

**MINUTES OF NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
July 10, 2023**

New Freedom Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, July 10, 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
Dennis Sarpen
David Reisdorf

ALSO PRESENT:

Kim Butcher, Mayor
David Jones, Solicitor
Wade Portner, Building Inspector

ALSO ABSENT:

Andrew Shaffer, Borough Manager

BOROUGH COUNCIL ABSENT:

Inga Andrews
Burnell Wildasin

Public Comment / Visitors

Myra Gillis updated Council on holding a Christmas in July event on July 22. Dennis Sarpen made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross, to close Railroad Alley during the event. Motion carried.

Ray Noll expressed concern with the overgrown hillside owned by The Summit at New Freedom Homeowners Association. A violation letter was previously sent during the month of June.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held June 12, 2023, were presented to Council for their review. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen, to approve the minutes as presented. During discussion, Erica Rearich requested modifications. The motion and second was amended to the requested changes and carried.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for the Month of June 2023 was not yet available.

Unfinished Business

Chapter 225, Zoning, Article VIII, Sign Regulations, Update Request
Solicitor Jones provided a revised ordinance to Borough Staff.

Stormwater Channel – North Constitution Avenue

Manager Shaffer reported no additional approvals have been received.

Mulberry Lane – Stormwater Retention Pond

After review of the infrastructure by Borough Staff, it was recommended not to assume additionally responsibility. The consensus of Council was the same. A letter will be sent to the current property owner.

New BusinessCapitalization Policy

Manager Shaffer prepared a Capitalization Policy for assets following GASB 34. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpem to approve the policy. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

Resolution of Designation for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpem to approve a resolution of designation for the Hazard Mitigation Grant. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich and David Reisdorf.

Administrative ReportsSolicitor

Nothing additional.

Manager

Nothing additional.

President

President Bobby provided a summary of comparison between the refuse contracts of Glen Rock and New Freedom Borough.

President Bobby reiterated the Borough stance on infestation issues and that it remains a dispute between property owners.

Mayor

The police activity reports from May 21 to June 17 were presented to Council for their review.

The May 2023 financial report was not yet available.

Mayor Butcher updated Council on Glen Rock Borough negotiations.

Engineer

Council was presented with monthly reports from Warehaus and ARRO.

Water System

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

Wastewater System

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

Zoning & Code Enforcement Report

The Permit, Code Enforcement, and Land Development Reports for June 2023 were presented to Borough Council for their review. A discussion was held regarding a rental ordinance. Council agreed to add the item to upcoming agendas.

Recreation Report

The July Meeting Report was not yet available for Borough Council. However, Ryan Ross provided a summary of the meeting.

Committee Reports

Business Development

Nothing to report.

EMS & Fire Funding

Mayor Butcher reported budget season is approaching and asked Council to consider additional funding for EMS.

Infrastructure

Nothing to report.

Personnel

Nothing to report.

Public Safety

Nothing to report.

2023 Sesquicentennial

Burnell Wildasin reported the committee is looking into a baseball game at Veterans Park.

Correspondence

None at this time.

Public Comment

Bruce Merrill asked Council to consider holding a “meet the candidates” event before the general election. Individual candidates may hold events on their own time and funds.

Dennis Sarpen mentioned damaged to Marge Goodfellow Park following the Lions Club Carnival. Mayor Butcher will address with the Lions Club.

Executive Session

Not needed at this time.

Adjournment

Adjournment was at 8:37PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew N. Shaffer

Borough Manager