

**MINUTES OF NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
March 11, 2024**

New Freedom Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, March 11, 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

Dennis Cummings

David Reisdorf *(via phone)*

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Kim Butcher, Mayor *(via phone)*

Jason Sabol, Solicitor

Andrew Shaffer, Borough Manager

**ALSO ABSENT:**

David Jones, Solicitor

**BOROUGH COUNCIL ABSENT:**

**Public Comment / Visitors**

John Woods with Rose Fire Company was in attendance to provide call reports for February 2024.

Ashley Zimmerman & Bob Dickson with Northern Central Railway were in attendance to provide a report on activities and performance in 2023. A request was made for a refund of 50% of the 2023 Amusement Tax Collected. These funds would be utilized to support community events such as Freedom Fest and Smoke on the Rail, as well as implementing a beatification project along the Hertiage Rail Trail / Northern Central Railway Corridor. Action on the request will be placed on the April Agenda for consideration by Borough Council.

Ginnie Neugebauer updated Council on the installation of additional signage in Marge Goodfellow Park in recognition of the sesquicentennial. The committee has received the final design and will continue to coordinate with the Borough and New Freedom Lions Club.

Bernadette Reineberg was present to provide additional concerns on occurrences at the Stop and Chill at 204 North Constitution Avenue. It appears the building is being utilized as a warehouse or distribution center for products. Borough Staff and Solicitor Sabol will review the Borough's Zoning Ordinance to determine next steps.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held February 12, 2024 were presented to Council for their review. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report for the Month of February 2024 was presented to Council for their review. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business**Chapter 225, Zoning, Article VIII, Sign Regulations, Update Request

Manager Shaffer provided an updated draft based on recommendations following York County Planning Commission's review.

Stormwater Channel – North Constitution Avenue

Manager Shaffer reported that the permit review is still listed as pending.

Volunteer Service Credit Resolution

Manager Shaffer provided Council a copy of the current resolution that sets the point matrix for the Volunteer Service Credit Program. President Bobby will provide Shrewsbury Borough's matrix for comparison before April's Council Meeting.

**New Business**Sale of 2006 Ford F-350

Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to accept the highest bid in the amount of \$14,000 for sale of the 2006 Ford F-350. Motion carried.

Appointment of Recreation Director

Manager Shaffer provided an update on the hiring process. Action on this item will be tabled until April's Council Meeting.

**Administrative Reports**Solicitor

Nothing at this time.

Manager

Manager Shaffer provided a report for the month of February 2024, as well as a grant report listing closed and current grants since 2021.

President

President Bobby briefly summarized the benefits of securing grant funds for projects.

Mayor

Nothing at this time.

Police

The most recent Southern Regional Police Department activity report was not available for tonight's meeting.

The December 2023 and January 2024 Southern Regional Police Department financial reports were presented to Council for their review.

In addition, Erica Rearich updated Council on department activities as reported during the February 2024 Southern Regional Police Department meeting.

Engineer

Council was presented with monthly reports from Warehaus and ARRO.

Water System

Council was presented with the February 2024 Operating Report for their review.

Wastewater System

Council was presented with the February 2024 Operating Report for their review.

Zoning & Code Enforcement Report

The Permit, Code Enforcement, and Land Development Reports for February 2024 were presented to Borough Council for their review.

Recreation Report

The March 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

Nothing to report.

Infrastructure

Nothing to report.

Personnel

Nothing to report.

Public Safety

Nothing to report.

Rental Housing and Occupancy Ordinance

Nothing to report. The committee was encouraged to meet and report back for the April 2024 Borough Council Meeting.

Community Center Cleaning

Nothing to report. The Recreation Commission has requested Council re-consider the purchase of a floor scrubber for the auditorium. Council does not wish to pursue the purchase.

**Correspondence**

An invite to the March 28, 2024 York County Borough's Association Meeting was provided to Council.

**Public Comment**

Joanie Mason expressed concern with the recently released public surveys as part of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. Some of the questions provide a false sense of placing certain land development decisions in the hands of the elected officials.

**Executive Session**

Not needed at this time.

**Adjournment**

At 7:51PM, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Andrew N. Shaffer*

Borough Manager