

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
October 9th, 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, Kim Farrow, Kevin Horan, Jon Kaercher, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary / Treasurer, Ron Miles; Road dept.

Absent: Vice-President; Sydney Eckman, Jeremy Valles

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: none

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Motion to accept Bid from LM&R Excavating which was opened on September 30, 2024 for the Contract No. 2024-01 9th Ave / Laurel Alley Road and drainage improvements with the LVDGR project grant in the amount of \$ 84,998.00 was made by k. Farrow and seconded by Jon Kaercher.

All voted. Motion Carried.

There were only 2 bids submitted: Total Base Bid:

LM&R Excavating Inc. \$84,998.00

E2 Landscape and Construction \$97,110.00

STREET DEPT. REPORT: Review of the street dept. report.

***Motion to approve up to 20 yards of mulch @ \$39.00 a yard from Saddle Your Donkey for the playground at Gazebo Park on Third Ave in Freedom Borough, we will apply for a reimbursement from the ARPA grant was made by K. Horan and seconded K. Farrow. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

Per Ron the street dept. did work on the catch basin on 4th Ave, and 4th Street. Will start leaf pick-up the week of the 21st of October.

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

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:

Review of the September police report. Freedom Borough made up 18% of all calls.

Chief Adam Johnston was approved to retire December 31, 2024.

***Motion to accept the Police / Mayor report as presented was made by K. Horan and seconded by K. Farrow.**

All voted. Motion Carried.

MINUTES:

***Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 09/11/2024 as presented, was made by K. Farrow and seconded by Jon Kaercher.**

All voted. Motion Carried. President John Kaercher abstained from voting as he was not at that meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

All voted. Motion carried.

BILLS:

***Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$33,534.88 and any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by K. Farrow and seconded by Jon Karcher.**

All voted. Motion Carried.

***Motion to authorize the Solicitor to negotiate the payment that is due in question from United Code Consultants**

for the Code Enforcement was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by K. Horan.
All Vote. Motion Carried.

2024 Volunteer Fire Relief payment was direct deposit into the General fund on 09/18/2024 in the amount of \$6,305.13.

*Motion to submit check # 7844 to Freedom Volunteer Fire Dept. on 10/10/2024 in the amount of \$6,305.13 was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion Carried.

2024 Municipal Pension payment was direct deposit into the General fund on September 25, 2024 in the amount of \$18,874.66.

SOLICITOR REPORT: Reminding you at you next workshop meeting is the cutoff date for applicants for the position of Mayor. All elected officials need to fill out an affidavit of Residency.

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

All voted. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDANCE:

RAJSA minutes from August 8, 2024.

E-mail from Dakota Vanryn and his fiancé are interested in cleaning the road side litter on 9th street. See e-mail in packet. Sharon will reach out to PennDOT, Dakota and the Fire Department to make arrangements.

COMMITTEES 2024:

Personnel: Nothing

Finance:

Street Dept:

Recreation: Halloween Parade will be Sunday October 27. We would love to have the petting zoo. It will cost \$300.00 we are looking for donors to help pay for this. Candy and painting station and games are planned.

December 7, 2024 Light-up night

May 17, 2025 Spring Festival date

Utilities:

Grants & Web site:

Fire Dept. Committee:

OLD BUSINESS: Beaver County GIS Data Distribution procedure. Yes, Freedom Boro would like to do this.
ARPA grant update. Everyone has updated packet. Discussion was made on cameras for playground.
Park benches Kevin will get back to Sharon.

NEW BUSINESS:

Literature on the table:

- Brady's Run safely Dispose of Household Chemicals Oct 12, 2024 9:00 a. m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Pennsylvania Boro News magazine September 2024

*Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:42 p.m. was made by K. Horan and seconded by K. Farrow.

All voted. Motion carried.

APPROVED_____ ATTEST_____

MAYOR_____

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer