

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
MAY 10, 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, Bill Smith, Sydney Eckman, Kevin Horan, Mayor Padezanin, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary /Treasurer.

Absent: Mark Forrest, Eric Climo; Vice- President and Ron Miles; Freedom Road Dept.

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:

Gary Gilarno 1399 5th Ave. Here to request funds for FVFD through the ARPA grant. \$32,600 or total \$35,475.99 which is bunker gear and equipment for the FVFD.

James Miller Jr. 1498 8th Ave. here to observe.

Corey Fadeley of 2517 Moratta Road

***Motion to exonerate the real estate taxes at 611 5th Ave. Freedom, parcel # 26-001-0316.000 purchased from repository was made by B. Smith and second by K. Horan, pending review if the property is on the condemnation list, if condemned Mr. Fadeley will have to meet the conditions of the condemnation for forgiving of the taxes. All voted. Motion carried.**

Mike Szatkewicz 999 10th St. Here to complain about the parking on third Ave. Cannot see when pulling out from 10th St. Questions on where are the speed limits signs on Harvey Run Rd and Third Ave.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Discussion on paving project and catch basins. We have signed the agreement with Youngblood for the full bid for the paving project, which was accepted at the March meeting.

STREET DEPT. REPORT:

Review of street department report. J. Kaercher complimented the good job the Road Dept is doing.

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

Mayor said a resident said he was writing down street signs that were bent and need straightened. Has this been taken care of? S. Eckman was going to check into this.

*** Motion to ratify the phone vote from Council on March 10, 2023 to repair the 2009 Ford-550 dump with a cost of \$541.28 to Baierl in Zelenople, PA.**

J. Kaercher-yes, S. Eckman; yes, B. Smith; yes, K. Horan; yes, M. Forrest; yes. E. Climo; no response. Was made by B. Smith and seconded by S. Eckman.

Street cleaning for Memorial Day. Sharon will call Eugene to see if Monaca is able to do this.

B. Smith said make sure American flags will be up for Memorial Day.

MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:

Review of police report. Regional Police meeting tomorrow May 11 @ 6:00 pm at Conway. June 3rd is the date they will have news there. There will be swearing in of a few officers at Police station in Conway.

***Motion to approve the Beaver Valley Regional Police Department budget for 6-4-2023 through 12-31-2023 in the total amount of \$1,082,450.50 made by B. Smith and seconded by K. Horan. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

***Motion to have Freedom Borough to provide monthly payment installments for the period of 6-4-2023 through 12-31-2023 in the amount of \$17,966.80 per month to the Beaver Valley Regional Police Department. All voted. Motion Carried.**

Per K. Horan to let people know out of the \$1,082,450.50 budget, Freedom Boro is paying annually \$125,767.63.

***Motion to accept Police and Mayor report was made by K. Horan and seconded by B. Smith. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

****Motion to donate \$150.00 to the Freedom Monument and Memorial Association as we have in the past was made by S. Eckman and seconded by B. Smith. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

The plants / flowers will be planted at the memorial on Tues May 16th.

MINUTES:

***Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 03/08/2023 and work session 03/06/2023 & 05/01/2023 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 S. Eckman and seconded by B. Smith. All voted. Motion carried.**

BILLS:

***Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$63,822.39 any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by B. Smith and seconded by S. Eckman. All voted. Motion Carried.**

SOLICITOR REPORT:

We will advertise on the Freedom Borough website for applicants to fill the vacant seat of Councilman Dan Baker that will expire December 31, 2023.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Troy Gump Code Enforcement report for March & April 2023.
Thank you note from Vicki Baker
RAJSA minutes April 13, 2023.
FBCCA minutes April 5, 2023.
Updated request from FVFD. Gary presented this evening already.
Beaver County Bounces Back (see flyer)

***Motion to donate \$100.00 to the Freedom Bulldogs Football Mothers Association was made by B. Smith and seconded by K. Horan.
All voted. Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEES:

Personnel:

Finance:

Street Dept:

Recreation: Thanks to everyone who made the first Spring fest a success.

Grants & Web site:

OLD BUSINESS:

Place Emergency Management Coordinator on agenda for next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

***Motion to ratify the phone vote on 4-13-2023 to exonerate taxes on two parcels 6-001-0201.000 & 26-001-0200.00 from 2023 to the present which were purchased by the F.O.E. was made by K. Horan and seconded by B. Smith. J Kaercher – yes, M. Forrest- yes, B. Smith – yes, E. Climo – yes, K. Horan – yes and S. Eckman – yes. All voted. Motion carried.**

Sharon spoke with Beaver County Assessment office RE: information on the new tentative assessments that went out for Freedom Borough and was told the value does not factor in on exemptions.

Literature in center of table:

- Government technology magazine April - May 2023
- Pennsylvania Borough News April & May 2023
- Storytelling programs w Storyteller Alan Irvine
- Beaver Tales: Beaver County Conservation Dist. Newsletter winter / spring 2023

***Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. was made by K. Horan and seconded by S. Eckman.
All voted. Motion carried.**