

FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes- March 9, 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, William Smith, Mark Forrest, Vice-President Eric Climo, Sydney Kaercher. On the telephone was Dan Baker. Also, present was Mayor Nadine Padezanin and Code Enforcer Brian Richards.

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.

PETITONERS:

James Kronk Here to observe.

Michael Szatkewiz of 999 10th St. is concerned over the cars/trucks that park on 3rd Avenue. He would like the Council to make it No parking. You are not able to see when pulling out. Also, there is water leaking from the Oak Grove cemetery between 9th street and 11th street. J. Kaercher advised him to go see the cemetery and see what they can do to help with the situation.

Jim Whelan: Here to observe

Gary Gilarno: Here to observe

ENGINEERS REPORT:

NO REPORT

STREET DEPT. REPORT:

John Baker said we have a tree down between Conway Freedom ramp on 65. Council told John to call a couple tree services get quote on taking tree down and clean-up. Also get quote to rent a chipper. John also talked with Brian Giles on the snowplow re: the new type of squeegee. Eric Climo said to go this week and look at Conway's. Need to order sooner than later.

*Motion to purchase 225 tons of salt for the 2022-2023 year through COSTARS was made by M. Forrest and seconded by B. Smith.

All voted. Motion carried.

*Motion to accept Street Department Report was made by B. Smith and seconded by M. Forrest.

All voted. Motion carried.

MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:

Mayor Padezanin reviewed the monthly police report. Overall, no issues. Remind everyone the Regional Police meeting is tomorrow at Conway. I recommend all to attend if able.

* Motion to accept the mayor / police report was made by E. Climo, seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

*Motion to approve the minutes from the workshop meeting 2/7/2022 and the monthly meeting 2/9/2022 was made by S. Kaercher and seconded by E. Climo.

All voted. Motion carried.

TREASUER'S REPORT:

*Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by E. Climo seconded by S. Kaercher.

All voted. Motion carried.

B. Smith mentioned when we get grant monies or donations, we should be sure to make a line item in the budget for the item.

BILLS:

*Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$19,031.49 and any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting was made by S. Kaercher and seconded by B. Smith.

All voted. Motion Carried.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Solicitor advised Sharon to address a letter to Berkheimer, telling Berkheimer that Freedom would like to retain their services, asking for the terms and conditions under which they will collect the taxes.

*Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by E. Climo and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDANCE:

Code Enforcement report from Peggy Griffith for February 2022.

*Motion to have solicitor file a complaint with the B.C. Court of Common Pleas stating the condemned properties should be vacated was made by B. Smith and seconded by M. Forrest.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

Code Enforcement report from Brian Richards for February 2022.

Solicitor Rabik asked B. Richards to let him see the citation before he takes it to the Magistrates office.

*Motion to accept the Code enforcement report from B. Richards was made by K. Horan and seconded by S. Kaercher.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEES:

Bill Smith- Personnel: to go over job descriptions for Road dept. Need to review the internet services for the Boro and decrease bill if possible.

Mark Forrest- Finance: only question I had was on the grant money. County is upgrading the digital radio service which means the Fire Dept. will have to come up with this expense.

Eric Climo- Street Dept: Covered mostly everything at work session.

S. Kaercher- Recreation: Easter Egg hunt April 9th @ 1:30. Will need volunteers.

Need to contact insurance carriers to make sure we are covered for these types of events.

Kevin Horan- Grants & Public Funding: meeting Rep. Matzie tomorrow morning to see if he has anything to offer. Meeting with Sen Vogel as well. Meeting with Boro engineer re: Comprehensive Plan. Meeting with New Sewickley Rec. Board to see how they do things. Planning an Earth Day event on April 23rd. E. Climo asked K. Horan to check on grants for road signage in Freedom. B. Rabik stated Freedom Boro should have their own Planning Commission. Start out with 3 people.

Matt Hogue, Darla McFee serves on this Board already. Per Solicitor; The PSAB should be contacted when it comes to applying for a grant. Kevin will stop in Boro office tomorrow to confirm website info.

NEW BUSINESS:

*Motion to have a blanket motion to Exonerate taxes on the following parcels was made by E. Climo and seconded by B. Smith.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

Parcel # 26-001-0831-000 1155 6th Ave.

Parcel # 27-001-0816.000 450 4th Ave.

Parcel # 27-001-0406.000 533 4th Ave.

Parcel # 27-001-0612-000 299 4th Ave.

Discussion was made on updating the process of exoneration of taxes in Freedom.

*Motion to approve the e-mail FreedomRoadsandRefuse@gmail.com was made by K. Horan and seconded by E. Climo.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

* Motion to approve contract with Affordable Pest Solutions starting June 1, 2022 was made by K. Horan and seconded B. Smith.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

Reminder to turn in Ethics Form.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business.

*Motion to adjourn at 7:24 PM was made by S. Kaercher, seconded by B. Smith.

All voted. Motion Carried.

End of Meeting