

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
January 10, 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, Eric Climo-Vice president, Sydney Eckman, Kevin Horan, Krysta Climo, Kim Farrow, Jon Kaercher, Nadine Padezanin; Mayor, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary /Treasurer, Ron Miles; Road Foreman.

Absent:

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: Justin Boyer to observe

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Discussion was made on the Youngblood paving invoice.

STREET DEPT. REPORT:

Review of street department report. There was talk to have a once through pick up of leaves in the spring. Discussion on getting better ways to decorate the gazebo for the holidays. Maintenance on mowers will be done soon. They do not need much. We have started to install the new street signs.

***Motion to accept the Street Department report as presented was made by K. Climo and seconded by K. Farrow. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:

Discussion was made on the Regional Police report. Police meeting will be tomorrow night. We had a few officers at Light – up night in Freedom. Rob Matzie has secured a grant for sewer rehab in the amount of \$154,415.00 for Freedom. I will be meeting with him soon to see what else there is for Freedom.

***Motion to accept the Police / Mayor report as presented was made by K. Horan and seconded by E. Climo. All voted. Motion Carried.**

MINUTES:

***Motion to approve the Borough monthly meetings on 12/13/2023, December 28th 2023 and Re-Organizational meeting January 2, 2024 as presented, was made by E. Climo and seconded by Jon Kaercher. All voted. Motion Carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

***Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by S. Eckman and seconded by K. Horan. All voted. Motion carried.**

BILLS:

***Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$26,657.39 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:

Solicitor Bernie Rabik welcomed all new Council members. Always feel free to reach out to me when needed.

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

CORRESPONDANCE:

Troy Gump Code Enforcement report for December 2023 will be submitted next month.
Letter from Pine Run Fire Dept.

COMMITTEES 2024:

- Personnel:** Kim Farrow; Chairwoman. Jon Kaercher.
- Finance:** Krysta Climo; Chairwoman. Kevin Horan.
- Street Dept:** Eric Climo; Chairman. Krysta Climo.
- Recreation:** Sydney Kaercher; Chairwoman. Kim Farrow.
- Utilities:** Jon Kaercher; Chairman.
- Grants & Web site:** Kevin Horan; Chairman. Jon Kaercher.
- Fire Dept. Committee:** Krysta Climo; Chairwoman. All council members.

OLD BUSINESS: No word on any other interests on the EMC coordinator.

Discussion on the concerns with the F.V.F.D. Per John Kaercher; I was requested from F.V.F.D. to schedule a meeting with the new Freedom Council to meet with the F.V.F.D. Sharon will send a letter to the Chief Harry Gilarno and President Lou Armstrong inviting them to the Workshop meeting on Monday February 5, 2024, which will be written by the Solicitor on his letterhead and delivered certified mail. This will be a fact-finding meeting. Krysta Climo will chair a new Fire Dept. Committee which will look into having the adequate fire protection for the citizens of Freedom.

NEW BUSINESS:

***Motion to submit request to the B.C. Commissioners ARPA grant (disproportionally affected municipalities) for exterior / painting at J & J Enterprise 701 Third Avenue was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo. All voted. Motion carried.**

***Motion to appoint Jimmy Wingrove and Wade Dobson to the F.B.C.C.A. to replace Bob and Vicki Greco who resigned was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo.**

Roll call was conducted on the vote: Jon Kaercher; Yes, Krysta Climo: Yes, Sydney Eckman: Yes, Eric Climo: abstained, Kim Farrow: Yes, Kevin Horan: Yes, John Kaercher: abstained.

5 Yes and 2 abstained. The 2 abstained due to serving on the F.B.C.C.A board.

All voted.

Motion Carried.

Literature in center of table:

- Pennsylvania Borough News December 2023

***Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:20 p.m. was made by K. Horan and seconded by Jon Kaercher.**

All voted. Motion carried.

APPROVED _____ ATTEST _____

MAYOR _____

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer