



1905

Council Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2019

Vice President Pete Sigreto called the regular meeting of the Matamoras Borough Council to order at 7:30 pm on Tuesday March 12, 2019 in the Borough Hall, 10 Avenue I, Matamoras PA followed by a salute to the flag and a moment of silence for John Codichini.

Attendance:

President Sain	A	Mr. Losee	P	Mr. Hamill	P	Chief Long	A
Mr. Sigreto	P	Mr. Madsen	P	Mr. Myer	P	Assistant Chief Stewart	P
Mayor Clark	P	Mr. Rose	P	Ms. Drake	P	Mrs. O'Donnell	P
Mr. Clark	P	Mr. Kudrich	P	Mr. Olver	A	Mr. Bolles	P

There were approximately 10 members of the public present.

President's Remarks:

None

Public Comment:

Helen Gasnman 904 Avenue O concerned about regionalization of the Park. Currently we are only using the interest off the Wade Fund. The Borough needs to petition the Bank to allow us to use some of the principal for the park expenses. We should send a copy of Park tape and our expenses with a letter explaining why additional money is needed.

Mark's Spatz and Will Whitehead from Pike County to speak on joining the 537 Plan with Westfall, Milford Township, and Milford Borough for public sewage.

Spatz: The Act 537 plan would be the path for the planning stage for public sewage if Matamoras decides to agree to join. The 1st step would be passing an ordinance agreeing to join the plan. If we join the planning it would extend over the next year-and-a-half and would require more funding from the county. The county would try to cover the cost of the study that results in the Act 537 plan. The study would show how public sewage would look in the Borough. It will also access the needs of the main street as well as the side streets. A mailer would go out to the residents asking for information on their current sewage and an informational meeting. Ultimately the plan is the Borough's plan. Residents questions will be responded to before the plan is complete. The plan will be individualized for our Borough focusing on areas of high failure first. However, most likely, the long-term plan will be public sewage for the whole Borough over the next 10 to 20 years as funding is available. The DEP and the Borough will work together on this.

Questions:

Clark: Does council have input on the report?

Spatz: Yes, ultimate input. If we get a report of failing systems the DEP will have input. The town and the DEP will work together.

Clark: Will, what do you see as our SEO?

Whitehead: We are in rough shape, there were 10 known failures last year. Our biggest problem is lot size. Permits are not meeting current standards and are health hazards. Refer to map to see failures. (map on file) The soil closer to the river is worse, Avenue A doesn't have enough room for proper sytems. Avenue H is in better shape and may not be as much a priority.

Rose: Can we be mandated to put in public sewage if we start an Act 537?

Spatz: You need to be serious about wanting public sewage before entering the agreement.

Sigreto: Will it be forced eventually due to failing lots?

Spatz: It could be.

Losee: The failures we are seeing, are they due to lack of maintenance?

Whitehead: Some are, old cesspools are the majority.

Spatz: Cesspools and systems older than 1975 are initially considered "suspected malfunctions" however "confirmed malfunction" needs to be proven. "Confirmed malfunctions" are the highest priority. If we are going

down this path, we need to be ready to commit to public sewage. If we are on the fence that needs to be vetted through before starting the plan. The question is how do we do this with the least amount of cost to residents. Now we have an opportunity to save since we are with it with three other entities. Doing this as a region is the way to go.

Rose: What does initial hookup cost?

Spatz: Westfall is \$1600 for initial hook up with a statement of \$60 a month.

O'Donnell: How much is a new septic?

Whitehead: \$8,000-\$9,000. If you cannot support a new septic, a holding tank will be necessary with weekly pumps at \$0.20 a gallon.

Clark: At the meeting Westfall and Milford said we need to decide quickly if we are on board, how much time do we have to decide?

Spatz: Yes, fairly quickly. We can amend the agreement. You need to advertise a public hearing ordinance for next month or the month after. Westfall wants to get things moving. You have 2 months at the most to join. Towns don't have to have mandatory connection. You can pass an ordinance for non-mandatory connection then if you get enough interest in an area you extend the line. The DEP will want to see a reasonable plan though. Their concern is with public health, safety, and Welfare. If you do a non-mandatory connection you will not qualify for the lower interest loan of 1%.

Hamill: What is the current capacity of the treatment plant, is it sufficient?

Spatz: Additional capacity will be added as needed over the next 10 to 15 years. We would not need our own treatment plant. We would be wholesale customers of Westfall's plant. The DEP will want us to join the Westfall plant as well as the Delaware River Basin Commission. Connecting to the existing plant is the cheapest option.

O'Donnell: Is it cheaper to do it now then down the road?

Spatz: Yes, in the future you will have more competition for space at the sewage facility, less grant opportunities, and inflation of construction.

O'Donnell: How will this affect property values?

Spatz: Public sewage increases property values.

Public: Would we have to pay to remove our existing system?

Whitehead: Yes, some homeowners fill it themselves or the sewage authority may contract some to do it.

Consent Agenda: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes: February 2019

Approval of Treasurer's report: February 2019

Approval of Bills to be paid

M: Kudrich/Rose carried with unanimous consent

Mayor Janet Clark: No report.

General Government Mark Madsen: No report

Fire Chairman Pete Sigreto: Report on File.

Public Works Dayne Losee: Report on File.

Facilities Chairperson Kevin Rose: No Report.

Finance Chairperson Dave Clark: reported we are on the last leg of the sidewalk project which is 7th-10th on Stewie's side. Penn Dot rejected our application because we need a no parking ordinance for that section of the street. Mr. Clark requested we add item "g" under new business to approve a letter of credit for the project.

Finance Chairperson Eric Kudrich: reported we are looking forward to the opening of the park under our new park manager Shawn Bolles.

EPRPD Assistant Chief Stewart: Report on File

Recreation Advisory Board Linda O'Donnell: Report on File

Fire Gary Babb- Report given by Pete Sigreto (on file)

Emergency Management Pete Sigreto: Reported the sirens repairs have been started but are not complete.

All other reports on file

Correspondence on File

Unfinished Business:

- a. The Fire Department Budget has been corrected. They owe the Borough \$600.

New Business:

- a) Motion carried, with unanimous consent, for a public hearing and advertisement for change of Code 82-4.1 (D) Hours of Firefly Field to be held on April 9th at 7:10 pm. Current hours are 7:30 am to dusk, the Recreation Advisory Board would like to change them to 9:00 am to sunset. M: Rose/Losee
- b) Motion carried, with unanimous consent, for a public hearing and advertisement for a No Parking Ordinance on the westside of Pennsylvania Avenue from 7th to 10th street, and also to include the definition of streets, to be held on April 9th at 7:20 pm. M: Rose/Losee
- c) Motion carried, with unanimous consent, to advertise to accept bids for the sidewalk project. M: Kudrich/Rose
- d) Motion tabled for next month, with all in favor, to join the "Stakeholders Group" in order to create an Act 537 Report. M: Losee/Madsen
- e) Motion carried, with unanimous consent, to approve Safe Haven of Pike County's request to hang teal bows on the trees lining the Pennsylvania Ave. for the month of April 2019. M: Rose/Losee
- f) Motion carried, with unanimous consent, to approve the Cruizin Port's special activities application for car shows on 5/7, 6/4, 7/2, 8/6, and 9/3 with rain dates of 5/14, 6/11, 7/9, 8/13, and 9/10. M: Losee/Madsen
- g) Motion carried, with unanimous consent, to approve Greg Myer to apply for a line of credit for \$46,750 for the sidewalk project. M: Losee/Clark

Motion to Adjourn- M: Rose/Madsen carried with unanimous consent.

ADJOURNMENT TIME: 8:42 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Kelley A. Weber
Borough Secretary