

## **FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes- November 09, 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, Vice-President; Eric Climo, Bill Smith, Sydney Eckman, Kevin Horan, Mayor Padezanin, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary /Treasurer. Road Foreman; Ron Miles.

Absent: Mark Forrest; Council, 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:**

Kevin Brown 1130 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Something needs done at 1120 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. with my neighbor's garage and a very large tree that is laying on my fence for over a year. It's very dangerous. Bernie will reach out to Peggy tomorrow.

Jason Arrington of 321 Shaffer apt 2 Aliquippa.

\*Motion to exonerate the taxes on parcel 27-001-0613-000 from 2020 to present was made by E. Climo and seconded by K. Horan. All Voted. Motion Carried.

### **ENGINEERS REPORT:**

Kevin set a date with John Balewski next Saturday at Ashland Park. Engineer response to letter from Paul Carter of Kapaco Investment group, LLC re: Opening of paper Street on 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Council is not considering this at this time.

\*Motion to accept the written Engineers report as presented was made by S. Eckman and seconded by B. Smith.

All voted. Motion Carried.

### **STREET DEPT. REPORT:**

Review of the street department report. Per J. Kaercher leaf pick up is going well and looks good. We will be done with leaf pick up in the next 2 weeks. Need to reach out to John Balewski for an updated road / paving list. Sharon is working with PennDOT to submit spreadsheet of all street signs in Boro.

\*Motion to accept the Street Department report as presented was made by E. Climo and seconded by S. Eckman.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

### **MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:**

Review of the October police report. Next month we should get a tally for the total year. If we vote yes to move forward with the Police Regionalization our next meeting will be November 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m. at Conway. Another football game this Friday we will have 6 officers at the field. I will be sending out the Mechanical Device tax to the private Clubs this week.

\*Motion to accept Police and Mayor report was made by E. Climo and seconded by B. Smith.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

### **MINUTES:**

\*Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 10/12/2022 and work session minutes from October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 as presented was made by E. Climo and seconded by S. Eckman.

All voted. Motion Carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

All voted. Motion carried.

Per J. Kaercher looks like we are looking good through the end of year. Discussion on maybe looking into getting a 6-month CD.

\*Motion to advertise the proposed Freedom Borough Budget for year 2023 in the amount of \$686,286.57 with no tax increase with a 1 mill Fire tax for total of 29 mills was made by B. Smith and seconded by S. Eckman.

All voted. Motion carried.

\*Motion to advertise Ordinance and fixing the rate and levying the Boro real estate tax for 2023 presented at 28 mills plus 1 mill fire tax was made by E. Climo and seconded by K. Horan.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

**BILLS:**

\*Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$61,241.36 any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by B. Smith and seconded by E. Climo.

All voted. Motion Carried.

**SOLICITOR REPORT:**

I would like to say kudos to Sharon she does a good job running the office. With the regards on the e-mail from 209 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. we will wait for further letters.

\*Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by S. Eckman and seconded by M. Forrest.

All voted. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Peggy Griffith Code Enforcement report for October 2022. Was discussed at work session.

Code Enforcement report from Brian Richards for October 2022.

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

\*Motion to move forward with the fact-finding contract for the potential of Regional Police pending the contract and the Solicitors advise to either (a) move forward with the proposal or (b) to reject the proposal which makes the Borough non-binding to the Regional Police was made by Bill Smith and seconded by Kevin Horan.

Roll Call: Bill Smith: yes, Eric Climo: yes, John Kaercher: yes, Sydney Eckman: yes, Kevin Horan: yes.

All voted. Motion Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

\*Motion to approve the 2023 Solvency fee of \$236.52 to the PA. Department of Labor and Industry was made by E. Climo and seconded by B. Smith.

All voted. Motion Carried.

6<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Christmas Carol Sing performed by the Beaver Valley Choral Society.

Free Dinner Christmas Day at Beaver Falls High School see flyer.

**COMMITTEES:**

**Personnel:** Nothing

**Finance:** Nothing

**Street Dept:** Nothing

**Recreation:** I spoke with Gary. Christmas Light -up night Dec 3 will be sponsored by Freedom Vol. Fire Dept, Freedom Boro & Freedom Boro Recreation and the Vicary Mansion. Santa will be brought around on the Fire truck and brought to gazebo. Candy from FVFD. Gift and refreshments from Freedom Recreation. Per J. Kaercher spoke w- Jim Whelan and in case of bad weather you can use the fire house. Community decorating of the gazebo will be Nov. 26 weather permitting.

**Grants & Web site:** I did talk with Taylor Ford an IT consultant; she could set us up with an auto dialer she could load all software & training for roughly around 1,100. She also recommends that Freedom Boro should have our own Facebook account, that is what other municipalities have. There was discussion on selling items for the benefit of the Borough and doing it the proper way.

\*Motion to have Cleaver Construction to repair the roof of the gazebo with the condition there is no liability on the Boro of Freedom was made by K. Horan and seconded by S. Eckman.

All voted. Motion carried.

\*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. was made by E. Climo and seconded by B. Smith.

All voted. Motion carried.