

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes- December 14, 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, Bill Smith, Mark Forrest, Sydney Eckman, Kevin Horan, Mayor Padezanin, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary /Treasurer. Road Foreman; Ron Miles.

Absent: Dan Baker; 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:**

Loren Mossholder: 501 9<sup>th</sup> St., 660 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., 830 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., 1020 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., 1401 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., 1485 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., 1499 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., 215 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., 951 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., 1745 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Learn more about Regional Police.

Brian Kemerer; 801 Harvey Run Road. Here to address the concerns on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. in front of Kemerer Lawn Service. Natural springs there a ton of water that comes off of Suzanne St. We need to try and control the water. I think the road needs to be repaired properly instead of putting a band aide on it. We would like to help in any way we can. Per E. Climo would like our engineer to take a look at it. Maybe all 3 of us can work on fixing it. I do support the Regional Police.

James Miller Jr. 1498 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. here for discussion on Regional Police.

Donna Miller 1395 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Thank you for putting up Christmas Banners they look great. I also am here to support the Regional Police Dept. I have lived on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave my whole life the majority of that water is coming the whole length of 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. more water now than before and 11<sup>th</sup> street will be a sheet of ice this winter.

Tracey Sporcic 1796 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. I am here to show support for the Regional Police.

Ramona Armstrong 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. What will happen to the 200 thousand dollars that we pay for police services when we have no police.

Mark Hertneky 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Conway, I am here to support Regional Police.

Jocelyn Hertneky 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Conway. I am here to support Regionalization and I serve on Conway Council.

Scott Levenson Vice-president of Conway Council, I am here to support Regionalization and answer any questions.

Tim Antoline, Conway Council I also support the Police Regionalization.

Debbie Rose Conway Mayor I am her on behalf of Conway to answer any questions on Regionalization.

John Antoline Conway Council, here to support Police Regionalization.

Jim Kronk, 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Freedom, here in full support of our Police department.

Commissioner Jack Manning here to observe and support Conway and Freedom.

B. C. Detective Andy Gall, I was here before and helping with the Regionalization.

Sgt. Burello Commander of the State Police barracks in B.C. Here to answer any questions

Dave Lozier B.C. District Attorney, here to speak on Regionalization.

Chad Parks, B.C. Detective- here to support regionalization

James Whelan, Freedom Fire Chief- here to support regionalization

**ENGINEERS REPORT:**

No report this month.

**STREET DEPT. REPORT:**

Review of the street department report.

Per J. Kaercher; job well done on leaf pick up and getting the town looking good for the upcoming Christmas season.

Picked up tailgate that is really in bad shape. Hopefully, trying to fix it for this season. \$2,700.00 to get a new one. Check pricing on fixing it.

**\*Motion to accept the Street Department report as presented was made by B. Smith and seconded by K. Horan.**

**All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:**

Review of the November 2022 and the annual 2021 & 2022 police reports. The number of calls has dropped in 2022. Have reduce by 21 %.

There was much discussion on the Regional Police proposal.

\*Motion to move forward pending the revised addition of the contract, without signatures, which does not bind us legally taking a vote tonight to join the Regionalization without reading the contract as presented in entirety with final vote at January meeting; a.) move forward. b.) Not move forward. was made by B. Smith and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion Carried.

**\*Motion to accept Police and Mayor report was made by M. Forrest and seconded by K. Horan.**

**All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**MINUTES:**

\*Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 11/09/2022 and work session minutes from December 5, 2022 as presented was made by E. Climo and seconded by B. Smith.

All voted. Motion Carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

**\*Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by M. Forrest and seconded by B. Smith.**

**All voted. Motion carried.**

**BILLS:**

**\*Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$12,785.32 any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by B. Smith and seconded by E. Climo.**

**All voted. Motion Carried.**

**SOLICITOR REPORT:**

Wishing all a Merry Christmas.

**\*Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by S. Eckman and seconded by M. Forrest.**

**All voted. Motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Peggy Griffith Code Enforcement report for November 2022: *No report this month due to Peggy Griffith being out of the office.*

Code Enforcement report from Brian Richards for November 2022.

**\*Motion to accept the Code enforcement reports as presented was made by K. Horan and seconded by E. Climo.**

**All voted. Motion carried.**

Per E. Climo commented that the guys drove around going by code there are 44 cars w/o license plates, boats, trailers, campers in borough that need checked. Whoever needs to see it; Police or Code enforcement.

**COMMITTEES:**

**Personnel:** Sharon has requested vacation over holidays. Will post the door / website.

**Finance:** Nothing

**Street Dept:** Guys are doing some patching.

**Recreation:** Great turn out for light-up night. Thanks for all who helped. Fire Dept. for driving Santa around. Thank you to families who donated gift cards, donuts, hot chocolate and the time spent. And to the Freedom School students who performed at the Vicary House.

**Grants & Web site:** Received a list for the 2023 grants available. One through DCED, which has no matching money required.

Eric Climo talked to the engineer and read an e-mail from him re: what he has advised to us this year.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**\*Motion to appoint HMT and Associates to be Freedom Borough Code Enforcement, Zoning Officer & BCO for year 2023 was made by M. Forrest and seconded by E. Climo.**

**All voted. Motion carried.**

**\*Motion to advertise the Freedom Borough monthly meetings for year 2023 was made by M. Forrest and seconded by B. Smith.**

**All voted. Motion carried.**

LVDGR grant application was submitted on 11/22/2022.

Freedom road signage was e-mailed to PennDOT on 11/23/2022

**Literature in center of table:**

- PennDOT LTAP technical information Fall / 2022
- Pennsylvania Borough News magazine December 2022
- Government Technology magazine December 2022
- PennDOT LTAP information sheet FALL 2022

**\*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. was made by B. Smith and seconded by E. Climo.**

**All voted. Motion carried.**