

**MINUTES OF NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
April 11, 2022**

New Freedom Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, April 11, 2022. Vice President Ross led those in attendance to The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESENT

Ryan Ross
Erica Rearich
Dennis Sarpin
Burnell Wildasin via phone
David Reisdorf
Inga Andrews

ALSO PRESENT:

Andrew Shaffer, Borough Manager
Andrew Bobby, Acting Mayor
David Jones, Solicitor

ALSO ABSENT:

Kim Butcher, Mayor (duties temporarily relinquished)

BOROUGH COUNCIL ABSENT:

Public Comment / Visitors

Bill Foster addressed Council regarding the proposed installation of outdoor pickleball courts. Mr. Foster spoke in favor of proposed improvement and encouraged Borough Council to pursue and not under plan for the importance of outdoor pickleball courts.

Chris Gabaree, 23 John Randolph Drive, was present to request Council consider returning a basketball net that was removed from the street right-of-way on his property. After discussion, it was agreed that future enforcement notices for structures within the right-of-way include a diagram or sketch that clearly indicates where a structure needs to be relocated. Inga Andrews, made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to return the basketball net to the property and waive the \$50 return to owner fee. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

A resident of Washington Road wished to address Council regarding code violations in the neighborhood. However, due to meeting recording choose not to speak, but was directed to call the Borough Office at a later time.

Erica Rearich asked Council for clarification on open burning and permitting in the Borough and specifically an incident that occurred on Washington Road. Borough Office received a complaint of open burning and in turn contacted Southern Regional Police Department as the authorized enforcement agent per Borough Ordinance. A police officer responded, investigated, and determined a violation did not occur. Council discussed the current open burning ordinance and the desire to amend with current standards. Solicitor Jones was asked to draft an amendment to the current ordinance and report back to Council.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held March 14, 2022, were presented to Council for their review. David Reisdorf, made a motion, seconded by Inga Andrews, to approve the minutes as presented. During discussion Erica Rearich asked that minutes include more detail to provide a better research tool should the need arise on a particular topic. A document outlining suggested additions to the draft minutes was provided to Manager Shaffer. Consequentially, David Reisdorf withdrew his originally motion and tabled the matter.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer Report for the Month of March 2022 was presented to Council for their review. David Reisdorf, made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Residential Parking Permits Ordinance

Manager Shaffer reported the signs have been ordered and will be installed once received. Erica Rearich asked for clarification that Northern Central Railway will be billed for half of the costs of new signs. Manager Shaffer confirmed.

Review of Traffic Study Results - Dickinson Court

Council continued discussion and asked that Borough Staff draft a letter to all residents along Dickinson Court explaining the situation, traffic study results, possible solutions, and to request their attendance during the next Council Meeting scheduled for May 9, 2022.

Marge Goodfellow Park Improvements

In Mayor Butchers absence, the item was again tabled.

Council Chamber Audio Video Improvements

Manager Shaffer presented a quote for audio and video improvements to Council Chambers. David Reisdorf, made a motion, seconded by Inga Andrews, to approve the quote from Business Information Group for Council Chambers Audio and Video Improvements. A roll call vote was requested. Voting Aye: None, Voting Nay: Ryan Ross Erica Rearich, Dennis Sarpen, Burnell Wildasin, David Reisdorf, and Inga Andrews. Motion Failed. A committee to investigate Council Chamber Audio and Video Improvements consisting of Inga Andrews, Burnell Wildasin, David Reisdorf, chaired by Kim Butcher will meet and develop alternatives.

New Business

Solar Message Board

Quotes for the purchase of a solar message board were provided to Council. Use of the sign will include street and utility work, special events, snow emergencies, and other notifications. David Reisdorf, made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to authorize the purchase of trailer mounted solar message board at a cost of \$17,436.25. Motion carried with Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

Volunteer Service Credit - 2021

Manager Shaffer provided a summary roster sheet of all fire company members that qualified for a service credit for 2021. Erica Rearich, made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen to approve the roster as presented for 2021. Motion Carried.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Jones provided a clean copy of the stormwater ordinance to ARRO Consulting.

Solicitor Jones suggested amending the public comment policy to allow residents to address council anonymously.

Manager Report

Manager Shaffer provided a written report for the month of March 2022, hereinto attached.

President's Report

Andrew Bobby reported that Penn Waste has agreed to a penalty of \$5 per service unit. Borough Staff will be coordinating and applying the rebate to each account. Andrew Bobby also warned that due to rising costs, residents should expect increases in refuse billing in 2023 with the current contract expiring December 31, 2022.

Andrew Bobby updated Council on EMS meetings held. The next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2022 at Shrewsbury Township.

Mayor's Report**Southern Regional Police Department**

The police activity reports from February 27 to March 26 were presented to Council for their review.

The February 2022 financial report was presented to Council for their review.

Acting Mayor Bobby described Project Lifesaver through the York County Sheriff's Office. Project Lifesaver is proactive electronic tracking program used to assist in locating missing people.

Southern Regional Police Department has purchased a new vehicle and equipment for the K-9 unit using donated funds.

The draft intergovernmental agreement is finalized and will be turned over to Solicitor Ruth for his review. After which, the Police Commission will review and authorize distribution to the member municipalities.

Glen Rock Borough will be holding Town Hall Meetings to discuss the police department.

Erica Rearich reported that a resident of Glen Rock wrote a moving letter to Southern Regional Police Department and Officer Smith after assistance was provided during a struggle with mental illness.

Engineer Report

Jacob Sechrist, E.I.T. with Buchart Horn provided Council with a report of services for March 2022.

Erica Rearich questioned Buchart Horn's work in 2013 on creating a GIS System. This system was outdated, and a complete modernization was needed for functionality.

Water System Report

Council was presented with the March 2022 Operating Report for their review.

Erica Rearich asked for an update on Summit Grove's repairs for water consumption. Manager Shaffer reported on the meeting that was held, in which Summit Grove provided updates on repairs, fundings, and system segmentation. They are currently in the funding seeking phase but hope to complete a large section of repairs in the Fall of 2022.

Erica Rearich asked for an update on the York Water Agreement. Borough Council asked for a meeting with York Water to begin discussing alternatives to the current agreement.

Wastewater System Report

Council was presented with the March 2022 Operating Report for their review.

Zoning & Code Enforcement Report

The Permit, Code Enforcement, and Land Development Reports for March 2022 were presented to Borough Council for their review.

Recreation Report

The April Meeting Report was provided for Council's review. Councilmember Ross provided a summary of the meeting.

The Farmers Market will be held at Smith Woods beginning on the fourth Saturday in May and continue on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month.

Indoor pickleball continues to be successful and well attended.

The Recreation Commission has requested additional shade for the playground.

Ryan Ross provided a summary of findings from the Pickleball Committee.

Committee Findings:

- Location of an outdoor pickleball area would be best situated at Marge Goodfellow Park
- Placement could align with the current tennis courts
- Develop an area of 60' by 120'
- Four separate courts would fulfill the citizens requests
- Surface types vary, however, in preferential order are
 - Composite
 - Concrete
 - Asphalt
- Surface should match standard colors
 - Green boarder
 - Blue court
 - White markings
- Lighting is preferred and will increase utilization
- Ideally the pickleball area would be surrounded by an eight-foot-high fence that will catch loose balls and ensure safety inside and outside the court
- Installation of a wind screen in conjunction with fencing increases player enjoyability and aids to keep courts clean and free of debris
- Placement of an additional security camera would ensure protection
- Court construction could range from \$11 to \$22 per square foot
- Installation of temporary lines on the existing tennis courts is not recommended

Following discussion, Inga Andrews, made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to install temporary markings in contrasting color on one tennis court for two pickleball courts. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Ryan Ross. Additionally, the Borough will begin working with the engineer to develop a plan for the placement of outdoor pickleball courts at Marge Goodfellow Park.

Burnell Wildasin left the meeting at 9:39PM.

Erica Rearich requested the minutes reflect the Recreation Commission is paying \$15 per day of usage for pickleball at the Community Center. David Reisdorf, made a motion, to waive all fees charge to the Recreation Commission, which was later redacted. Over the next month, Council with gather data on Recreation Commission programs, revenues, and expenditures in an effort to establish a formalized plan.

Committee Reports

Business Development

Nothing to report

EMS & Fire Funding

Previously reported. The next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2022.

Infrastructure

A meeting was held at the wastewater facility with RK&K. The project is still on schedule.

Intergovernmental

Nothing to report

Pickle Court Installation

Previously reported.

Personnel

Nothing to report

Public Safety

Nothing to report

2023 Sesquicentennial

The committee is working on a logo.

Correspondence

None at this time.

Public Comment

None at this time.

Executive Session

None at this time.

Adjournment

Adjournment until the next meeting scheduled for May 9, 2022. Adjournment was at 9:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew N. Shaffer

Borough Manager

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH

MARCH 2022 - MANAGER'S REPORT

DCNR PEER STUDY

The peer consultant has closed the recreational survey and is currently analyzing the results. In parallel, an intergovernmental agreement is currently in the draft phase and is expected to be delivered by the end of April.

2022 STREET PROJECTS

A pre-construction meeting was held with Kinsley Construction. With milling to begin on April 11, letters were sent to all properties along the project list, informing residents of the upcoming work. Weather permitting, the complete list is expecting to be finished by the end of April.

SYCRPC

Proposals for professional services relating to updating the Regional Comprehensive Plan were recently reviewed. C.S. Davidson was selected as the consultant and will begin in the next few weeks. The entire Regional Comprehensive Plan update is expected to take 18 months to complete. A new ordinance and intergovernmental agreement of cooperation will need to be passed by all member municipalities updating the current agreement and allowing New Freedom Borough to join.

PUBLIC COMPLAINT FORM

A new form has been added to the website to allow residents to submit complaints or areas of concern to the Borough Office. The form can be accessed under the "Residents" dropdown at the top of each page. As with other online forms, submissions are incorporated into the Borough's GIS system for proper tracking.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Over the last few weeks, staff set a task to draft a proposal for the creation of a Capital Reserve Fund for Vehicles and Equipment. All assets over \$10,000 in value were evaluated for replacement over the next fifteen years. With a goal of flatlining capital outlay expense and proper fiscal planning, a full proposal will be distributed before the May Council Meeting.

KNOX BOX ORDINANCE

A letter outlining ordinance requirements along with specification sheets on the types of Knox Boxes available are ready to be mailed to property owners. Knox Boxes for the Office, Public Works Building, and Community Center will be mounted to allow property owners to view installation before purchasing. Installation will be approved by Borough Office and Fire Chief.

TRAIL TOWN BLOOM GRANT

I was privileged to be a part of the selection committee for the latest round of the Trail Town BLOOM Grants. Twenty-two applications for over \$60,000 were initially received and scored. A press release announcing grant recipients is tentatively scheduled for April 18.

ACH SERVICE

As previously mentioned, office staff is working to setup the ability to allow residents to enroll in an automatic withdraw from a checking or savings account for utility billings. By the end of April, we will begin offering the service for the next round of billings.