

FERNDALE BOROUGH
Regular Meeting
December 12, 2024

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, December 12, 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, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger Jr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Police Chief Adam Richards, Secretary Nancy Hofecker and Attorney Joe Green. Art Boring and Mark Wissinger Sr were absent.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to adopt the December 12, 2024 agenda seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

VISITOR'S

Zachary Neal was present to observe.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the November 14, 2024 minutes. A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to accept the minutes, seconded by Mark Wissinger Jr. The motion carried.

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

PERSONNEL

No report given

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report given

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that an ad was placed in the Tribune Democrat for full and part time police officers. We have received some applications. Officer Brian Miller has been sworn in as a part time officer with the borough.

An officer will escort Santa through the borough on Christmas Eve.

New winter tires have been placed on the cruisers.

WEST HILLS REPORT

Kevin Schrock was present. He said they had their recent fire commission meeting at Lower Yoder Township.

Kevin said that Ferndale Borough's workers compensation and fire equipment insurance will be lowering in 2025. Westmont Borough will be purchasing insurance from another agency.

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

Santa's sleigh will be traveling through the borough on Christmas Eve. They will be starting at 5:30pm.

The association gave their annual donation to the borough from some of the proceeds from the jubilee this year. They also included extra to help pay for the ice melt for the sidewalks around the borough building.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Council discussed the extra bill with Attorney Joe Green that was received from HRI in regards to this past years paving project.

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to pay HRI, Inc the additional \$5,705.06 bill that was received, seconded by Cindy Dom. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes.

TREES

No report given

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank DiLoreto was present from EADS.

Three pressure tests were completed in November.

Rigby Park Improvements Project: JCM has completed a portion of the work. The Borough has completed the necessary electrical work to power the cameras. JCM can continue their work to install cameras. Another reimbursement is being released for the work completed. The latest reimbursement will be for \$20,904.00. That leaves approximately \$49,500.00 remaining in outstanding invoices. Because of this EADS provided information to obtain a loan so that the invoices can be paid, and the grant can be closed out. Final inspection with the DCNR was completed on 12/10/2024. There were no issues that were brought up by the DCNR. Final corrective photos will need sent when the cameras are installed.

Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project: EADS has contacted CamTran about the relocation of the bus shelter. Based on the interactions there seems to be no issues with the proposed changes. The design must follow ADA requirements for the shelter. PennDOT HOP was submitted on 12/9/2024.

Station St Phase 2 Project: ADA/Bicycle & Pedestrian Meeting was conducted on 12/11/2024. PennDOT suggested to add a high friction surface and converting the sidewalk to long steps. EADS will also have to submit some additional forms discussed during the meeting.

DCED LSA 2023 Grant: Received approval to equip the police cruisers with the LPRs. Waiting to receive agreement to receive funding.

DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP): Grant announcement is anticipated for Spring 2025.

DCED LSA 2024 Grant: Grant announcement is anticipated for Fall of 2025.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Collector's Report was presented for November 2024. The amount collected in November was \$4,887.81.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh and seconded by Mark Wissinger Jr to secure a loan/line of credit with 1st Summit Bank. The loan amount that is being requested is \$50,000.00. The signers for the loan will be President Owen Hofecker and Vice President Eric Baumbaugh. The loan is to help us with the match for the Rigby Park Grant that was received. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given

RECREATION REPORT

No report given

OLD BUSINESS


No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

The meeting adjourned at 6:57pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Eric Baumbaugh.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy L. Hofecker
Borough Secretary