

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting

April 11, 2024

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, April 11, 2024, in the Fireman's Recreation Hall at 618 Westinghouse Avenue, Johnstown, PA.

President Owen Hofecker called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

ROLL CALL

The Roll Call showed the following present: VP Eric Baumbaugh, Art Boring, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger Jr, Mark Wissinger Sr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Attorney Joe Green, Police Chief Adam Richards, Secretary Nancy Hofecker, and Street Foreman Sean Simmons. Cindy Dom was absent.

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to adopt the April 11, 2024 agenda seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

VISITOR'S

Dennis Kassick and Al Cooper were present to observe.

Jordon Morack was present to discuss operating his lawn care business in the borough. He passed out an agenda that had questions on it. His questions were mostly in regards to where he is able to park when servicing residents. Chief Richards addressed the question regarding when parking is tight. He quoted the vehicle code stating that you cannot block road ways. Chief Richards said that if a vehicle cannot pass safely than you are blocking the road way. Chief Richards stated that when parking is tight you can unload your mower but then you must move your vehicle before mowing. If you are mowing in Louisa Alley, you can park your vehicle on Ferndale Avenue and drive up to the property. However, you are not permitted to drive your mower through the borough. Owen Hofecker stated that if the officer feels you are blocking the road way, then your vehicle must be moved. Mayor Ralph Boyle explained that you are considered blocking the road way if a emergency vehicle such as an ambulance or fire truck cannot get through.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the March 14, 2024 minutes. A motion was made by Art Boring to accept the minutes, seconded by Mark Wissinger, Sr. The motion carried.

President Owen Hofecker did a little recap of the committee meeting. Those in attendance were: VP Eric Baumbaugh, Art Boring, Cindy Dom, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger Jr, Mark Wissinger Sr and Mayor Ralph Boyle. They created the agenda for this evening's meeting and reviewed the action items that are listed.

PERSONNEL

No report given

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Green presented Ordinance 508 in regards to parking: AN ORDINANCE OF FERNDALE BOROUGH, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING AND REPEALING FERNDALE BOROUGH CODIFIED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 15 SECTION 15-401 TITLED VEHICLES TO BE PARKED WITHIN MARKED SPACES AND CHAPTER 15 SECTION 15-407 TITLED PENALTIES. The ordinance will be advertised and voted on next meeting.

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said they are applying for a grant for a computer program. It will help assist the officers in day-to-day operations such as dumping cell phones.

We did pay for the schooling on the two cadets that we are sponsoring. The cadets have signed their contracts with us. They should be starting in September.

WEST HILLS REPORT

West Hills Regional e-mailed their report to the office, if anyone would like a copy, please contact the secretary.

Kevin Schrock from West Hills Regional said that they got a grant from Representative Frank Burns in the amount of \$25,000.00. They also got a grant from Microsoft 360 in the amount of \$15,000.00. Both grants will be a huge help. Starting April 29th, 2024 Kevin will be the full-time paid fire chief for West Hills.

Resolution #3 was then presented. It stated Ferndale Borough's intent to join the West Hills Fire Commission Exploratory Committee. A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh and seconded by Mark Wissinger, Jr to pass the resolution. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes.

FERNDALE FIREMAN'S ASSOC. REPORT

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that they have a new tent coming soon. The tent from last year was destroyed in the storm during the jubilee.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Sean Simmons said that we received all the salt that we needed to purchase. They purchased some cold patch to fix some big pot holes. They have been working in the police station replacing the ceiling tile.

Next week (the week of April 15th), Roger will be taking the street sweeper over to Dale Borough to sweep the streets.

Sean said they had to close Plainfield Ave today. A tree came down and there is one hanging in the wires that could come down and hit someone. Art Boring was going to call someone to come remove the tree from the wires. Everyone agreed it needs to be done quickly because they can't keep the road closed.

Eric Baumbaugh said that he got bids to upgrade the electrical service in the garage and police department. He is waiting for one more bid.

TREES

No report given

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank DiLoreto was present from EADS.

Two pressure tests were completed in March.

Station St Walkway Rehabilitation Project: EADS has been coordinating with Verizon, Penelec, and Breezeline about the estimate to relocate the utility pole. We are still waiting to hear back the cost or the pole relocation. Straw Construction's subcontractor Quaker is scheduled to mill and overlay Station Street on 4/17/2024. They anticipate only one day to complete the paving.

Rigby Park Improvements Project: Bids were received on Thursday, March 21st at 10am. From all the bids received, EADS recommends that the Base Bid is awarded to the low bidder Marmat Inc for \$71,402.70, for the pavilion.

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh and seconded by Art Boring to award Marmat Inc the pavilion project contract. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

EADS recommends awarding Park & Play Structures Option 1 for the playground improvements. The total award is for \$74,146.92.

A motion was made by Mark Wissinger, Jr and seconded by Eric Baumbaugh to award Park & Play Structures the playground project contract. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

DCED MTF Fund: Ferndale Borough was awarded the Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project. Once the agreement between the DCED and Ferndale is executed, EADS will generate an agreement to design the awarded project.

PennDOT MTF Grant Application: PennDOT anticipates a 2024 spring/summer announcement.

PennDOT TASA Grant: The announcement is expected to be April 2024.

DCED LSA Grant: Grant announcement is anticipated for Fall 2024.

DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP): Recreation projects up to \$250,000 with a 15% match. Applications will be submitted for Tennis/Pickleball Court Rehabilitation and Walking Track Improvements. Applications are due by May 31st, 2024.

DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF): Transportation projects between \$100,000.00 to \$3,000,000.00 with no match. Applications are due by July 31st, 2024. Application will be submitted for Station St Phase 2.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

No report was given for the month of March.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A motion to pay all Accounts Payable was made by the committee, seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

Nancy said that the Liquid Fuel audit was completed today. There were no findings the audit was just fine.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given

RECREATION REPORT

No report given

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution # 2 was presented. It stated that the garbage fees would be set by the council on a yearly basis. A motion was made by Mark Wissinger, Sr seconded by Connie Hobbs to pass resolution #2. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes.

NEW BUSINESS

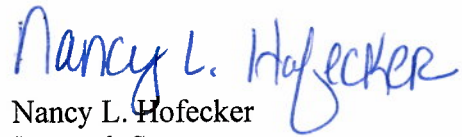
The camera system needs replaced in the borough facilities. A motion was made by Connie Hobbs seconded by Art Boring to upgrade the camera system with JCM Communications, not to exceed \$10,000.00. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

Connie Hobbs announced that Frank DiLoreto (our engineer) from EADS has helped the borough receive a million dollars in grants. She expressed our thanks and appreciation.

The meeting went into executive session at 6:47pm regarding a personnel issue. The meeting came out of executive at 7:20pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21pm with Connie Hobbs making the motion seconded by Eric Baumbaugh.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy L. Hofecker
Borough Secretary