

**MINUTES OF NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
January 8, 2024**

New Freedom Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, January 8, 2024. 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  
Burnell Wildasin - via phone  
Dennis Cummings  
David Reisdorf

**ALSO PRESENT:**

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

**ALSO ABSENT:**

None

**BOROUGH COUNCIL ABSENT:**

**Public Comment / Visitors**

Bernadette Reineberg was present to request clarification on what documentation is desired regarding the residential occupancy of the Stop and Chill at 204 North Constitution Avenue. President Bobby reminded Ms. Reineberg that there is no need for monitoring and monitoring has not been requested by the Borough. It will be her choice to proceed with additional measures.

**Meeting Procedures**

President Bobby presented a document regarding meeting procedures. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen, to approve the guidelines as they relate to small boards. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held December 11, 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 and President Bobby provided suggested corrections.

1. Include information on the 2024 Budget Meeting Dates under the 2024 Meeting Schedule.
2. Reword the paragraph under public comment regarding Bernadette Reineberg to include: "It was suggested that Ms. Reineberg hire a 3rd party to monitor the property and provide a report to the Borough."

The motion was amended to include the suggested corrections. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

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

### **Unfinished Business**

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

Manager Shaffer reported the Local Government Advisory Committee has reviewed the draft ordinance and provided recommendation for consideration by the York County Planning Commission noting a few grammatical corrections.

#### Stormwater Channel – North Constitution Avenue

Manager Shaffer reported that the Department of Environmental Protection has 90 days to review the Technical Deficiency response letter.

#### Welcome Signage

New posts will be installed to display signage from community organizations adjacent to the newly installed welcome signs.

#### Council Chamber Audio/Visual

Manager Shaffer presented a quote of \$1,382.85 for the purchase of two televisions, two carts, and necessary wiring for the Council Chambers. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf, to approve \$800 for the purchase of one television, cart, and wiring. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

#### Payment Application - Crosswalk Improvement Project

Burnell Wildasin made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen to approve Payment Application #3 (Final) in the Amount of \$19,900.00 to Kinsley Construction Inc. for the Crosswalk Improvement Project. Motion carried.

#### Payment Application - Street Improvement Project

Dennis Sarpen made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross to approve Payment Application #2 (Final) in the Amount of \$15,921.54 to Kinsley Construction Inc. for the 2023 Street Improvement Project. Motion carried.

### **Administrative Reports**

#### Solicitor

Stock and Leader will hold a Municipal 101 training on January 30, 2024.

Manager

Manager Shaffer provided a verbal report for the month of December 2023. A grant award notification of \$1.14 million dollars for Phase 1 Improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Facility was highlighted.

President Bobby requested the grant opportunity under the Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program be placed on the February agenda.

President

Nothing additional.

Mayor

Mayor Butcher reported a meeting will be held January 19, 2024 at Shrewsbury Township as a follow up to implementation of additional funding for EMS services.

Police

The Southern Regional Police Department activity reports from November 5 to December 2 were presented to Council for their review.

The November 2023 Southern Regional Police Department financial report was not available.

A discussion occurred regarding the condemned building at 1 East Franklin Street and possible harborage of people experiencing homelessness. Manager Shaffer will send a letter to the property owner advising of the situation.

New Freedom's portion of the 2024 Southern Regional Police Department Budget was adjusted to \$777,391.

Engineer

Council was presented with monthly reports from Warehaus and ARRO.

Water System

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

Wastewater System

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

Zoning & Code Enforcement Report

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

Council discussed the maintenance of pools in the off-season and regulations set-forth in the Property Maintenance Code. While the Property Maintenance Code does not specifically regulate maintenance in the off-season, it does state that pools need to be operational. Council requested a draft amendment to require the covering of pools.

#### Recreation Report

A January Meeting Report was presented to Borough Council. Ryan Ross provided a summary of the meeting.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### Business Development

Nothing to report.

##### EMS & Fire Funding

Nothing to report.

##### Health & Safety

Mayor Butcher reported that residents along Waneta Street expressed appreciation for completion of the infestation treatment.

##### Infrastructure

Nothing to report.

##### Personnel

Nothing to report.

##### Public Safety

Nothing to report.

##### Rental Housing and Occupancy Ordinance

Nothing to report as the committee did not yet schedule a meeting.

#### **Correspondence**

Nothing additional.

#### **Public Comment**

Nothing additional. Members of the audience spoke but did not identify themselves to Council.

It was noted that the committee report for the Cleaning of Community Center should be added to the agenda.

A question arose regarding 1 East Franklin and the condition of the building. Currently the building is condemned and tied up in litigation.

**Executive Session**

Not needed at this time.

**Adjournment**

At 7:51PM, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Andrew N. Shaffer*

Borough Manager