

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 8, 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, Sydney Eckman, Kevin Horan, Mayor Padezanin, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Borough Secretary /Treasurer. Road Foreman; Ron Miles.

Absent: Mark Forrest, Dan Baker; Council member passed away Feb. 10, 2023.

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:**

Kim Rygiel of 1051 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. RE: Getting a deed created on a piece of property that is owned by the Boro and said she has been taking care of the land. Bernie will reach out to Kim R.

Jim Kronk 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Freedom, RE: Much discussion on QRS, First Aid training, emergency response. S. Eckman will have contact information for Jim / Mark Forrest.

James Miller Jr. 1498 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. here to observe.

Visca Como: **\*Motion to exonerate the real estate taxes at 605 8<sup>th</sup> street Freedom, parcel # 26-001-0555.000 vacant land purchased from repository was made by E. Climo and second by B. Smith. All voted. Motion carried.**

Patricia Summerville & Logan Childers: Here for Logan's senior project.

**ENGINEERS REPORT:**

**\*Motion to Award Contract No: 2023-01 Freedom Borough paving contract to Youngblood Paving for the full contract. If we cannot afford the full contract, it will be Base bid 1, 2,3 and 5 as we discussed at Work session was made by B. Smith and seconded by E. Climo. All voted. Motion carried.**

**STREET DEPT. REPORT:**

Review of street department report.

**\*Motion to approve salt Bid of 150 tons through COSTARS for year of 2023-2024 was made by E. Climo and seconded by K. Horan. All voted. Motion carried.**

**\*Motion to accept the Street Department report as presented was made by E. Climo and seconded by B. Smith. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:**

Review of police report. Regional Police meeting tomorrow night @ 6:00 pm, last night the personnel met, we are moving forward w agreement page by page.

I spoke with Lou and updated him on what we discussed at the workshop for the Monument and Memorial Assoc.

I have had a couple phone calls on the regards of the SRO at the school not having a Freedom/ Conway police officer there. I cannot make the school Board tomorrow, so if anyone can attend contact me.

**\*Motion to approve Letter of Intent for the Beaver Valley Regional Police Department was made by B. Smith and seconded by E. Climo. All voted. Motion carried.**

**\*Motion to appoint Councilman M. Forrest to temporary Emergency Management Coordinator for Freedom Borough until permanent replacement can be found was made by S. Eckman and seconded by K. Horan. All voted. Motion carried.**

**\*Motion to accept Police and Mayor report was made by K. Horan and seconded by E. Climo. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**MINUTES:**

**\*Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 02/08/2023 and work session 03/06/2023 as presented was made by K. Horan and seconded by S. Eckman. All voted. Motion Carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

**BILLS:**

**\*Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$13,417.33 any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by E. Climo and seconded by B. Smith. All voted. Motion Carried.**

**SOLICITOR REPORT:**

Discussion was made on the process of demolitions of property in Freedom.

**\*Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by B. Smith and seconded by. All voted. Motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Troy Gump Code Enforcement report for February 2023.**

**RAJSA minutes of February 9, 2023.**

**Patrick Joyal; Gov. Shapiro's new SW Region Director**

**COMMITTEES:**

**Personnel:** Nothing

**Finance:** Nothing

**Street Dept:** All good.

**Recreation:** April 1<sup>st</sup> is Easter egg Hunt from noon – 2:00 p.m. @ Ashland Park.

**Grants & Web site:** The mayor will have to sign off on the .gov domain. Our new domain will be Freedomboroughpa.gov.

**\*Motion to renew the GoDaddy website for another year at \$191.88 was made by S. Eckman and seconded by K. Horan. All voted. Motion carried.**

K. Horan would like to do another Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**\*Motion to go with Energo as the supplier of electric for the next 18 months with a savings of 20% was made by K. Horan and seconded by E. Climo.  
All voted. Motion carried.**

**\*Motion to go with as the gas supplier Constellation for the next 18 months with a savings of 29.5%. was made by B. Smith and seconded by K. Horan.  
All voted. Motion carried.**

**\*Motion to approve a Freedom veteran memorial box to be placed at the war memorial in the Borough was made by K. Horan and seconded B. Smith.**

**\*Motion to submit the authorization letter for a .gov domain for Freedom Borough was made by K. Horan and seconded by E. Climo. All voted. Motion carried.**

Per J. Kaercher question to Solicitor with it being an election year and the passing of Dan Baker; Councilman, his term being up in December do we have to appoint or will that be taken care of in primary and general election? Bernie will look into this and let us know.

**Literature in center of table:**

- Pennsylvania Borough News magazine March 2023
- Registration for the PA State Association of Boroughs 111<sup>th</sup> Annual conference
- Government technology magazine March 2023

**\*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m. was made by K. Horan and seconded by B. Smith.  
All voted. Motion carried.**