



Mars Borough

Meeting Minutes

(Visitors/Speakers are asked to limit their presentations to 5 minutes during Public Meetings.)

Meeting Date: December 20, 2021

Call to Order: 7:00 PM, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTED OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE ("x" indicates present) ("tc" indicates teleconference attendance)		
x	Rob Bost	Council Vice President Administration, HR
x	Chris Clutter	Council Pro Tem Public Safety
x	Mike Fleming	Council President
	Rick Foster	Streets
x	Bill Lambert	Water
x	Brad Price	Budget, Finance
x	Julie Schultheis	Parks & Rec, Celebrations
x	Gregg Hartung	Mayor

EMPLOYEE / PROVIDER ATTENDANCE ("x" indicates present) ("tc" indicates teleconference attendance)		
x	Bonnie Forsythe	Secretary / Treasurer
x	Jamie Kochik	Assistant Sec. / Treas.
x	Amy Brown	Assistant Sec. / Treas.
x	Ed Dorsey	Public Works Foreman
x	Allen Russell	Code Enforcement
	Beau Sneddon	Officer in Charge
	Chris Reese	Solicitor
	Renea Pomeroy	Elected Tax Collector

VISITORS:	
Name(s) / Organization	Topic
Kyle Ostermann	Water Account (Ostermann did not appear before Mars Borough Council as scheduled.) Fleming asked about the Ostermann water account. Forsythe confirmed the property owner has paid his bill.
Julia Maruca, Cranberry Eagle	In attendance to observe.

PUBLIC COMMENT TO SPEAK ABOUT STORMWATER MS4 ISSUES:	
Name(s) / Organization	Topic

MOTIONS	FIRST	SECOND	ACTION
Motion to approve 2022 Budget	Bost	Lambert	Carried
Motion to approve the list of No Parking sign locations to be installed throughout Borough.	Tabled		
Motion to approve Year-to-Date payroll expenses in the amount of \$345,739.98 and quarterly tax payments of \$17,468.89.	Lambert	Clutter	Carried Schultheis abstained.
Motion to add discussion of Brad Price's water bill at 134 Grand Avenue.	Lambert	Bost	Carried

OLD / ON-GOING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:		
Item	Submitted by:	Discussion / Status

NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:		
Item	Submitted by:	Discussion / Status
No Parking Signs	Russell	Russell explained the process that would not need an ordinance. Streets proposed - Norton Drive, E. School Street, Cherry Street, Bratchie Street. Russell stated Council could vote on the locations and the signs can be installed. Fleming stated he was not comfortable putting signs up without notifying residents along those streets. Russell stated he would like to add the information about the parking signs to a notice on Occupancy Permit that could go out with the First Quarter 2022 water bills. Council agreed to table the discussion and get more information.
134 Grand Avenue Water Account owned by Brad Price	Price	Price stated he requested water to be turned off at 132/134 Grand Avenue in 2017. He spoke to Madaffari in office to have service turned back on in early 2021. A bill was issued after water was turned back on. He was charged for two EDUs, however one was removed because only the business was occupied. The bill was adjusted, and Price paid the balance. A bill for the next quarter was sent, which had a much larger usage. This is when Price questioned the bills. Price stated he took pictures on 03/26/2021 with the meter reading of 113,000. Price asked how 113,000 gallons could have gone through the meter if the water was turned off. Price stated he was having work done on the building (he was unsure of the date) and his plumber cut a pipe and water came out when he thought it was shut off, and was flooding the basement/crawlspace. Price stated the plumber cut after the meter and left the water running over a long 3-day weekend. Price stated he called the mayor and was given Dorsey's phone number but was told Dorsey had turned off his phone. Dorsey stated he would not turn off his phone due to his responsibilities at the water plant. Price also stated that a borough worker stated the shut off valve was a full-circle valve and that there was no way to know if it was turned off. Dorsey stated he did not know who would have said that and that all public works employees know how to turn off a full circle valve. Price has paid the base fees but has not paid on the usage. Fleming asked if Price felt he was responsible for the pipe his plumber cut and the water that went through or if the Borough was to blame for not properly shutting the water off. Dorsey and Forsythe are to gather more information and present it to Council in January 2022. Fleming stated water should not be shut off until a decision has been made by Council.

REPORTS:	
Department	Report
Secretary / Treasurer	Budget Update to be provided to Council. Payroll Reports to be provided to Council. End of Year reminders to be provided to Council.
Public Works	Public Works Reports to be provided to Council. Dorsey mentioned he received a request for water availability for a property on Reservoir Road near Reservoir. New property owner wants to put a duplex on property and wants to use Borough right of way to access property. Fleming, Lambert, and Dorsey had a conversation while examining the property survey. Fleming state he was concerned about driving heavy equipment over the water transmission lines and the security of the reservoir. Dorsey stated he was not comfortable tapping one of the large main transmission lines. Dorsey will do more research and bring it to Council at a future meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION				
Requested by:		Topic(s):		
Motion		First	Second	Action
To go into Executive Session	Time:			
To come out of Executive Session	Time:			

CLOSING ACTIONS				
Motion		First	Second	Action
To Adjourn	Time: 8:57 PM	Lambert	Bost	Carried

Submitted by: Bonnie Forsythe, Secretary/Treasurer