



Mars Borough

Meeting Minutes

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

Meeting Date: April 4, 2022

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 |
| | [vacant] | Streets |
| x | Bill Lambert | Water |
| x | Brad Price | Budget, Finance |
| | 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. |
| | Amy Brown | Assistant Sec. / Treas. |
| | Ed Dorsey | Public Works Foreman |
| | Allen Russell | Code Enforcement |
| | Mark Lint | Officer in Charge |
| x | Chris Reese | Solicitor |
| | Renea Pomeroy | Elected Tax Collector |

| VISITORS: | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name(s) / Organization | Topic |
| Rev. Brian Hauser, Mars UP Church | Reverend Brian Hauser from Mars UP Church. He came before Council to ask for permission to put in a new electronic sign on Crowe Avenue in place of their existing sign. Bost mentioned that the Zoning Hearing Board would be the one to approve a variance. Fleming stated they should start with talking to the Code Enforcement Officer and get his feedback to determine if a variance is necessary. |

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

| MOTIONS | FIRST | SECOND | ACTION |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Motion to approve meeting minutes from 03/07/2022 & 03/21/2022. | Bost | Lambert | Carried |
| Motion to move forward with advertising for paving bids as outlined in the 2022 Paving Bid Package, with bids to be received no later than 3:00 PM on 04/18/2022 and opened at the 04/18/2022 Council Meeting. | Lambert | Fleming | Carried |
| Motion to approve Resolution 24 pertaining to the application for Watershed Restoration and Protection Program (WRPP) grant in the amount of \$225,838.80 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for the potential streambank rehabilitation of two sections of Breakneck Creek. | Price | Clutter | Carried |
| Motion to enter into a contract with MuniBilling for water billing software, for a term of 5-years, in the amount of \$4,500 for Conversion (two years' worth of data) and Testing, \$1,330 for Training and Orientation, and a monthly fee of approximately \$420 per month for Cloud Based Billing Software. | Bost | Clutter | Carried |

| MOTIONS (cont.) | FIRST | SECOND | ACTION |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Motion to approve revisions to Parking Lot agreement with Mars Bank. | Bost | Clutter | Carried |

OLD / ON-GOING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

| Item | Submitted by: | Discussion / Status |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wireless Facilities Ordinance, Design Manual, and Fee Schedule | | Tabled for 04/18/2021 Meeting. |
| Paving | Fleming | Fleming acknowledged questions Price asked via email on paving. |
| Parking Lot Agreement | Lambert | Lambert asked Reese what would happen if only half of the parking lease agreements were received. Reese outlined a few potential options. Fleming stated there were older leases that simply weren't renewed and in his opinion the property owners continued to allow the Borough to maintain the lots as though they were public parking. Reese will review older existing leases. |
| Vacant Council Seat | Forsythe | Sarah Trugan submitted a letter of interest. Bost and Clutter stated they have each spoken to someone who is interested. Council will see if there are any other letters of interest submitted and address appointing someone at 04/18/2022 meeting. |
| 134 Grand Avenue Water Account | Fleming | To be discussed in Executive Session. |

NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

| Item | Submitted by: | Discussion / Status |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Paving Ordinance | Dorsey | The issue of a paving ordinance recently came up when it became evident that certain utilities want to open the streets but not necessarily restore the paving the |
| 150 th Anniversary | Forsythe | Forsythe stated a small group has already met and are looking for volunteers. Hartung explained that because the planet Mars new year will be on December 26, 2022 that a kick-off event on Earth New Years Eve could work to kick off the year of celebration. |
| Troup Banners Program | Forsythe | Forsythe presented information she received from a troop banner company used by Adams Township. Discussion on how and where to put the banners up was discussed. Fleming suggested putting an announcement on the website to gauge interest in program. |
| Signage | Clutter | Clutter brought up the issue of signage at the church property. Fleming asked for updated quotes. |
| Church Street Property | Lambert | Lambert asked whether Council would like to move forward with selling Church Street property. Fleming suggested consulting Schultheis on the sale due to her real estate connections. Fleming stated the discussion could continue at the next meeting. |

REPORTS:

| Department | Report |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mayor | Hartung reported he and OIC Lint attended a program in Saxonburg regarding identity theft. Hartung and Lint are also going to have a discussion with Saxonburg Mayor to discuss how the police departments may continue to work together. Hartung also mentioned that there may come a time for Mars Borough to reevaluate the criteria for hiring police officers to allow for less experienced officers with less than five years to be considered. He also stated Saxonburg is considering hiring someone right out of the academy and there has been discussion on how the departments could work together to train younger/less experienced officers. |

| REPORTS: | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Department | Report |
| Mayor (cont.) | Hartung is in contact with Josh Clement who is working with Chatham University on continued involvement with MS4 work. Hartung also mentioned NASA has a new head of interplanetary studies and they have been discussing the new solar system exhibit coming from Australia. There is not enough room in Mars to do it, but there is the potential of having it displayed in Cranberry Township, creating a joint Mars/Cranberry effort to bring the display into the area. Could be part of the 2023 Mars New Year and 150 th celebrations. |
| Police | |
| Secretary / Treasurer | Budget Report provided to Council. April 2022 schedule provided to Council. |
| Public Works | April 2022 schedule provided to Council. |
| Code Enforcement | February 2022 & March 2022 reports provided to Council. |

| EXECUTIVE SESSION: | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Requested by: | Topic(s): | | | |
| Fleming | Potential Litigation | | | |
| Motion | | First | Second | Action |
| To go into Executive Session | Time: 8:14 PM | Lambert | Clutter | Carried |
| To come out of Executive Session | Time: 9:35 PM | Clutter | Bost | Carried |

| CLOSING ACTIONS: | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------|--------|---------|
| | Motion | First | Second | Action |
| To Adjourn | Time: 9:35 PM | Clutter | Bost | Carried |

Submitted by: Bonnie Forsythe, Secretary/Treasurer