

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting

April 8, 2021

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, April 8, 2021, 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: President Owen Hofecker, VP Connie Hobbs, Eric Baumbaugh, Trish Corle, Cindy Dom, Mark Wissinger, Jr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Attorney Joe Green, and Secretary Nancy Hofecker. Absent were Art Boring, Police Chief John Blake and Street Foreman Sean Simmons.

VISITOR'S

Visitor's present were Dennis Kassick and Sean Glenn.

Dennis Kassick was there to speak about his shed. Sean Glenn was representing the Ferndale Fireman's Association.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the March 11, 2021 minutes. A motion was made by Trish Corle to accept the minutes, seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL

After coming out of executive session, a motion was made by police committee and seconded by Eric Baumbaugh to hire Adam Grumbling, Dr. Jonathan Wolfe and Ian Olsavsky as police officers for the borough. The motion carried.

A motion to accept Personnel Report was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report given.

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that the fire on Vickroy Avenue has been determined arson. There is an investigation going on.

Mayor Boyle announced that Saturday, April 24th is National Drug Take Back Day. The borough will be participating in it.

A motion to accept Mayor and Police Reports was made by Eric Baumbaugh seconded by Trish Corle. The motion carried.

WEST HILLS REPORT

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

FERNDALE FIREMAN'S ASSOC. REPORT

Sean Glenn was present from the association. He said they will be having the 90th jubilee this year from July 19th-July 24th. One of the biggest concerns is security. The association has looked into hiring a security firm unfortunately they would have no arresting powers. The association is asking council if they would allow Chief Blake and other officers to help patrol the jubilee. Two years ago, Chief Blake and other officers patrolled the jubilee and it worked well.

A motion to accept Ferndale Fireman's Association Report was made by Cindy Dom seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Eric Baumbaugh gave the street report.

He said the street department will be starting to work on Harlan this coming week to repair the water issue.

Eric said that Sean asked for permission to bring someone in to help give a good cleaning to our catch basins. This is done every couple of years. The cost is approximately \$175.00 hour. Council agreed it needs to be done.

Eric said that the street sweeper would be going over to Dale Borough on April 12th and 14th to sweep their streets.

The street department did get the mulch on the playground, swings are up and they will be opening the bathrooms around May 1st.

Owen Hofecker presented council with an agreement from PennDOT in regards to the traffic signals in the borough. The agreement says the borough owns the traffic lights and must maintain them. A motion was made by Trish Corle seconded by Eric Baumbaugh to accept and sign the agreement.

Owen Hofecker then presented and read the resolution for the traffic lights. A motion was made by Trish Corle and seconded by Eric Baumbaugh to sign the resolution. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes.

A motion to accept Streets and Property Report was made by Cindy Dom seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

TREES

No report given.

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank Diloreto was present from EADS.

Three pressure tests were completed in March. The final date for residents to be fully pressure tested is September 1st, 2021.

Frank said that B. Hale has completed the work for Station Street Phase 1.

After discussion with DCED, the Station Street Phase 2 project cannot be incorporated into the Hystone Avenue project due to conflicts with the grant funding. The project will have to be bid separately or receive quotes come under the \$21,300.00 public bid threshold.

Frank said that EADS has completed the work to seal the Mendell manhole around the pipe penetration and has greatly removed the I&I into the manhole.

EADS applied for the CFA Mini Grant on behalf of the borough, it was submitted on March 8, 2021. The mini grant will help fund the audit. The announcement of the grant is anticipated to be April 12th, 2021.

James Excavating anticipates completing the work at 1713 Franklin Street by the end of April 2021.

EADS has a final design of the Hystone Avenue project. Specifications are being completed. The tentative schedule is to advertise for the bids April 19th, open the bids May 19th and award the project June 10th. The contractor may begin after they submit all necessary paperwork.

Frank shared that DCED will begin accepting applications for its Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program. The 2021 grant round is currently open and will close May 31st. Eric Baumbaugh outlined the areas to apply for grant funding. EADS has reviewed the outlined areas and has suggestions for revisions to increase the likelihood of receiving a grant. EADS is putting together a grant request for those funds.

A motion to accept the Sewer/Sewer Project Report was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

A motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report for March was made by Eric Baumbaugh seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Trish Corle said that Nancy has emailed the quarterly reports to everyone.

A motion to pay all Accounts Payable was made by Trish Corle and seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

A motion to accept Finance/Accounts Payable was made by Eric Baumbaugh seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given.

RECREATION REPORT

No report given.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said the Fire Association is looking to have a work day. When they came through and put new curbs on Ferndale Avenue, they knocked some of the wires down. The fire association is asking permission to use the borough truck to help hang the wires back up.

Eric Baumbaugh said he has been working with Nancy and sending out nuisance letters.

Owen Hofecker said that Spring Clean Up has been changed by the trash hauler. The new date is Thursday, June 10th.

Owen said he received an email regarding the American Recovery Act. The government is supposed to give money to the municipalities to use. There will be guidelines as to what it can be used for. Owen asked council to keep their eyes and ears open to see if they hear any more about the recovery act.

A motion to accept Old/New Business was made by Eric Baumbaugh seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

At 6:43pm the meeting went into executive session regarding a personnel issue and potential litigation.

The meeting came out of executive at 7:33pm and went into personnel.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Eric Baumbaugh.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy L. Hofecker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "N" and "H".

Nancy L. Hofecker
Borough Secretary