

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2024**

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: John Kaercher; President, Sydney Eckman; vice-president, Kim Farrow, Kevin Horan, Jon Kaercher, Jeremy Valles, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary / Treasurer, Ron Miles; Road dept.

Absent:

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, wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, same stuff paint curb yellow in front of Boro building. Take care of wall along 8th Ave. 955 6th Ave. RR ties, lumber, yard needs cleared Matt Hogue 125 6th Ave. Everyone is doing a great job. Ron Miles always there when you need him. Office does a great job.

Tom Wingrove 6th street, here to observe.

ENGINEERS REPORT: *Motion to pay Contract No. 2024-01 9th St/ Laurel Alley Road and drainage improvements final payment contingent upon Beaver County Conservation Districts review to LM&R Excavating Inc. for the following amount \$84,998.00 for the Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Road grant was made by K. Farrow and seconded by J. Valles.

All voted. Motion Carried.

STREET DEPT. REPORT: Review of the street dept. report. We had to buy a transmission pan for the 2016 dump. Rob and I bought everything and it is up and running. I ordered a spinner motor for the salt spreader on the 2016. The seal was bad it was leaking. 2023 truck is going for undercoating next week.

*Motion to purchase a Bobcat self-contained water kit for street sweeper in the amount of \$2,136.94 from our Liquid Fuels money in the PLGIT bank Account was made by K. Climo and seconded by J. Valles.

All voted. Motion Carried.

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

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:

Welcome aboard and welcome back Lou Armstrong.

I have no reports tonight. I will be attending the Police meeting tomorrow night.

Review of the November police report.

MINUTES:

*Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 11/20/2024 as presented, was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo.

All voted. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

*Motion to adopt Resolution No. 12112024-03 adopting the Freedom Borough Budget for the year 2025. Was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo.

All voted. Motion Carried.

*Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 587 of the Borough of Freedom fixing the rate of Tax at 5.023 mills and levying the Borough real estate tax for the fiscal year 2025 was made by J. Valles and seconded by K. Farrow.

Roll Call Vote: Jon Kaercher: yes, K. Climo: yes, J. Valles: yes, K. Farrow: yes, K. Horan: yes, President John Kaercher: yes. Abstained Vice- President S. Eckman due to not being here at prior meetings.

Total of votes: 6 yeas votes 1 Abstained.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

***Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by S. Eckman.
All voted. Motion carried.**

BILLS:

***Motion to Pay the Bills in the amount of \$44,068.67 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 K. Climo.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

\$12,545.50 paid to MS Consultants is reimbursed from DGLVR grant.

SOLICITOR REPORT: Have a great Christmas everyone.

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

All voted. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDANCE:

***Motion to accept Code Enforcement November 2024 report was made by S. Eckman and seconded by K. Horan.**

All Voted. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEES 2024:

Personnel:

Finance:

Street Dept:

Recreation: Per S. Eckman, would like to thank you Sharon, Ron & Rob for getting our town ready for Light up night. Thanks to Tom Wingrove for helping throughout the night.

Utilities: Security cameras arrived; 6 for Boro building and 6 for Ashland Park.

Grants & Web site:

Fire Dept. Committee:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

• Motion to advertise Freedom Borough monthly meeting and work session schedule for the year 2025 was made by K. Climo and seconded by K. Horan.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

S. Eckman would like to thank all who helped with Halloween Parade. FVFD had trucks out and Pine Run brought trucks as well. Thank you to K. Farrow for all she did at the Freedom Fall Festival.

Literature on the table:

- Pennsylvania Boro News magazine October 2024

***Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:29 p.m. was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Climo.**

All voted. Motion carried.

APPROVED _____ ATTEST _____

MAYOR _____

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer