



# Mars Borough

Council Meeting Minutes: **September 8, 2020**

**As of January 2020, visitors/speakers are limited to:  
5 minutes during Council Meetings and 3 minutes during Agenda Meetings.  
Council reserves the right to extend these time limits as they see fit.**

7:00 - Call to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

EMPLOYEE / PROVIDER ATTENDANCE (x indicates present)		
x	Bonnie Forsythe	Secretary / Treasurer
	Patricia Madaffari	Assistant Secretary
	Ed Dorsey	Public Works Foreman
	[vacant]	Code Enforcement
	Beau Sneddon	Officer in Charge
	Renea Pomeroy	Tax Collector
x	Chris Reese	Solicitor

ON-GOING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:	
Item	Status
Borough-owned Property Evaluations	Tabled until end of year/budget discussion.
Rental Property Inspections/Evaluations/Occ. Permits	Tabled.
Open Burning Ban	Adams Township is allowing recreational fires, with caution, but all other fires are banned.
Vacancies: 1 – Zoning Hearing; 2 – Planning Commission	Received letters of interest (see below).

OMNIBUS MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS PREVIOUSLY BROUGHT BEFORE COUNCIL AND DISCUSSED AT PUBLIC MEETINGS:			
Motion	First	Second	Action

VISITORS			
Name	Topic	Resolution	
N/A			
Motion	First	Second	Action

EXECUTIVE SESSION NEEDED?	
Yes/No	Requested By
Yes	Schultheis

CORRESPONDENCE		
Name	Topic	Resolution
Joann Chonoska	Letter of Interest for Zoning Hearing Board	Foster stated after knowing her for years he believes she would be a good board member.

Motion	First	Second	Action
Motion to appoint Joann Chonoska to the Zoning Hearing Board.	Foster	Price	Carried

MINUTES				
Minutes of:	Additions/Corrections/Motion	First	Second	Action
08/03/2020	Motion to approve.	Foster	Lambert	Carried (Schultheis abstained)
08/17/2020	Motion to approve.			

MAYOR: GREGG HARTUNG				
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up		
See Mayor's Report.				
Signage at Pittsburgh Street & Route 228.	Hartung has talked with Adams Township, Lutheran SeniorLife (St. John's), and others to discuss putting a nice big sign at the corner of 228 so people will be drawn into Mars. Jim Lascher has volunteered to talk with landscapers re: donations.			
Proposal to change name of Duncan Alley to Swaney Way in honor of Bill Swaney.		Discussion to be on-going.		
Mars Robotics will be doing an online live presentation for their vision of the Discovery Center.		To be held on Thursday, September 10, 2020.		
Motion		First	Second	Action

SOLICITOR: CHRIS REESE				
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up		
Draft of agreement to be used between the Borough and property owners on the East side of Grand Avenue.		Revisions made to the language to be more specific about the location of the properties and when submissions should be submitted to the Borough.		
Motion		First	Second	Action
Motion to have Mike Fleming and Bonnie Forsythe sign agreements between Borough and Property Owners on the East Side of Grand Avenue regarding parking lot.		Clutter	Price	Carried

SECRETARY / TREASURER: BONNIE FORSYTHE				
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up		
Approval of Expenses & Payroll.				
AED Quotes		Discussion Tabled.		
Event on October 18, 2020 by John Podolak	Podolak would like to shut down a section of Grand Avenue between Pittsburgh Street and East Hook Street, as well as Duncan Alley on October 18, 2020. He intends to hold a small car show. Price wondered how it could be held with the limitations still being required by the State. Hartung noted that the Rotary did not hold Applefest due to being unable to get insurance for a large gathering. Foster and Schultheis suggested having Podolak come to the next Council Meeting to answer additional questions. Forsythe will ask Podolak to attend the next meeting.			
CARES Act Grant Application (\$48,941.49)		Covers Police wages and payroll taxes from March through July 2020.		
RichMar Rotary offer of assistance for Community Service.		Clutter and Foster suggested asking Dorsey if there were projects that Public Works might have. Forsythe will talk with Dorsey.		
Motion		First	Second	Action
Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$52,456.24.		Lambert	Price	Carried (Schultheis abstained)

Motion to approve August Payroll and Payroll Taxes in the amount of \$22,012.36.	Price	Clutter	Carried (Schultheis abstained)
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<b>COUNCIL PRESIDENT: MIKE FLEMING</b>				
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up		
Motion		First	Second	Action

<b>ADMINISTRATION &amp; HR: ROB BOST</b>				
Main Office	Water Billing	Public Relations	Payroll	Human Resources
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up		
Motion		First	Second	Action

<b>BUDGET &amp; FINANCE: BRAD PRICE</b>				
Budget	Monthly Bills	Pensions		
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up		
Halloween	Price brought up needing to approve trick-or-treating. To be put on next agenda.			
Motion		First	Second	Action

<b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION / CELEBRATIONS: JULIE SCHULTHEIS</b>				
Fields & Parks	Field & Park Maintenance	Special Events		
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up		
New Basketball Hoops at Garfield Park		Hoops are installed and being used a lot.		
Temporary access to water at Marburger Field	For use of Football and anyone working near the area. Only one person associated with Football has a key and Public Works has a key.			
Football Schedule	To remain the same. Signs were created to encourage people to park in the overflow parking lot at the church two blocks away for games.			
Rental of church building	Jeter Theater Group would like to rent the church for October and November. Reese to investigate whether they can hold events if the building isn't ADA accessible and if there is asbestos in the basement.			
Motion		First	Second	Action
Motion to rent church building to Jeter Backyard Theater Group for 1500 / month, for two months, as-is, contingent upon they do not have to be ADA compliant, that the building can be rented with asbestos in boiler room, that Jeter would cover any additional cost that the Borough's insurance coverage might incur, and that the Jeter group have insurance and be primary insurer of the events.		Lambert	Foster	Carried

<b>PUBLIC SAFETY: CHRISTINE CLUTTER</b>				
Police	CBA	Emergency Management	Zoning Code Enforcement	Building Permits
Report			Discussion/Follow-Up	
Fire Ban			Recommendation to allow recreational fires, with caution	

Motion	First	Second	Action
Motion to amend the current burning ban to allow recreation fires, with caution, but all other burning will be restricted, to be revisited in two weeks.	Price	Clutter	Carried

<b>STREETS: RICK FOSTER</b>			
Streets	Vehicles & Equipment	Buildings	
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up	
Unifirst Service Cancellation.		Discussed at previous meeting but no action taken at that time.	
Paving Bids		Street Paving Bids: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protech Asphalt - \$43,307.36</li> <li>• Folino Construction - \$51,094.40</li> </ul> Parking Lot Paving Bids: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protech Asphalt - \$45,708.56</li> <li>• Folino Construction - \$61,960.30</li> </ul> TABLED	
Motion	First	Second	Action
Motion to approve cancellation of Unifirst Service.	Foster	Price	Carried

<b>WATER: BILL LAMBERT</b>			
Water System & Infrastructure	Water Plant	Reservoirs	
Report		Discussion/Follow-Up	
Compressor at the Water Plant		Compressor failed over Labor Day weekend. Dorsey to get quotes.	
Motion	First	Second	Action

<b>CLOSING ACTIONS</b>				
Motion		First	Second	Action
To go into Executive Session	Time: 9:15 PM	Clutter	Lambert	Carried
To come out of Executive Session	Time: 9:42 PM	Lambert	Foster	Carried
Items discussed in Executive Session: Potential real estate transaction.				
To Adjourn		Lambert	Clutter	Carried

<b>REPORTS FILED</b>	
Report	Date
Bills for Payment	09/08/2020

Submitted by