

**FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
MAY 13, 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, Krysta Climo, Jon Kaercher, Michael Phillips, Solicitor; Bernie Rabik, Mayor Lou Armstrong, Sharon Miller; Boro Secretary/Treasurer,

ABSENT: Jeremy Valles, Ron Miles; Road Dept.

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:

Robin Redfem Rochester, Bags to Blessings planted a tree in the Freedom Boro memorial in memory of Holden Bradley Eckman.

Ramona Armstrong 6th Ave. Freedom here to observe, Brian Valles; 940 6th Ave. here to update on sidewalk permit. Gary Gilarno 1399 5th Ave. here to represent FVFD. Discussion on the letter received from Conway Boro re: meeting date for all to attend. Ken Bowser 911 6th Ave. FVFD.

Loren Mosholder representing Freedom Order of Eagles purchased property from the B.C. repository.

***Motion was made K. Climo and seconded M. Phillips to exonerate the taxes on Parcel # 26-001-0222-01-01 620 4th Ave. Freedom. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

ENGINEERS REPORT: No report

STREET DEPT. REPORT: Review of street department report.

No update on Sink holes: 1601 4th Ave. & 10th St and 4th Ave. Sewage leak at 6th Ave. and Mine Street. Ron was not able to be here tonight.

***Motion to approve the Street Department Report was made M. Phillips and seconded by K. Climo. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

MAYOR REPORT:

Do we know when we will be purchasing the new banners? Per Sydney and K. Climo we Springfield Hardwoods said the trees need another 5 years to grow. Bring him back then. We are still waiting on PennDOT for the Third Ave. signage.

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

POLICE REPORT:

Review of March & April 2026 police report. Freedom had 15.8 % of total calls. Thank you to the BVRPD for tagging cars.

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

MINUTES:

***Motion to approve the Borough monthly meeting on 03/11/2026 was made by K. Climo and seconded by K. Horan. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

\$30,000 DCED grant for the Memorial and gazebo was direct deposit into the General fund on May 1, 2026.

BILLS:

***Motion to Pay the Bills in the amount of \$35,839.15 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.**

SOLICITOR REPORT: Inspirational read by our Solicitor: Every day is a great day. Motion to accept the Solicitors report was made by K. Farrow and seconded by K. Horan. All Voted. Motion Carried.

**CORRESPONDANCE: No report or invoice from Patrick McGuire.
Berkheimer LST tax request:**

**Per Solicitor: Sharon will reach out to Berkheimer and ask for an itemized report on how they came up for the number amount to pay back to Berkheimer / New Sewickley Twp.
RAJSA February and March 2026 minutes.**

***Motion to accept the resignation letter from Jeremy Valles was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by K. Horan. All Voted. Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEES: Personnel:

Finance:

Street Dept:

Recreation: CANCELLED Spring festival & Car Cruise May 16th 2026.

Utilities:

Grants & Web site:

Fire Dept. Committee: There was much discussion on communication regarding Conway and Freedom VFD. Mike Phillips will be contacting other VFD for fact finding information. All are invited to come. Freedom Borough Council voted on May 28th date to attend the meeting that was requested from Conway Borough for discussion on VFD. Asked if we could move the meeting to 6:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

K. Farrow made a Motion to appoint Kevin Horan to fill the open seat for the police Commission.

Jon Kaercher made a motion to appoint Mike Phillips to the open seat for the police Commission.

Per K. Horan I will volunteer. But, if Mike wants it, he can have it. Mike said yes.

***Motion was made by Jon Kaercher and seconded by K. Climo to appoint Mike Phillips to Police Commission.**

Roll Call vote needed:

Jon Kaercher: YES, K. Climo: YES, K. Farrow: NO, M. Phillips: YES, K. Horan: NO, S. Eckman: YES.

Motion will pass with a 4-2 vote.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

Much discussion was made about the dump site with no resolution.

Literature on the table:

- Pennsylvania Boro News magazine February 2026.

***Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:53 p.m. was made by K. Climo and seconded by Jon Kaercher.**

All voted. Motion carried.

APPROVED _____ ATTEST _____

MAYOR _____

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon A. Miller; Freedom Boro Secretary / Treasurer