

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025**

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: S. Eckman; vice-president, Kim Farrow, Kevin Horan, Jeremy Valles, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary/Treasurer, Ron Miles; Road Dept. Foreman. Patrick McGuire; Code enforcement.

Absent: John Kaercher; President, Krysta Climo, Mayor Lou Armstrong,

Pledge of allegiance was held.

Reminder 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:**

Rachel Smrzlick: 1744 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Concerned over residents not cutting grass and trash. Have not seen any progress with these areas. Code Officer just entered meeting he addressed Rachel we had at our high average of 44 complaints on grass and we were able to resolve 33 of them at this point. We have a few outstanding. Citations are a last resort they do not guarantee any action only a fine. I am working to get these completed. There are a couple I am getting ready to file citations on of not resolved. We are making great progress.

Tom Smrzlick: 1744 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Concerned over speeding on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. during pick-up time at end of day. They need a crossing guard. We are getting no where speaking with Mr. Capeheart. Probably need to out in to go to School Board meeting.

They start lining up at 3:00, pickup is 3:40. K. Farrow will relay this to the Police meeting tomorrow night.

Mike Phillips: here to observe

**ENGINEERS REPORT:** No report

**STREET DEPT. REPORT:** Review of street department report.

Update on dump truck – waiting on ball joints for truck. I have parts they might need to repair. Should be done next week.

**\*Motion to purchase all rubber edge for the snow plow from Winters for \$900.00 was made by K. Farrow and seconded J. Valles.**

**All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**\*Motion to approve the Street Department Report was made K. Horan and seconded by K. Farrow.**

**All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**MAYOR REPORT:** Discussion on Fall Clean-up Day in Freedom for October 2025. Council decided to hold off and plan for Spring 2026.

**\*Motion to accept the mayor report was made by K. Farrow and seconded by J. Valles.**

**All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**POLICE REPORT:** Review August 2025 police report. We had 17.3 % of total calls. Police Commission met with Pulaski Twp. the other night about becoming contracted services, it was an open forum for their town. The feedback was that the community really wanting to stay with New Brighton Police. It will go back to supervisors to make a decision.

**\*Motion to accept the Police report was made by K. Horan and seconded by Jon Kaercher.**

**All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**MINUTES:**

**\*Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 08/13/2025 as presented, was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Horan.**

**All voted. Motion Carried.**

**TREASUER'S REPORT:**

**\*Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by K. Farrow.**

**All voted. Motion carried.**

**BILLS:**

**\*Motion to Pay the Bills in the amount of \$37,461.71 and any bills that are deemed necessary to be paid before the next monthly meeting as monies become available was made by K. Farrow and seconded by Jon Kaercher.  
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**\*Motion to approve the 2026 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Freedom Borough (Beaver County) Pension Plan (04-066-3N) in the amount of \$22,076.04 was made by K. Farrow and second by K. Horan.  
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**\*Motion to renew the workers compensation and employers' liability insurance for Freedom Borough and FVFD for the 10-01-2025 to 10-01-2026 year in the amount of \$14,365.00 was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Horan.  
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**SOLICITOR REPORT:** Please take notice that my contract with my chauffer expires at the end of this year. Per K. Farrow; will you be willing to stay on via zoom? I will let you know.

**\*Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by K. Horan and seconded by K. Farrow.  
All voted. Motion Carried.**

**CORRESPONDANCE:** Patrick McGuire August Code enforcement report. Patrick spoke on crazy amount of complaints, we have been very successful on making progress. Patrick spoke on the Blight study that he applied for Freedom Boro. Freedom Borough Blight List from Patrick 08-2025. One of your biggest problems in town is parking. I cannot find an ordinance in Freedom for parking on the sidewalk.

**\*Motion to accept the Code Enforcement report was made K. Horan and seconded by K. Farrow.  
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

Upper Beaver Valley Veterans Service Center asking for donation.

**COMMITTEES REPORTS:**

**Personnel:**

**Finance:**

**Street Dept:**

**Recreation:** Sun. Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Freedom Borough Kids Costume Parade and Trick or Treat Night.

3:30-5:30 Food truck, crafts, petting zoo, reptiles (main street)

5:00-5:15 Line up for costume parade in magistrates parking lot. Parade over at 5:30.

6:00- 8:00 Freedom Borough Trick or Treat night. Would like to ask FVFD to help with Halloween. Recreation is decorating the gazebo for Christmas season on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion on poles being wrapped with lights instead of putting up wreaths.

**Utilities:**

**Grants & Web site:**

**Fire Dept. Committee:**

**OLD BUSINESS:** Discussion on not putting up Christmas banners. Will be selling new banners in the new year.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**\*Motion to approve the Boro Secretary to contact WesBanco to start direct deposit of payroll for all Freedom Borough employees was made by K. Farrow and seconded by J. Valles.  
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

If anyone has new budget items for 2026, please give to Sharon.

**\*Motion to give approval to K. Farrow to write up a very simple employees call off policy was made by K. Farrow and seconded by J. Valles.  
All Voted. Motion Carried.**

**Literature on the table:**

- Pennsylvania Boro News magazine August 2025

Brenda Applegate dropped off an invitation for the unveiling of the renovated porch at the *Captain William Vicary Mansion* on September 25, at 4:00 p.m.

**\*Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:12 p.m. was made by J. Valles and seconded by Jon Kaercher.  
All voted. Motion carried.**

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted by:

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Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer