

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes- August 10, 2022**

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: President John Kaercher, Vice-President Eric Climo, Dan Baker, Sydney Kaercher, Kevin Horan. Bernie Rabik; Solicitor and Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary Treasurer.

Absent: Bill Smith; Council

Pledge of allegiance was held.

President John Kaercher reminded everyone 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:**

- Debbie DeDominicis of 1285 6th Ave. re: Sud-division of Parcel 25-001-0102.000 & 25-001-0102.001. Solicitor has no objections; County Solicitor will make sure all is done properly.
- Concerns that Freedom should have Halloween (trick or treat) the same night that all of Beaver County has it. Four stones in the parking lot from Old Liberty High School. Was hoping Council could paint or refresh the stones to make people aware they are there. If this is something the Boro cannot handle maybe we can have Rome monuments see if they can do a restoration.
- Mrs. Strobach of 1051 5th Ave. Complaining about 1050 6th Ave. The yard has not been cut in two years. I trim, cut down trees that I can reach. I made a small rock garden just to make things look better. What happens if they do not cut the grass after citations? Per; J. Kaercher a municipal lien does not mean we will get the fees charged to cut grass.
- Gary Gilarno of 1399 5th Ave. I have noticed the Boro is not cutting the bank coming in from Conway and leaving town. Per J. Kaercher, the only area not cut is where the cat tails are. A lot of complaints about properties, (esp. 9th St.). Weeds on sidewalks. Discussion on web site. Ron did a nice job on the cementing of the light poles. Missing trees on third Ave? Per J. Kaercher they will be replaced by Inch's nursery, it has been too hot.
  - Brooke Arthur: Here to observe.
- Adam Lynch of 1501 5th Ave. I am here because of complaints from my neighbor. I own a construction business. I bring back the trash, bag it up, when I get a truck load, I take it to the dump. I burn wood, I have never burned trash.

Per J. Kaercher it is a process if we get a complaint to follow-up. We also have a sewage problem it leaks behind my house, on the side of the wall. Per E. Climo; If you feel like you are being harassed you need to call the cops at that time.

- Louis Rivera of 1525 5th Ave. The sewage / water that is coming on my property is worse than before. I would like someone to look at it. J. Kaercher said we will look at 1501 5th Avenue to make sure there is no sewage leaking. Louis is also upset over neighbors giving him a hard time.
- Katie Prest of Rochester; I wanted to make sure I could sell t-shirts for the car cruise. There should be no problem selling t-shirts per J. Kaercher. There will be a lot of people there. Check with the Freedom School Board to see if they can park trailers in the parking lot. E. Climo; I have a band coming, food trucks. Katie also has concerns of the cracks along 9th street in the pavement. J. Kaercher said PennDOT is aware and was out last year did an inspection and is stable. They rerouted storm water that was coming across and causing a washout.

### **ENGINEERS REPORT:**

Engineer not with us this evening.

- Motion to approve the sub-division of parcels 25-001-0102.000 & 25-001-0102.001. presented to Freedom Boro from property owner Deb DeDominicis and Gemma Williamson Mitchell was made by D. Baker and it was seconded by M. Forrest.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

- John Balewski put a thorough report together on paving and removing the brick. Please take time to review.

### **STREET DEPT. REPORT:**

- Motion to approve the Street Department report as presented was made by S. Kaercher and seconded by M. Forest.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

- Motion to approve K&K performance in the amount of \$4,960.77 to repair the 2009 Ford dump truck w steel and fluid film the underside of body and bed was made by M. Forrest and seconded by D. Baker. The repair should start around the beginning of September and take at least 2 weeks.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

- Get pricing on the Rubber snowplow blades and we will take action next month.

- Set meeting date with PennDOT agility meeting to discuss exchange of services.
- Water runoff at 1545 6th Avenue property. R. Miles looked at the pipe. The water is coming out below that. Looks like a spring. J. Kaercher will notify S. Challis.
- PennDOT Beaver County Community Outreach meeting Thursday August 23, 2022 @ Conway Volunteer Fire Department Banquet Hall.

### **MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:**

- Please review the July police report.
- Police Regionalization: Conway is meeting tonight to make sure all is good on their end. Next meeting will be between 8-22 and 8-26. I and some children will be painting the benches near the memorial if that is ok. As Mayor, I do have a wedding booked in November, 2022. I just wanted to let the Council know of this.
- Motion to accept Police and Mayor report was made by S. Kaercher and seconded by K. Horan.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

### **MINUTES:**

- Motion to approve the minutes from the monthly meeting on 7/13/2022 and work session minutes from August 1, 2022 as presented was made by E. Climo and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion Carried.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Motion to accept the Treasurer's report and also to transfer \$10,000 from the General account to the payroll account was made by K. Horan and seconded by E. Climo.

All voted. Motion carried.

### **BILLS:**

- Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$70,321.97 and any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by D. Baker and seconded by S. Kaercher.

All voted. Motion Carried.

**SOLICITOR REPORT:**

I talk to Peggy Griffith probably 5-6 times a week for various inspections she conducts and hearings she is involved with. Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by E. Climo and seconded by M. Forrest.

All voted. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDANCE:**

- Code Enforcement report from Peggy Griffith for July 2022.
- Code Enforcement report from Brian Richards for July 2022.
- Discussion on the certified badge number for Brian Richards. All is good now with that. D. Baker will write up properties that are in need of grass cutting and give to Brian.
- Motion to accept the Code enforcement report submitted by Brian Richards was made by M. Forrest and seconded by E. Climo.

All voted. Motion Carried.

- Rochester Area Sewage Treatment Plant Operations & Maintenance report July 2022.
- Rochester Area Joint Sewer Authority Minutes July 14, 2022.

Motion to donate \$100.00 to the Freedom Area Homecoming Fall festival was made by D. Baker and seconded by M. Forrest.

All voted. Motion Carried.

- Freedom Area Hall of fame 2022 banquet invitation honoring Matt Hill, Debbie Giska Rose and our President John Kaercher. Saturday September 10, 2022.

Motion to donate \$100.00 to the Freedom Area High School Parent Advisory Council was made by M. Forrest and seconded by D. Baker.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

## **COMMITTEES:**

**Bill Smith- Personnel:** Freedom Fire Dept. and Conway Fire Dept. will be hosting a First Aid and CPR class.

**Mark Forrest- Finance:** Next month we will have an actual budget report amount to start budget talk. Per J. Kaercher 1 mill in Freedom generates right under \$9,000 dollars. We only have 4 mills to work with. Our hope is with the new re-assessment will benefit all. Will call a few electricians to see about a bid for outlet installation at the park.

**Sydney Kaercher- Recreation:** 8:00 a.m. August 20th is set for back-to-school free supply pick-up. Oct 1st Fall fest. Vendors can set up at noon event runs 2:00-6:00. Oct 30th Halloween parade. (Band, sports teams, old cars to be spooky). Eric will talk to PennDOT for road closure for the 1st and 30th.

**Kevin Horan- Grants:** Web site is up to date with all meetings Updated the website with Lou Ann Nudi "Yours Mine and Ours" is now on the website. She was the one who made the logo.

**Nadine Padezanin- Mayor:** Maybe we need to update the History & Boro department, we should add Code Officers info there too. Check pricing on updating the speaker for the recording of the meetings. Would like to promote the Freedom Lil Bulldogs Murder Mystery Dinner fundraiser which will be held on October 1 @ the Conway Vol. Fire Dept.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- There will be no work session in September it is Labor Day. We will handle everything at the 14th meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- No old business.

**\*Motion to adjourn at 6:59 PM was made by K. Horan and seconded by D. Baker.**

All voted. Motion carried.