

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
JULY 9, 2025**

Freedom Borough Council met this evening at 6:00 PM for their regular monthly meeting in the Municipal Complex with the following members of Council present: John Kaercher; President, Sydney Eckman; Vice-president, Kim Farrow, Jon Kaercher, Krysta Climo, Jeremy Valles, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary/Treasurer, Ron Miles; Road Dept. Foreman.

Absent: Kevin Horan

Pledge of allegiance was held.

Reminder present Council members and petitioners that all cell phones cannot be on during the meeting. They should be placed on vibrate and you will need to leave the building if you want to use your cell phone.

PETITIONERS:

Mike Szatkiewicz 999 10th St. Thank you for spraying the wall on 8th Ave. I do not own the right of way in front of my sidewalk. Per John, Ron will spray and kill the weeds.

Brian Valles: 940 6th Ave. Here for a curb cut / driveway permit

***Motion to approve the 940 6th Ave. curb cut and the 216 5th Ave. curb cut pending approval from Patrick McGuire was made by K. Climo and seconded by K. Farrow. All Voted. Motion Carried. Abstained S. Eckman**

James Miller: 1498 8th Ave. Here to observe

Mike Phillips: Here to observe

ENGINEERS REPORT: No report

STREET DEPT. REPORT: Review of street department report.

Discussion on the hardware for the banners. What do we need for the water fountain installed? We need a meter on it. Call Billy Black from BFMA to tell you what needs to be done. Check the screws on the train. Ron will remove the 6X6 Borders and let the grass come in. Stop at Harrys in 2 weeks if truck is not fixed in 2 weeks it is going somewhere else.

***Motion to approve the Street Department Report was made J. Valles and seconded by Jon Kaercher.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MAYOR REPORT: I drove through town and picked up another 27 vehicles with no updated inspection stickers. We cannot tell if the registration is good. Code is aware and willing to work with the police. I am trying to get a grant for the war memorial and working with the secretary. Question from K. Farrow. I heard a rumor there is a done deal Freedom VFD is merging with Conway VFD. I know nothing. When I hear something, I will let you know. Right now, there is nothing in the works.

***Motion to accept the mayor report was made by J. Valles and seconded by K. Farrow.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

POLICE REPORT: Review June 2025 police report. We had 15.4 % of the calls. Regional did get a grant to expand part of the school to make station larger. Any updates on the jurisdiction with the Regional in the middle and elementary school. At this point, it needs to go to DA office. Much discussion on the percentage of paying for Regional Police.

***Motion to accept the Police report was made by S. Eckman and seconded by Jon Kaercher.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MINUTES:

***Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 06/11/2025 as presented, was made by K. Farrow and seconded by J. Valles.**

All voted. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

***Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by K. Farrow and seconded by Jon Kaercher.**

All voted. Motion carried.

BILLS:

***Motion to Pay the Bills in the amount of \$34,499.58 and any bills that are deemed necessary to be paid before the next monthly meeting as monies become available was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo.
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Quote per Solicitor: Miracles do occur at Children's Hospital. The pediatricians and staff are the facilitators of this miracle!!

***Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by S. Eckman and seconded by J. Valles.
All voted. Motion carried.**

CORRESPONDANCE: Patrick McGuire June Code enforcement report.
Operation Healthy Ellwood. See flyer

COMMITTEES REPORTS:

**Personnel:
Finance:
Street Dept:
Recreation:
Utilities:
Grants & Web site:
Fire Dept. Committee:**

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

***Motion to renew the Freedom Borough – Freedom VFD property and Liability insurance for 08/01/2025-08/01/2026 with MRM, HUB International Insurance with an annual premium of \$12,262.00 was made by K. Farrow and seconded by J. Valles.**

***Motion to remove \$12,262.00 from the PLGIT Account to pay reimbursement for the street lighting in Freedom Boro was made K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo.
All voted. Motion carried.**

Discussion was made on the banners. Freeman Printing are able to make a double sided 28x60 with 3 -inch pole pocket w grommets in the corners are \$65.00 each. The hardware is \$49.50 each banner. Maybe we can reuse the old hardware. He did say if we want to do Veterans banners it will be the same cost. We will need to discuss a contract / fee with the maintenance of the new banners. You should contact Center Twp. and ask Rochelle to see what their contract is.

Literature on the table:

- Pennsylvania Boro News magazine June 2025

***Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:15 p.m. was made by K. Climo and seconded by J. Valles.
All voted. Motion carried.**

APPROVED _____ ATTEST _____

MAYOR _____

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer