

**MINUTES OF NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
January 13, 2025**

New Freedom Borough Council met in Regular Session on Monday, January 13, 2025. President Bobby led those in attendance to The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The meeting was called to order at 6:45PM.

**BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESENT**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:**

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

**ALSO ABSENT:**

**BOROUGH COUNCIL ABSENT:**

**Announcement of Previously Held Executive Session**

President Bobby announced an executive session that was held immediately before tonight's meeting to discuss the potential acquisition of property and to consult with legal counsel regarding the lawsuit filed by Devin Taylor. No action was taken during or after the executive session.

**Visitors / Presentations**

Chief Woods with Rose Fire Company presented the December call report, statistics from 2024, and introduced appointments for 2025; Chief Chris Boyer and President Rich Palmer. Council and Mayor Butcher thanked Chief Woods for his service to the community.

**Public Comment - Agenda Items**

None at this time.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held December 9, 2024 were presented to Council for their review. Ryan Ross made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin, to approve the minutes as presented. Erica Rearich made a motion to amend the motion of Ryan Ross to include wording changes. Motion failed due to lack of a second. 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 December 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**Stormwater Channel – North Constitution Avenue

No updates as final seeding of the swale area will occur in the Spring.

Legal Analysis – Code of Ordinances

Dennis Sarpen made a motion, seconded by Ryan Ross, to ratify authorization of advertisement for codification following the legal analysis. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

Paul Smith Library

An informational packet including a Service Optimization and Efficiencies Study, January 2024, from the York County Libraries and a summary of the meeting held November 19 was provided to Council. At this time, no additional meetings have been scheduled.

**New Business**Vehicle Purchase

David Reisdorf made a motion, seconded by Burnell Wildasin to authorize the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 from Hondru Fleet in the amount of \$53,273.00, a budgeted Capital Reserve Fund expenditure for 2025. Motion carried with a Nay vote from Erica Rearich.

**Administrative Reports**Solicitor

Solicitor Jones invited Council to Stock and Leader's Municipal 201 on January 30, 2025

Manager

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

Manager Shaffer provided a letter of grant award under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Program. Funds for this project will be used to replace and update the stormwater infrastructure along Bailey Avenue.

President

Nothing additional at this time.

Mayor

Mayor Butcher thanked Public Works for their work during recent snowstorms.

Police

Reports were not available this month following a change in the monthly meeting date of the Southern Regional Police Department Board.

Erica Rearich updated Council on department activities as reported during the December 2024 Southern Regional Police Department meeting.

Engineer

Council was presented with monthly reports from Warehaus and ARRO. A discussion occurred regarding the requirement of a decommissioning bond for solar improvements. The consensus of Council was to add an agenda item to discuss an ordinance requiring a decommissioning bond for future projects.

Water System

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

Wastewater System

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

Zoning & Code Enforcement Report

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

Recreation Report

The December 2024 meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Ryan Ross provided updates on upcoming events, programs, and activities.

**Committee Reports**Business Development

Nothing to report.

EMS & Fire Funding

Mayor Butcher swore in the Rose Fire Company Officers for 2025. Additionally, Mayor Butcher provided the number of calls for EMS service during 2024. A noted area of concern results from the number of calls to Baltimore County.

Public Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Infrastructure

Nothing to report.

Personnel

Nothing to report.

Rental Housing and Occupancy Ordinance

Mayor Butcher provided a draft ordinance to Manager Shaffer on January 10, 2025.

Board and Commission Vacancy

Following a procedural discussion among Council, current and future vacancies will be announced, and the resident/candidate be asked to attend an upcoming Council meeting to be interviewed.

**Correspondence**

York County Planning Commission provided a Senior Housing Profile for New Freedom Borough.

Stock and Leader invited Council members and staff to the Municipal 201 event on January 30, 2025.

**Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items**

Devin Taylor read a general statement and inquiry regarding his opposition to continuation of the meeting until his comments receive a response.

**Adjournment**

At 8:17PM, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2025 at 6:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Andrew N. Shaffer*

Borough Manager