

**NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**June 11, 2018**

Meeting called to order by President Sarpen at 1900 hours. Present were:

J. Blum – Vice President  
L. O'Brien – Council member  
A. Shemo – Council member  
K. Earll – Council member  
B. Merrill – Council member  
B. Terrell – Council member  
S. Hovis - Solicitor  
T.L. Crawford – Administrator

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Three (3) Boy Scouts were present to observe a public meeting as part of there program to work on merit badges.

D. Brent questioned why the letter rescinding the letter of withdrawal to SRPC was not received by the parties involved. Solicitor Hovis advised the letter was emailed to J. Blum for approval within 48 hours of the meeting and upon approval forwarded to his staff to mail, he cannot explain why it was not received. D. Brent expressed his dissatisfaction that Council adopted a Resolution addressing public comment, that the public did not review. President Sarpen advised it is not new, but basically the same as the Resolution adopted in the late 1990's.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

June 2018- \$ 563,560.15. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve as submitted. Motion carried.

**MINUTES: (May, 2018)**

Motion by A. Shemo, seconded by J. Blum to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

WWTP/Sewer – B. Merrill advised he attended a meeting with representatives from Shrewsbury Borough, Shrewsbury Twp. And Hopewell Twp. Concerning the availability of sewer capacity to the townships. He explained the issue is the transportation by Shrewsbury Borough lines, and their pump stations. He noted the townships are willing to work with the Boroughs since they need capacity along the I83 corridor. Council briefly discussed future upgrades and/or necessary modifications to the plant to meet all the Chesapeake Bay limits, and how the cost would be allocated.

Water – J. Blum reviewed the York Water notice of an increase of 13.3% to our bulk water purchase, noting this will most likely result in an increase in water rates.

Web Page – A. Shemo updated Council on the status of the new web pages, noting it will be in service by July 1, 2018. Solicitor Hovis cautioned Council if they use personal email addresses on the web page, all the emails they receive/send on their computers are subject to the Right to Know Law even personal emails. He suggested they consider just the municipal office email or blind emails. K. Earll questioned if Facebook or Instagram is being considered also. A.

Shemo advised Council of the classes she took at PELRAS, and the liability associated with these types of social media venues. Even if the statements are from a Council member and on a personal social media site, it enjoins the municipality. Solicitor Hovis noted very few municipalities get involved with Facebook due to the liability, and there are numerous cases involving the courts with social media use. Council will table any other action till after the web page has been in a service for a period of time.

SRPC – J. Blum noted they will be hiring 3 new officers, 2 will be SROs. He also noted he inquired if they are staying in the building so Council can make a decision on the public works building. He stated Stewartstown Rep. Robert Herzberger advised they would like the building for “no cost”, as opposed to paying rent. The SRPC requested 2 reps from NF meet with 2 reps from their board to discuss the facility. D. Brent questioned why any changes to the public works building are needed. Council explained the roof leaks, there is no place for the plow drivers to sleep or take a break during a storm. He advised he doesn't believe that happens enough to warrant a need for a place to sleep. L. O'Brien advised he is also not sold on modifications to the public works facility. Raymond Noll stated that they could have used the old scout building that was torn down. Council noted that building had no water, sewer or heat which is why the scouts did not use it for many years. J. Elizabeth Wilson advised the police need a place to sleep and a kitchen due to their long hours and reporting to court after a long shift. Blum advised the residents the SRPC has been looking for a larger facility over the past 2 years and would not sign a lease nor commit to remaining in this facility. T.L. Crawford advised the residents the police facility is exactly as the former police, Chief Jim Childs requested with a fridge, microwave and sink. A SRPD officer (did not identify himself) advised it is only a small under the counter style fridge. She also noted the police have used the Council room if they need to sleep here, as in the blizzard and do have a master key to the entire facility if they need to utilize the municipal side during an emergency. J. Blum also noted all costs for the upkeep, maintenance, utilities, upgrades etc. are paid by the Borough and the Borough is not utilizing the facility round the clock. President Sarpen requested if the SRPC is interested in a lease and a meeting, he appointed L. O'Brien and Mayor E. Paules.

#### BUSINESS:

Dunn Management Plan – T.L. Crawford explained a basic 2 lot subdivision; all conditions have been met and appropriate fees have been paid. PC recommends approval. Motion by A. Shemo, seconded by J. Blum to approve the plan as presented. Motion carried.

Summit Alley – (portion from Main St.– Tank Alley) T.L. Crawford distributed photos and explained the condition of the alley due to large tree and no base. The alley is not used by any adjoining property owners for access to any garages or parking pads. Solicitor Hovis explained if abandoned, both ends may be closed, similar to the portion of 4<sup>th</sup> St. which was abandoned previously. He also noted adjoining owners may quit claim a portion of the alley. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by A. Shemo to begin action to abandon Summit Alley from Main St to Tank Alley. Motion carried.

Young Alley - T.L. Crawford distributed photos and explained the problem with large boulders in the ROW and difficulty for large trucks or snow plows to maneuver the radius of the curve. Solicitor Hovis explained the Borough can require any obstruction be placed in a road ROW to be removed. The Borough engineer suggested widening the curve radius to the adopted ROW would permit better access for trucks and snow plows. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by K. Earll to include widening the radius in the 2018 road projects. Motion carried.

**OTHER:**

L. O'Brien advised the public a PC meeting will be held on June 18, 7:00 pm to review the final plan for the "Franklin Center" property. He provided a brief history noting it meets the ZO criteria and has been ongoing for several years.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Council convened to executive session at 2016 hours for litigation issue. Council reconvened to the regular meeting at 2034 hours.

President Sarpen advised the full sewer payments have not been received from Shrewsbury Borough. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll if full payment of their financial obligation is not received from Shrewsbury Borough by the end of June, the issue will be referred to Solicitor Hovis for action. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll at 2040 hours, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried