

# Point Marion Borough Council Meeting

## Minutes

MARCH 11th, 2024

Council meeting was opened with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance by President Joseph Corcoran

Members present: J. Corcoran, J. Stewart, M. Cottrell, Jim Cottrell, Bob Goodwin, and Anthony Jordon, and Solicitor Doug Sholtis, Mayor Carl Ables.

Absent: Billie Jo Nicklow

Others present: Cyndi Fisher

Roll call was taken by the Secretary and quorum was established.

Minutes of the February 26, 2024 meeting were presented a motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Jack Stewart to accept the minutes as presented. M.C.

### Engineering Report:

None

### Public Comment:

Cyndi Fisher asking about what days are you allowed to burn within the Borough.

### Mayor's Report:

None

### Secretary's Report:

A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to pay the bills. M.C.

Secretary updated Council on the 2022 Audit.

Jack discusses Worker's Compensation insurance and premiums; he had discussed and proposed cost sharing with the Springhill and Nicholson Townships for the fire protection and responses within those municipalities that the fire Department responds this is permissible to share costs.

A motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Bob Goodwin to draft a letter to both municipalities asking for their participation with cost sharing the premiums. M.C.

### Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor will give update on Litigation. Nothing from Mark Rafael concerning the economic enterprise area the county is asking the Borough to sign a resolution helping designate the major corridor areas within Fayette County. Those corridors would be Rt 119, Rt 857, Rt 166, Rt 51. Solicitor Sholtis would keep trying. 6 Liens were filed in the courthouse with copies and the computation sheets coming to the Borough. Doug spent time in the Magistrates Office along with Jack Stewart and Mark Gordon.

Doug informs Council there is a hearing concerning the old pharmacy building in the magistrate's office on Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Code Officer's Report:**

Jack talks about the various activities involving code enforcement and the many court hearings and attendances. Jack also mentioned when correspondence goes out and the owner not found the process that needs to happen, if the owner is not found the Borough needs to contact the solicitor.

**Committee Reports:**

**Public Safety:**

President Corcoran gives the written report of the various police activities the past month within the borough.

**Infrastructure:**

Councilman Jim Cottrell gave the following report: Daily operations of the water and sewage plants. Checked on 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Pump station. Took load of millings to CSO #2, cleaned up pump area. Still waiting on CSO signs. Several waterlines and sewage lines have been repaired because of the ongoing Columbia gas line replacement project. There was a surprise D.E.P. visit on 03/15/2024. Clearwell valve #1 repaired on 03/11/2024. Filled and emptied slurry tank to make sludge. Delivered 68 shut off notices. Shut off 5 accounts for nonpayment. Received 1st quarter tier letter to make copies and delivered by 03/15/2024. Lead and copper samples to be taken week of 03/18/2024. Marked and remarked several PA 1 calls. Union met with the Borough to discuss working Chuck Cleaver 40 hours a week during the gas line replacement project. An agreement was reached. Called out Don Shriver for clogged sewer lines within Point Marion Borough. Put up no dumping signs at CSO #002.

**Community Development and Enhancement:**

Wendy asking Council to vote on Porta Potty payment of \$1,235.00. A motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Bob Goodwin to pay the cost of the Porta Potty during Regatta weekend. Worked on Federal ARPA for the building grant to Becky Wadsworth. Bob Goodwin states that on April 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 from 10:00 A.M. until? they will be doing pulled pork sandwiches in the parking lot behind the V.F.W. these funds will go toward funding the fireworks.

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Anthony Jordan brings a discussion to Council concerning the need for transparency and posting our financial activities on the Borough website.

**Mitch Cottrell stated that he had spoke with John Thomas and Peter Buss concerning the consent order and what it would take to get it lifted. Mitch also presented a letter requesting the Borough consider taking out a \$100,000.00 loan to make the necessary capital improvements to get the consent order lifted.**

**A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Jack Stewart to enter into executive session at 8:11 P.M. M.C.**

**A Motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Jim Cottrell to exit executive session at 9:07 P.M. M.C.**

**The following motions were made:**

**A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to promote Linda Bise as the utility manager at her current rate of \$15.00 per hour M.C.**

**A motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Jack Stewart to rescind the written reprimand to an employee to a verbal warning there were 5 yea's and 1 nay. M.C.**

**A motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Jack Stewart to increase both the water and sewage base rates \$10.00 each effectively making the water base rate \$50.00 per month and the sewage base rate raised by \$10.00 effectively making it \$39.00 per month. Placing these funds in an account in escrow separate. M.C.**

**A motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Bob Goodwin to seek \$150,000.00 from First United Bank in Saberton and making Carl Ables and Harold L Whyel signature authorities for the loans and opening the separate bank account at First United Bank. M.C.**

**Give no further business before council President Joe Corcoran called for Adjournment.**

**A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 P.M. M.C.**

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**President**

**Secretary**

**Date**