

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
August 14, 2024**

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, Krysta Climo, Kim Farrow, Kevin Horan, Jon Kaercher, Jeremy Valles; Mayor Padezanin, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary / Treasurer. Ron Miles; Road Dept.

Absent: Vice-President; Sydney Eckman

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:** Michael Szatkiewicz 999 10<sup>th</sup> St. re: Painting the curb yellow in front of Boro building. Wall on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. belongs to Borough, Boro should be taking care of it. My neighbor, the lot next to me needs cleaned up.  
Shawn Mason 655 8<sup>th</sup> Street re: neighbor at 661 8<sup>th</sup> street. I have videos of someone living in garage. Drifters, people come and go as they want. Middle of day drug deals.  
Tom Wilgrove 659 8<sup>th</sup> Street re: neighbor at 661 8<sup>th</sup> street. 9-10 people living in house. One person living in garage.  
Steve Hyrb 665 8<sup>th</sup> Street re: Concerned about the neighbor at 661 8<sup>th</sup> street.  
Mayor will be reaching out to the BVRPD to look into this.

**ENGINEERS REPORT:** Update on LVDGR project. Will be going out to bid end of August. Might need the road dept do some pre work in the area.

**STREET DEPT. REPORT:** Ron Miles was asked to be excused from meeting tonight. Any questions feel free to take I tup with Ron and Robert at a later time.

**MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:**

Discussion was made on the police report. There was no July report online. Kim Farrow will be working on the Finance committee for the Police Commission. Kim has been very helpful with her time on the Commission. There was interest on military banners for the town of Freedom. Few random things: The bushes need trimmed outside the Boro office and need to check the park benches for drooping, if we can let Ron and Robert know this.

I will be resigning next month. I am selling my house in Freedom, currently I am living out of the Borough. In the past I know we had a council person very passionate about this. It's not ok to not live in the Borough and hold an elected position. At the moment, I have not sold my house just yet. I will continue to collect all mechanical taxes for the current year.

**\*Motion to accept the Police / Mayor report as presented was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo.**

**All voted. Motion Carried.**

**MINUTES:**

**\*Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 07/10/2024 and work session on 08/05/2024 as presented, was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by K. Farrow.**

**All voted. Motion Carried.**

**TREASUER'S REPORT:**

**\*Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by J. Valles and seconded by K. Horan.**

**All voted. Motion carried.**

**\*Motion to approve the 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Freedom Borough (Beaver County) Pension Plan (04-066-3 N) in the amount of \$21,551.37 was made by K. Climo and seconded by J. Valles.**

**All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**BILLS:**

**\*Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$48,818.40 and any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by K. Climo.**

**All voted. Motion Carried.**

**SOLICITOR REPORT:** I would like to commend Kim Farrow for her enthusiasm, efficiency and promptness as I worked with her for this agreement for the vendors. I also commend Sharon as one the best secretaries I have worked with.

**\*Motion to hire Patrick McGuire with 3City Inspections to be Freedom Borough's new Zoning and Code Officer for Freedom Borough with approval of terms he presented at our work session was made by K. Farrow and seconded by Jon Kaercher. All voted. Motion Carried.**  
**\*Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by K. Climo and seconded by Jon Kaercher. All voted. Motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDANCE:**

**Wesbanco closure of Baden bank October 2024**  
**RAJSA minutes; January, February, March. April, May, June, July 2024**  
**Western Pennsylvania Outdoors for Heroes. This all started from a Beaver County native. See pamphlet.**

**COMMITTEES 2024:**

**Personnel:**

**Finance:** I will be meeting w Sharon to learn the budgeting side a little better per Kim.

**Street Dept:** The benches Nadine brought up; it is because of the heat. They can withstand a lot.

**Recreation:** The park is looking fantastic. Sydney was hoping to set a date for grand opening.

Ron was to ask about the fountain. It is still at the garage.

September 21, 2024 Fall Festival

October 27, 2024 Halloween Parade

December 7, 2024 Light-up night

May 17, 2025 Spring Festival date

**\*Motion to order the ADA Freedom Swing with ARPA grant funds as an addition to the playground was made by K. Farrow and seconded by S. Eckman. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**Utilities:**

**Grants & Web site:** Sign ups and registration is on the website for the community gardens. Will add the new dates to website. Sharon will check to see if Security cameras at the new Ashland Park will be approved through the grants. Duquesne Light and all the street lights on 65. Duquesne light is aware of problem.

**Fire Dept. Committee:**

**OLD BUSINESS:** ARPA grant update. Everyone has updated packet.

**NEW BUSINESS:** 450 4<sup>th</sup> Ave is condemned and was sold. Sharon is working with the new owners to get the building demolished.

**Literature on the table:**

- **Masters of the Air Veterans Breakfast Club**
- **Healing through the outdoor for the benefits of our local Veterans.**

**\*Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:39 p.m. was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by K. Climo. All voted. Motion carried.**

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted by:

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Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer