

**MINUTES OF NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
December 9, 2024**

New Freedom Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, December 9, 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  
Dennis Cummings  
David Reisdorf

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Kim Butcher, Mayor  
Walter Tilley, Solicitor  
Andrew Shaffer, Borough Manager

**ALSO ABSENT:**

**BOROUGH COUNCIL ABSENT:**

Burnell Wildasin

**Announcement of Previously Held Executive Session**

President Bobby announced an executive session that was held following the November 18, 2024 council meeting to consult with legal counsel. No action was taken during or after the executive session.

**Public Comment - Agenda Items**

Myra Gillis, 29 South Third Street, provided a summary following Saturdays Christmas Parade.

**Visitors / Presentations**

Chief Woods with Rose Fire Company presented the November call report.

**Public Comment - Agenda Items**

Denise Butcher, 26 South Constitution Avenue, read a statement over concerns with the Recreation Commission and changes with the pickleball program.

Terri Janiak with Vortex Brewing, commended all those involved on the Christmas Parade.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held November 18, 2024 were presented to Council for their review. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen, to approve the minutes as presented. Erica Rearich made a motion, seconded by Dennis Cummings to amend the motion of Ryan Ross to include multiple wording changes. Motion failed with Nay votes from Ryan Ross, Dennis Sarpen, David Reisdorf, and Andrew Bobby. The original motion to approve the minutes as presented stood. Motion carried with Nay votes from Erica Rearich and Dennis Cummings.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2024 was presented to Council for their review. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Dennis Cummings, to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business**Stormwater Channel – North Constitution Avenue

Following last month's meeting and concerns from Donna Rusell, 212 North Constitution Avenue, over erosion and settling, Manager Shaffer provided pictures from September 2022 and December 2024 for comparison. Mrs. Russell provided pictures as well. Following discussion, Council determined no additional responsibility.

Tasteful Occasion Lease Renewal

Manager Shaffer reported that the lease has been executed. Council continued to express concern over the storage of propane tanks. These concerns and demand to remove have been ignored.

Legal Analysis – Code of Ordinances

Manager Shaffer is awaiting final language from General Code following Council's previous modifications.

Paul Smith Library

A meeting was held with York County Library, Paul Smith Library, and Mason Dixon Library over the concerns to force Paul Smith and Mason Dixon to become branch libraries within the York County Library System. This decision could impact staff and hours at both locations. A meeting is currently set to discuss the situation with Senator Kristen Phillips Hill.

York County Hazard Mitigation Plan

David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross to approve a resolution adopting the York County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Dennis Cummings.

**New Business**2025 Meeting Schedule

Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen to authorize advertisement of the 2025 meeting schedule. During discussion, Council modified the schedule to maintain the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday for Council meetings except for October. The original motion was amended to include the modification. Motion carried.

2025-2027 Mowing Contract Bids

David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen to approve the low bid from Baer's Repair in the average weekly amount of \$1,250. Motion carried.

2025 Tax Resolution

David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen to approve a resolution setting the tax rates for 2025 noting no increase. Motion carried.

Refuse & Recycling Fee Resolution

Andrew Bobby made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen to approve a resolution amending the quarterly refuse and recycling rate. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Fee Schedule Resolution

Erica Rearich made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf to increase the cleaning and security deposit by \$100 for all Community Center rentals. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Ryan Ross.

Andrew Bobby made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross to clarify that non-profits are entitled to a maximum of three half priced rentals annually. Non-profits that exceed the three half priced rentals annually will pay the full rate. Motion carried.

Andrew Bobby made a motion, seconded by David Reisdorf to further clarify that the New Freedom Lions Club receives three free rentals annually, the South-Central York County Senior Center receives three free rentals annually, and blood drives are free but must be scheduled Monday through Thursday on non-holidays. Motion carried.

Andrew Bobby made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross to approve the miscellaneous fee schedule with the above modifications. Motion carried.

Southern Regional Police Department 2025 Budget

David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Dennis Cummings to approve the Southern Regional Police Department budget for 2025. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Dennis Sarpen.

Southern York County Regional Recreation Commission 2025 Budget

Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Dennis Sarpen to approve the Southern York County Regional Recreation Commission budget for 2025. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

2025 Budget

David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross to approve the 2025 budget as presented. Motion carried.

**Administrative Reports**

Solicitor

Nothing additional at this time.

Manager

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

President

Nothing additional at this time.

Mayor

Nothing additional at this time.

Police

The Southern Regional Police Department activity report for the period of October 6 to November 2 was provided to Council for their review.

The October 2024 Southern Regional Police Department financial report was provided to Council for their review.

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

Engineer

Council was presented with monthly reports from Warehaus and ARRO.

Water System

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

Wastewater System

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

Zoning & Code Enforcement Report

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

Recreation Report

The December meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2024.

**Committee Reports**

Business Development

Nothing to report.

EMS & Fire Funding

Mayor Butcher provided a report on EMS call distribution. Rose Fire is currently in the process of nominations and elections for 2025 officers.

Public Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Infrastructure

Nothing to report.

Personnel

Nothing to report.

Rental Housing and Occupancy Ordinance

Nothing to report.

**Correspondence**

Nothing additional.

**Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items**

Joanie Mason questioned whether there has been a noticeable increase in recycling. Following implementation of the latest refuse and recycling contract the annual tonnage has increased.

Erica Rearich questioned when the office received notification of the fireworks display following Saturdays parade. The office followed the same procedure as the New Freedom Lions Club July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks.

**Adjournment**

At 9:54PM, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2025 at 6:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Andrew N. Shaffer*

Borough Manager