

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

Absent: Bill Smith, Mark Forrest.

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:**

Matt Hogue of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. arrived at 6:55 p.m.

**ENGINEERS REPORT:**

Todd Youngblood started paving projects in Freedom have placed all catch basins. Paving will begin next week. He is also getting some pricing for French draining where the water comes into 65.

**STREET DEPT. REPORT:**

Review of street department report.

**\*Motion to request to the County under the ARPA grant for additional brackets for road signs in the amount of \$3,006.00 from Signs made Fast was made by E. Climo and seconded S. Eckman. All voted. Motion Carried.**

Will pick leaves up until the first snowfall.

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

**MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:**

Discussion was made on the Regional Police report. There will be a Regional Police meeting tomorrow November 9, 2023. Halloween went well with no issues. Per S. Eckman Regional Police stopped and participated with the Halloween parade. Was very appreciative for that. I (Mayor) will be conducting a wedding in April 2024 for a Freedom resident. I will be collecting the Mechanical device tax soon at the local Clubs. Send Dan Camp a bill for the political sign permit.

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

**MINUTES:**

**\*Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 10/11/2023 as presented was made by S. Eckman and seconded by E. Climo. All voted. Motion Carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

**BILLS:**

**\*Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$31,318.29 and any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by S. Eckman and seconded by E. Climo. All voted. Motion Carried.**

**SOLICITOR REPORT:**

The deed is finished for the purchase of the small vacant lot purchased by the Freedom Fraternal Order of Eagles in the amount of \$1,025.00 was completed. We will make an appointment to sign documents.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Troy Gump has no report for this month. He will have October and November for December meeting.

**\*Motion to enter into executive session for discussion on personnel issues at 6:26 p.m. was made by S. Eckman and seconded by K. Horan. All voted Motion carried.**

**\*Motion to reconvey meeting at 6:44 p.m. was made by K. Horan and seconded by E. Climo. All voted. Motion carried.**

**COMMITTEES:**

**Personnel:** nothing

**Finance:** nothing

**Street Dept:** nothing

**Recreation:** Discussion was made on getting donations to help with recreation activities, so it's not always same people. Also, communication for activities will also be going through Freedom Boro secretary. Light up Night will be Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Looking to do a 10:00 - 2:00 p.m. bulb decorating, Santa letter writing, cookie decorating. With returning in the evening, with bulbs to decorate tree and gives letters to Santa, after ride through town on fire truck.

**Grants & Web site:** There is a TC Energy \$9,000.00 check from a grant in the general fund for park renovation. There is talk on a community garden in the spring. Discussion was made on the best place for this.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Temporary EMS Coordinator is still Mark Forrest until we can find a replacement.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**\*Motion to advertise the proposed Freedom Borough Budget for year 2024 was made by E. Climo and seconded by S. Eckman. All voted. Motion carried.**

Discussion was made to check and see if the fire alarm is working near Ashland Park at the West side of town.

**Beaver County Commissioners re: ARPA Disproportionately Impacted Community Grants deadline for earmarked projects. Dec. 15, 2023.** Discussion was made on new park renovations to be submitted.

**Literature in center of table:**

- Pennsylvania Borough News October 2023

**\*Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:16 p.m. was made by E. Climo and seconded by K. Horan.  
All voted. Motion carried.**