

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 10, 2026**

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: Sydney Eckman; President, Kim Farrow; Vice-president, Kevin Horan; Pro-Tem, Jon Kaercher, Michael Phillips, Solicitor; Bernie Rabik, Mayor Lou Armstrong, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary/Treasurer, Ron Miles; Road Dept. Foreman

ABSENT: Krysta Climo

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:

Mike Szatkiewicz: 999 10th street don't forget to paint the sidewalk yellow on Third Ave in front of Boro office. 4th Ave. between 13thst. thru 18th street by St. Felix trees growing in power lines. 7th ave & 10th st. tree in power lines. Sharon will call Duquesne Light. Also, catch basins on 8th Ave.

ENGINEERS REPORT: No report

STREET DEPT. REPORT: Review of street department report.

New phone number for Road Dept. 878-207-2036.

No update on Sink holes: 1601 4th Ave. & 10th St and 4th Ave. Toni said Drumm put a camera down and it looks good. Sewage leak at 6th Ave. and Mine Street.

I can come back to work, but I have to be in this boot for two weeks until follow up. If I can come back, I can do light duty work only. Solicitor advises to take vacation or sick time now. If you have phone calls from work, I advise the Borough to compensate you for the next 2 weeks for any phone calls.

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

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MAYOR REPORT:

We are still waiting on PennDOT for the Third Ave. signage.

We need a sign at the dump. People are dumping trash. Solicitor Approved to get a sign that reads NO DUMPING ALLOWED SUBJECT TO FINE. Discussion on how to help get a return on the fees paid to the Code Officer.

***Motion to accept the mayor report was made by K. Farrow and seconded by Jon Kaercher.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

POLICE REPORT:

No police report for May 2026. Traffic cameras should be installed soon. Good fundraiser for the K-9 foundation on Sunday. Discussion on cars not stopping at stop sign on 15th street & 8th Ave.

***Motion to accept the Police report was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by M. Phillips.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MINUTES:

***Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 05/13/2026 was made by K. Farrow and seconded by Jon Kaercher. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

***Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by K. Horan and seconded by M. Phillips.**

All voted. Motion carried.

The \$30,000 grant from DCED through Rep. Rob Matzies office is in its own account.

BILLS:

***Motion to Pay the Bills in the amount of \$37,787.09 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 M. Phillips. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

SOLICITOR REPORT: Sol. Rabik read definition on resignation. You never want your government to come to a cessation. Which means you temporarily stop governing.

Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by K. Horan and seconded by Jon Kaercher. All Voted. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDANCE: Code report from Patrick McGuire for Feb., March, April & May 2026.
Berkheimer LST tax request:
RAJSA May 14, 2026 minutes.

COMMITTEES: Personnel:

Finance: Kim Farrow thanked Sharon on the good job of the newly elected tax Collector.

Street Dept:

Recreation:

Utilities:

Grants & Web site:

Fire Dept. Committee: Confirming the date of the meeting for Tuesday June 23rd, 2026 with Conway.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: Much discussion was made on the open seats on Borough Council.

***Motion to pay 4 payments of \$2,173.85 to New Sewickley Twp. totaling \$8,695.40 for the miss filing of the Freedom Area School District LST tax that was given to Freedom Borough was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Horan.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

***Motion to accept the resignation letter of Krysta Climo from Freedom Borough Council was made by Mike Phillips and seconded by K. Horan.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

Krysta moved out of the Borough and can no longer serve on Council.

***Motion to appoint John Kaercher to the 1 and ½ year vacant seat of Krysta was made by M. Phillips and seconded by K. Farrow. Roll call is needed.**

Mike Phillips: YES, Kevin Horan: NO, Kim Farrow: YES,

Jon Karecher abstained: Conflict of interest - Abstention removed and voted YES.

Sydney Eckman abstained: Conflict of interest - Abstention removed and voted YES.

4 YES. 1 No.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

There was much discussion on appointing the 3 ½ year vacant seat. Per Solicitor have the interested party send a resume by this Friday morning, then have a meeting with her on Tuesday evening.

Per Solicitor Rabik; It has been my honor and privilege to be your Solicitor for these many years. However, conscious dictates that I resign effective immediately and no questions.

Discussion was made on how many vacant seats to advertise.

K. Horan asked that if there is a threat or need police presence at meeting, we all should be notified.

Literature on the table:

- Pennsylvania Boro News magazine February 2026.

***Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:12 p.m. was made by K. Horan and seconded by M. Phillips.
All voted. Motion carried.**

APPROVED _____ ATTEST _____

MAYOR _____

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer