



# Mars Borough

## Meeting Minutes

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

**Meeting Date:** September 6, 2022  
**Call to Order:** 7:00 PM, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTED OFFICIALS / EMPLOYEE / PROVIDER ATTENDANCE						
("x" indicates present) ("tc" indicates teleconference attendance)						
x	Rob Bost	Council Vice President Administration, HR		x	Bonnie Forsythe	Secretary / Treasurer
				x	Amy Brown	Assistant Sec. / Treas.
x	Chris Clutter	Council Pro Tem Public Safety			Ed Dorsey	Public Works Foreman
					Allen Russell	Code Enforcement
x	Mike Fleming	Council President		x	Mark Lint	Police Officer in Charge
x	Bill Lambert	Water			Brian Novosel	Police Sergeant
x	John McWilliams	Streets				
x	Brad Price	Budget, Finance			Chris Reese	Solicitor
x	Julie Schultheis	Parks & Rec, Celebrations				
x	Gregg Hartung	Mayor			Renea Pomeroy	Elected Tax Collector

VISITORS:	
Name(s) / Organization	Topic
Connor Dodd	Lives on Pittsburgh Street. In attendance because he'd like to be more involved in his community. Fleming stated they were glad to have him.

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

MOTIONS	FIRST	SECOND	ACTION
Motion to approve Expenses through August 2022 in the amount of \$52,860.55.	McWilliams	Clutter	Carried Fleming abstained
Motion to approve August Payroll Expenses in the amount of \$35,808.96.	Lambert	McWilliams	Carried Schultheis abstained.
Motion to approve meeting minutes from 08/01/2022 and 08/15/2022.	Bost	Lambert	Carried Schulltheis abstained. McWilliams abstained. Clutter abstained.
Motion to pay for any interested members of the public works staff to receive training/education to obtain their CDL, with an approximate cost of \$750/person, and to cover the cost of physicals necessary to maintain a CDL, and to cover the cost difference between CDL and standard driver's license renewal.	Bost	Lambert	Carried Schultheis abstained

<b>MOTIONS (cont.)</b>	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
Motion to approve Resolution 26 of 2022 regarding the purchase and financing of a new Leaf Vac Truck, and appointing Council President to sign all necessary paperwork for the transaction.	Price	Lambert	Carried
Motion to send \$1,000.00 to Adams Township as a contribution toward the cost of the James "Jimmy" Ellis Memorial held at Adams Area Fire District on July 20, 2022.	Price	Lambert	Carried
Motion to approve the draft of Wireless Facilities Ordinance, Design Manual, and Fee Schedule as presented by Cohen Law Group, and to move forward with advertising to be able to vote on the ordinance at an upcoming meeting.	Tabled		
Motion to approve having Marge Wearing clean the restrooms in the concession stand, at the rate of \$12/hour for 2 hours, twice each week, from July through October.	Lambert	Schultheis	Carried
Motion to have Price move forward with discussions with Phil D'Amato regarding his interest in renting the church property.	McWilliams	Bost	Carried

<b>OLD / ON-GOING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Discussion / Status</b>
Wireless Facilities Ordinance, Design Manual, and Fee Schedule	Clutter, Price, Schultheis	Schultheis stated the committee should get together again to finalize any specific language necessary. Additional discussion tabled for a future date.
Paving Ordinance	Dorsey	Tabled

<b>NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Discussion / Status</b>
Woomer & Talarico Letter	Forsythe	Letter presented to Council for their information. Lint provided additional details obtained through his interview for a police report regarding a slip and fall on the sidewalk in front of the Chinese restaurant.
Wilson Letter	Forsythe	Letter presented to Council for their information.
The Narrative Church	Price	Price received a letter from The Narrative Church ending their lease for the church property as of the end of September 2022. Price stated there is another church led by Phil D'Amato that is interested in renting the church.
DCED Email	Forsythe	Email presented to Council for their information.
Parking Lot/Entrance to Education Building	Forsythe	Forsythe explained that there was a resident that came into the building and stated he was handicapped and could use a handrail on the stairs from the parking lot to the sidewalk. Fleming stated this was a good idea and thought Public Works could take a look and see what they could come up with.
Event Guidelines / Permit Application	Forsythe, Brown	Draft of guidelines presented to Council for their consideration and information. Fleming stated it would be good to also get a handle on the information needed for events over 1,000 people (guidelines put in place after 9/11). Price stated he would like to make sure the businesses in town are notified when events are held that shut down streets. Forsythe asked for Council to contribute additional suggestions, guidelines, etc. for the next draft. Lint noted that, for reference, Adams Township and the Sheriff's department charge approximately \$60/hour.

<b>NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:</b>		
Item	Submitted by:	Discussion / Status
Mars150	Forsythe, Brown	Brown explained that 2023 is the 150 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mars Area (supported by the 100 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 1973). She reviewed the presentation presented to Council. Hartung stated he had an initial conversation with the bank regarding them becoming a sponsor. He has also worked with Mars New Year and the Aspire Group to apply for DCED grant money. Hartung suggested the Borough budget some funds to contribute in 2023.
Parking Ordinance	McWilliams	McWilliams stated he wants to go back and look through old ordinances to see how a new parking ordinance can be established to address existing concerns. Further discussion tabled for a later date.
Concession Stand / Restroom Cleaning	Schultheis	Schultheis would like to have the cleaning person to clean the restrooms in the concession stand. Fleming suggested approving 2 hours at \$12/hour clean two times per week between July and October.
Trees on Right of Way off of Norton	Dorsey	Quote from Monroe Tree Pros provided to Council. A quote from Monroe Tree Pros for the dropping of 4 trees and the full removal of one tree, at a cost of \$2,350. Further discussion tabled for a later date.
Robotics use of Storage Room	Bost	Bost said that the Robotics team has utilized every square inch of the lower level, as well as the storage room which could be used as file storage for the Borough. Bost would like to clarify the use of the storage room. Clutter suggested sending a letter. Price stated he would talk to Robotics.
Church Property	Fleming	Fleming asked for clarification on when asbestos testing would be done at the church so that clean up could begin. Fleming clarified he'd like to see four areas tested for asbestos. Two on the pipes in the larger room, one on the pipe in the mechanical room, and one on the tile in the kitchen.
Leaf Vac Truck Financing	Forsythe	Mars Bank sent a commitment letter they would like Fleming to sign. In order to make that happen, Council needs to approve a resolution appointing Fleming to sign and to accept the terms of the loan.
Contribution to Adams Township for costs for Ellis Memorial	Fleming	Fleming stated he was contacted by Adams Township regarding pitching in on the costs for the memorial held for James "Jimmy" Ellis. The suggestion was made that the Borough could contribute \$1,000 toward the total cost that Adams Township expended.
Sewer Authority	Schultheis	Schultheis presented an article from GFOA PA discussing alternatives to selling an authority. Fleming stated nothing has happened and no meetings have been held.

<b>REPORTS:</b>	
Department	Report
Mayor	Verbal report provided to Council. Hartung stated he emailed out his report to Council to lower his time for the meeting. Price asked about Hartung's reference to a "campus" in the Borough. Hartung stated that was only one option he discussed with the DCED when he detailed the need to reimagine the project.
Police	Written report provided to Council. Lint reported the police are still waiting on batteries for radios, which were ordered in January. Lint reported the department is still waiting on an AED and Quality Ambulance has given the department a temporary one to use.

<b>REPORTS (cont.):</b>	
Department	Report
Police (cont.)	<p>Lint indicated the vehicle known as M2 has had a significant number of problems lately, resulting in a significant amount of money to fix it. Lint stated M1, which is the unmarked vehicle, is scheduled to be inspected and he is uncertain if it will pass. Fleming stated it was time to get pricing on a new police vehicle, and to contact Tri-Star since they were the last dealership the Borough worked with to purchase a Police vehicle in order to get an idea of what the cost will be.</p> <p>Lint reported on three separations from the department.</p> <p>Lint reported on recent training and upcoming training.</p> <p>Lint reported on positive events the officers participated in as public outreach to the community and during public events.</p> <p>Lint stated, calls permitting, officers are doing foot patrols, late night patrols, and posting an officer across the street when Rite Aid closes.</p> <p>Lint stated that three axle trucks are not permitted on Pittsburgh Street and has started stopping trucks on Pittsburgh Street who do not follow the signs. Lint met with Chief Anglam from Adams Township and Chief Beacham from Saxonburg Borough, regarding ways to work together.</p> <p>Lint reported there has been a lot of improvements in the department. The new security cameras for the police department and the building have been updated. The new server has been installed and is working perfectly. The part time officers are enjoying their wage increase. Having Sergeant Novosel full time has been great, and he is doing a terrific job. A "go-bag" has been fully supplied to be ready and on-hand for officers.</p> <p>Lint gave an update on the type of cases the department and various officers have been working on.</p> <p>Lint stated it is harder to fill shifts after losing three officers, however almost every shift on the schedule is filled. Fleming asked if Lint or Hartung knew of anyone interested in joining the department and both indicated they may and could reach out to specific individuals.</p>
Secretary / Treasurer	Budget update provided to Council.
Public Works	<p>Fleming stated there was a lightning strike at the water plant that caused a lot of damage to the electronics that Dorsey is having repaired as parts become available. The plant is functioning and producing water. The gas company has also repaired/replaced pipes to allow the generator to be fully functional.</p> <p>Lambert reported that Public Works has made good progress on replacing the water pipe on Arch Street.</p> <p>Lambert talked to Shields Paving about additional paving on Clark Street. He has not received what the additional cost will be.</p>
Code Enforcement	Written report provided to Council.

<b>EXECUTIVE SESSION:</b>				
Requested by:	Topic(s):			
Borough Property	Lambert			
Borough Property	McWilliams			
Public Works Personnel	Lambert			
Police Personnel	Price			
Borough Property	Price			
Private Property Curb Matter	Price			
Motion		First	Second	Action
To go into Executive Session	Time: 9:43 PM	McWilliams	Price	Carried
To come out of Executive Session	Time: 10:50 PM	Clutter	Lambert	Carried

<b>CLOSING ACTIONS:</b>				
Motion		First	Second	Action
To Adjourn	Time: 10:50 PM	Clutter	Lambert	Carried

Submitted by: Bonnie Forsythe, Secretary/Treasurer