

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 14, 2026**

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: Sydney Eckman; President, Kim Farrow; vice-president, Kevin Horan; Pro-Tem, Jon Kaercher, Michael Phillips, Krysta Climo, Mayor Lou Armstrong, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary/Treasurer, Miles; Road Dept. Foreman, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor,

Absent: Jeremy Valles

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 Street painting the curb yellow in front of the Boro Building. The borough needs to take care of 7 feet of property beside the sidewalk. There is a spot 7th Ave.

ENGINEERS REPORT: No report

STREET DEPT. REPORT: Review of street department report. Mayor will work with Ron to get all banners to the FVFD and pick one day where there will be a 3-hour window for residents to pick up old banners. Kevin will put the date on the website. Sink holes: 1601 4th Ave. & 10th St and 4th Ave. Sewage leak at 6th Ave and Mine Street, I had Stephaniks out and they contacted FBCCA. Ron is getting bids for a gas-powered pole saw extension. Estimated cost \$750.00. Discussion on street department e-mail. Discussion on getting a phone for the street department. Problem is there is no service in the garage with Verizon. AT&T is available in the garage. Sprin Fest / car cruise is going to be Saturday May 16th to get on schedule. S. Eckman will make contact with BFMA to see what we can do to get the water fountain installed.

***Motion to approve the Street Department Report was made M. Phillips and seconded by K Horan.
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

MAYOR REPORT: Out of the 106 vehicles, we got 6 tagged/ 2 moved. I went to thank the cops today. Discussion on a shooting of cars that occurred in Freedom Boro over the weekend.

***Motion to accept the mayor report was made by K. Climo and seconded by Jon Kaercher.
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

POLICE REPORT: Review December 2025 police report. Freedom had 12.6 % of the calls. We are down 2 officers at this time. We do not have normal staffing right now. Chief Mike has a meeting with the new Superintendent to set up meeting to review of the jurisdiction. Third officer is due to come back this

***Motion to accept the Police report was made by K. Horan and seconded by M. Phillips.
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

MINUTES:

***Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 12/10/2025 and the Re-Organizational meeting on 01/05/2026 as presented, was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Horan. Mike Phillips abstained from voting on the 12/10/2025 minutes, he was not on Council at that time. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

TREASUER'S REPORT:

***Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by K. Climo and seconded by K. Farrow.
All voted. Motion carried.**

BILLS:

***Motion to Pay the Bills in the amount of \$42,427.18 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 M. Phillips.
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

SOLICITOR REPORT: Silence is golden.

Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo.
All Voted. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDANCE:

Patrick McQuire Code Enforcement, no report this month.
RAJSA December 2025 minutes

***Motion to accept the committee for Freedom Borough 2026 was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by Kevin Horan. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

- Personnel:** Jon Kaercher Chair, Krysta Climo
- Finance:** Kim Farrow Chair, Kevin Horan
- Street Dept:** Mike Phillips Chair, Jeremy Valles
- Recreation:** Krysta Climo Chair, Kim Farrow, as well as all Council.
- Utilities:** Jeremy Valles and Mike Phillips
- Grants & Web site:** Kevin Horan Chair, Jon Kaercher
- Fire Dept. Committee:** Jeremy Valles and Mike Phillips as all of Council as well.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: There was discussion on getting new banners made. Veterans and regular banners. Also, talked about making payments online or using Venmo, PayPal.

Spring Festival & Memorial Car Cruise date set for Saturday May 16th 2026.

Easter Egg Hunt date set for Saturday March 21st 2026.

Mayor would like to pressure wash and repaint the gazebo. Discussion was made on picking a color.

Mayor has purchased a few flags with America250 on the flags.

Literature on the table:

- Pennsylvania Boro News magazine January 2026.

***Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:48 p.m. was made by K. Climo and seconded by M. Phillips.
All voted. Motion carried.**

APPROVED _____ ATTEST _____

MAYOR _____

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer