

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 11, 2023**

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:

James Miller Jr. 1498 8th Ave. here for discussion on Regional Police.

Donna Miller 1395 8th Ave. Here to get information on the new Code Enforcement. I want to make sure they follow through where Peggy left off at 1071 8th Ave. The property is condemned and full of mice.

Jim Kronk, 6th Ave. Freedom, here to follow-up with Police department.

Dee Dee Pecchi 1598 8th Ave. Re: needing help to cut down a tree on her property that is in bad shape from being hit with lightning. Per J. Kaercher maybe contact Salvation Army. Office on Aging.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

No report this month.

STREET DEPT. REPORT:

Review of street department report. Per J. Kaercher fantastic job w snow removal and keeping the town looking nice for Christmas.

***Motion to rebuild the tailgate for \$1,500.00 with aluminum from Twisted Iron fabricators was made by B. Smith and seconded by S. Eckman.**

All voted. Motion carried.

***Motion to purchase the second set of rubber snow blades for the plow from Winter Inc. @ \$880.00 was made by M. Forrest and seconded by E. Climo.**

All voted. Motion carried.

Per B. Smith there is a sign missing on the school zone sign on 8th Ave. Ron will check it out.

***Motion to accept the Street Department report as presented was made by E. Climo and seconded by M. Forrest.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:

Review of the police report.

They are following up on the list of abandoned vehicles.

Concerns about resident's mail being tampered with on 8th Ave.

Also, few complaints on 8th Ave. where school students are playing the ding dong ditch on seniors. I have the police aware of both of these.

We all have the revised agreement of the Regional Police. Baden and Conway are moving forward. There was much discussion on the revised agreement.

***Motion to go under contract with the Beaver Valley Regional Police Department was made by B. Smith and seconded by K. Horan.**

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Horan: YES. Eric Climo: NO. Mark Forrest: YES. Bill Smith: YES. S. Eckman: NO. J. Kaercher: NO. Mayor Padezanin broke the tie with a YES vote.

By way of motion, roll call vote and tie breaking procedures set forth by the PA Borough Code the motion has passed.

All voted. Motion carried.

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

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MINUTES:

***Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 12/14/2022 as presented was made by M. Forrest 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 K. Horan.**

All voted. Motion carried.

BILLS:

***Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$16,671.92 any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by M. Forrest and seconded by B. Smith.**

All voted. Motion Carried.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Next month's meeting we will pass an Ordinance for levying taxes. I will advertise.

***Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by B. Smith and seconded by M. Forrest.**

All voted. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Peggy Griffith Code Enforcement report for November & December 2022.

Code Enforcement report from Brian Richards for December 2022.

Next month will have discussion on the Code Enforcement responsibilities with Troy Gump.

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

All voted. Motion carried.

COMMITTEES:

Personnel: nothing

Finance: Will work on replenishing the ARPA account.

Street Dept: nothing

Recreation: nothing

Grants & Web site: Current version of GoDaddy for website is outdated. Will look around to compare prices for website and will have them at the February meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Audit as presented and completed for our review, table to accept next month after everyone has a chance to review.

***Motion to move forward with an official Freedom Facebook page was made by M. Forrest and seconded by K. Horan.**

All voted. Motion carried.

This is to be strictly an informational page only.

***Motion to appoint Mayor Nadine Padezanin and Eric Climo to serve as representatives to the Beaver Valley Police Commission with Kevin Horan and Bill Smith serving as alternates was made by S. Eckman and seconded by M. Forest.**

All voted. Motion carried.

Mark Forrest wanted to emphasize how we need to only purchase things we need and not what we want.

President J. Kaercher commented that this is the way that government is supposed to work. Discussions, questions, voting the way they want to vote. That they / we are doing right for themselves and the people of the Boro. At the end of the day, we are all here for the people of Freedom. I hope and pray for the 3 communities that are in on the ground floor that it is a success for all of them.

Literature in center of table:

- Pennsylvania Borough magazine January
- Government technology magazine January / February 2023
- CCBC Spring continuing education flyer
- United States Census Bureau is hiring (see flyer)

***Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. was made by B. Smith and seconded by M. Forrest.**

All voted. Motion carried.