

**MINUTES OF NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
February 13, 2023**

New Freedom Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, February 13, 2023. President Bobby led those in attendance to The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM.

BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESENT

Andrew Bobby
Ryan Ross
Erica Rearich
Burnell Wildasin
Dennis Sarpen
David Reisdorf

ALSO PRESENT:

Kim Butcher, Mayor
Andrew Shaffer, Borough Manager
David Jones, Solicitor

ALSO ABSENT:

BOROUGH COUNCIL ABSENT:

Inga Andrews

Local Government Training

President Bobby provided a brief training on the Manager/Council form of government as recognized by New Freedom Borough.

President Bobby read a statement in response to the January 9, 2023 meeting.

President Bobby made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf to enter the following resolution into the minutes:

Whereas, Councilor Rearich has repeatedly used innuendo and off handed comments to deride and ridicule this Council and the Borough Manager; and

Whereas, the Councilor has at the January 9th Council meeting specifically inferred and specifically stated and specifically accused the Borough Manager of colluding with SEK accounting for some personal motive; and

Whereas, she continues to paint the most derogatory picture of this Council and the Borough Manager in public, in this case misconstruing the words “professional relationship” with “personal relationship” and calling the use of the Manager’s name as grocery store language proving a personal relationship, and

Whereas, such conduct is detrimental to the Council and its conduct of business; now, therefore, be it recorded in the minutes, that Councilor Rearich has been censured.

David Reisdorf, made a motion to call the question, seconded by Burnell Wildasin. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

The motion to censure Erica Rearich carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

Public Comment / Visitors

Kathy Badders, 21 East Main Street, requested additional clarification regarding the placement of an accessory structure on her property. Council informed Ms. Badders that they cannot waive any requirements under the Borough's Zoning Ordinance. Manager Shaffer was directed to provide Ms. Badders a written opinion of the Zoning Officer. Should Ms. Badders disagree with the opinion, she may appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Members of the Sesquicentennial Committee, Kelly Salla and Ginne Neugebauer requested approval from Council to hold a parade on May 20 in conjunction with a celebration in Marge Goodfellow Park. David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross, to approve the parade route from South Shaffer down Main Street and Front Street to Marge Goodfellow Park and corresponding celebration. Motion carried.

A request was made by the VFW to hold Memorial Day activities at Veterans Park and utilize the snack shack. David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpén, to approve the request. Motion carried.

Adam Laser, 230 North Constitution Avenue, expressed concern with the speed of vehicles along Constitution Avenue. Mayor Butcher agreed to pass along the concern to Southern Regional Police Department. Additionally, Manager Shaffer will ask Public Works to relocate the radar speed signs to North Constitution Avenue.

President Bobby made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross to move up on the agenda the consideration of the Memorandum of Understanding with Rose Fire Company. Motion Carried. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Rose Fire Company outlining the allocation of \$45,000 per year for 20 years (or until the debt service is satisfied) for the purchase of a new aerial. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held January 9, 2023, were presented to Council for their review. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to approve the minutes as presented. Manager Shaffer requested additional clarification on the motion to approve the December 12, 2022 minutes during the January 9, 2023 meeting. Requested changes were not ratified with an amended motion. Burnell Wildasin made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to ratify the amendments to the December 12, 2022 minutes. Erica Rearich requested changes to the January 9, 2023 minutes. The original motion was amended by Ryan Ross and Burnell Wildasin to reflect the requested changes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

President Bobby requested Council consider adopting a policy to request councilmembers provide questions to the treasurer's report before the meeting. All questions submitted will be read aloud during the public meeting. President Bobby made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen, to adopt said policy. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

The Treasurer's Report for the Month of January 2023 was presented to Council for their review. Burnell Wildasin made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

Unfinished BusinessMarge Goodfellow Park Improvements

Manager Shaffer reported an award of \$15,000 was received under York County's Open Space Grant Program for the feasibility and master site plan development.

Chapter 225, Zoning, Article VIII, Sign Regulations, Update Request

Manager Shaffer reported a meeting occurred with Solicitor Jones to review the draft ordinance amendment.

Stormwater Channel – North Constitution Avenue

Manager Shaffer reported that the application has been submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Example Quality of Life Ordinance

Council continued to discuss an example Quality of Life Ordinance. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to discuss the example ordinance. Manager Shaffer will amend the draft ordinance based on Council's discussion.

Intergovernmental Agreement of Cooperation for Recreation with Shrewsbury Township

Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to amend the draft ordinance to include four members from each participant. Motion carried with Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

Financial Statement & Audit Services Proposal

Erica Rearich made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf to request a meeting with the current auditor. During discussion Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to call the vote. This motion was withdrawn. Erica Rearich amended her motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to allow the current auditor until March 1 to respond to a request for a meeting. Motion carried. Should the need arise, Council will hold a continuation meeting on March 2 at 6:00PM.

Cleaning Services at Community Center

Council discussed the current cleaning arrangement at the Community Center. No action was taken.

New Business[Resolution Appointing and Reaffirming Property Maintenance Board of Appeals Appointments](#)

Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to approve the resolution. Motion carried.

[Resolution Authorizing Rose Fire Company Services and Participation at Events](#)

Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to approve the resolution with the addition of May 20, 2023 for the Sesquicentennial Parade. Motion carried.

[Approval of McDade Reverse Subdivision/Lot Line Consolidation Plan](#)

David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpfen, to approve the plan. Motion carried.

[Application for Payment #2 – Liberty Restoration – Office Roof Replacement Project](#)

Burnell Wildasin made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross, to approve the application for payment in the amount of \$60,397.20. Motion carried.

[Bond Reduction Request – Burkentine Builders – Franklin Square Development](#)

Dennis Sarpfen made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to approve the request for reduction in the amount of \$295,980.50. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

July Council Meeting Date

Manager Shaffer will be unavailable for the scheduled meeting in July. Manager Shaffer will coordinate with the Assistant Secretary.

Administrative Reports

Solicitor

Solicitor Jones provided Council research on the power and duties of the Mayor.

Manager

Manager Shaffer provided a written report for January 2023.

President

Nothing additional.

Mayor

The police activity reports from December 4 to December 31 were presented to Council for their review.

The December 2022 financial report was not available for the meeting.

Engineer

Council was presented with monthly reports from Warehaus and ARRO.

Water System

Council was presented with the January 2023 Operating Report for their review.

Wastewater System

Council was presented with the January 2023 Operating Report for their review.

Zoning & Code Enforcement Report

The Permit, Code Enforcement, and Land Development Reports for January 2023 were presented to Borough Council for their review.

Recreation Report

The February Meeting Report was presented to Borough Council for their review. Ryan Ross provided a summary of the meeting.

Committee Reports

Business Development

Nothing to report.

EMS & Fire Funding

Nothing to report.

Infrastructure

Nothing to report.

Pickle Court Installation

Nothing to report.

Personnel

Nothing to report.

Public Safety

Nothing to report.

2023 Sesquicentennial

A prom will be held on June 10 and cover music from different eras. Burnell Wildasin made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross, to donate the use of the Community Center Auditorium. Motion carried.

Council Chamber Audio & Video Improvements

Mayor Butcher will coordinate will Manager Shaffer to prepare an estimate.

Correspondence

President Bobby made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross, to add discussion of the Tasteful Occasions lease to the agenda. Motion carried. Erica Rearich made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to reject all requested changes by Tasteful Occasions. Burnell Wildasin made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to call the question. Motion carried. A roll call vote was taken, voting Aye, Erica Rearich, David Reisdorf, Burnell Wildasin, voting Nay, Andy Bobby, Dennis Sarpen, Ryan Ross. Mayor Butcher broke the tie vote and voted Aye to reject the requested changes.

Public Comment

Nothing additional.

Adjournment

Adjournment was at 11:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew N. Shaffer

Borough Manager

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH

JANUARY 2023 - MANAGER'S REPORT

NEWSLETTER

The First Edition of "New Freedom News" was completed and mailed to all mailing addresses within New Freedom Borough. Additionally, an electronic version was placed on our website and currently outranks any other page for number of visits. While future versions might not be as lengthy, our goal is to utilize this communication tool on a quarterly basis.

YORK COUNTY OPEN SPACE GRANT

We received notification of project approval under the York County Open Space and Land Preservation Grant Program for the Master Site Plan and Feasibility Study at Marge Goodfellow Park. This funding will be partnered with committed developer funds.

SAVVY CITIZEN

New Freedom Borough was recently highlighted by Savvy Citizen for utilization of the application to engage and inform residents. Numerous other municipalities in York County have signed on or are considering Savvy Citizen.

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

Public Works Employee, Garry Ferree has submitted his retirement notice effective March 20, 2023. We thank him for his ten years of service to New Freedom Borough.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ITEMS

- Quality of Life Ordinance review
- Authorize advertisement of Intermunicipal Agreement of Cooperation for Recreation
- Resolution affirming appointments to the Property Maintenance Board of Appeals
- Resolution Authorizing Rose Fire Company Services
- Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Rose Fire Company

NOTEWORTHY TASKS

- Prepared the 2022 Proportionate Share Report and supporting data. This report will be delivered to Shrewsbury and Railroad Borough in February.
- Attended Rail Trail Towns Business Networking Group Meeting.
- Drafted a Memorandum of Understanding with Rose Fire Company for an annual contribution to fund the purchase of a new aerial.
- Attended Annual York County Tourism Industry Event.
- Continued to work with DEP and ARRO to resolve stormwater concerns off North Constitution Avenue. A Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit application will be submitted once additional information is gathered.
- Completed annual required Department of Community and Economic Development reports, including Municipal Elected and Appointed Officials, Municipal Tax Information, and Municipal Survey of Financial Condition.
- Held additional CPR and First Aid Training for employees.
- Attended York County Municipal Administrators Association monthly meeting.
- Met with Bill Taylor to discuss stream cleanup opportunities for Scout programs.
- Attended York County Stormwater Consortium Management Meeting.
- Completed annual MS-965 Report for Liquid Fuels Funding for 2022.