. Evernham and included the following items:

1. The Library Assistant position has been posted on both the Borough of Marcus Hook and Delaware County Library websites.
2. We are pleased to announce that our library has been awarded an LFDC grant in the amount of \$1,500.00, and also \$500.00 for the museum passes.
3. With the increase in our circulation, the county aid we receive this year will be nearly \$400.00 more than in previous years.
4. "Berenstain Bears Story Time" presented by the Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union is scheduled for Monday, August 12th at 3:30 PM.
5. Braskem and Library STEM Education Series is scheduled for Thursday, August 22nd at 5:00 PM.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Killinen read the MHTFD Fire Report for the month of July 2024.

Councilor J. Weigand inquired on the status of the Community Center and was advised by Councilor L. Killinen that painting and floor finishing will happen after the contents of the first floor are moved to the second floor. First floor contents are scheduled to be moved to the second floor next week.

C. Evernham introduced Patricia Hoffman who announced upcoming Recreation and Park Board programs.

C. Evernham noted the deplorable condition of the 650 Penn Avenue property and requested further information on the payment of local real estate taxes for that property.

Councilor L. Killinen asked about spraying for mosquitoes and it was suggested that he contact the Delaware County Health Department.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chief J. Ireland announced that the National Night Out program is scheduled for Tuesday night, August 6. Weather conditions will be monitored and if necessary the program can be rescheduled.

Bill Cox, 206 Market Street, asked what streets were included in the 2024 Street Resurfacing Project. He also commented on the discussions between Trainer Borough and Marcus Hook Borough regarding the intermunicipal agreement that led to the consolidated fire department.

Alfonse Brooks, President, Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department, said the new fire truck is expected to be delivered at the end of September.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by L. Killinen seconded by M. Manerchia to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Josephine M. Laird
Council President