

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting

January 14, 2021

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, January 14, 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, Art Boring, Trish Corle, Cindy Dom, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Attorney Joe Green, Secretary Nancy Hofecker and Street Foreman Sean Simmons. Mark Wissinger, Jr and Police Chief John Blake were absent.

VISITOR'S

Visitors present were Dennis Kassick. Mr. Kassick had some questions regarding the sewer increase and Laurel Municipal.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the December 10, 2020 minutes. A motion was made by Trish Corle to accept the minutes, seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Trish Corle to alter the agenda and move the Mayor and Police Report till the end prior to Old/New Business, seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL

No report given.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Joe Green is requesting that Chief Blake review ordinance codified number 15-205 Stop Intersections Established. He wants Chief Blake to verify what is listed in the ordinance and see if any intersections need to be amended.

A motion to accept the Solicitor's Report was made by Trish Corle seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that we are still waiting for Team Force to contact us to get the new cruiser in. Team Force had some covid issues and had to shut down for 3 weeks.

A motion to accept Mayor and Police Reports was made by Art Boring seconded by Cindy Dom. 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.

Nancy Hofecker said that West Hills wanted to know if we had or are planning on passing an ordinance in regards to giving income tax credit and local property tax credit to volunteer fire and EMS personnel. After discussion council decided that at this time, they aren't interested in passing such ordinance.

A motion to accept the West Hills Report was made by Trish Corle seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

FERNDALE FIREMAN'S ASSOC. REPORT

Ralph Boyle and Eric Baumbaugh shared that they had to replace the boiler in the hall. They are also planning on having a jubilee this year.

A motion to accept Ferndale Fireman's Assoc. Report was made by Art Boring seconded by Trish Corle. The motion carried.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Sean Simmons said that right now they are good on salt and haven't had to order any yet. He said they did some cold patching today and ordered the sweeper parts to repair the sweeper.

Nancy Hofecker said we are still having issues with residents placing tvs out for trash. Mayor Ralph Boyle said he would get with Chief Blake for him to start taking action on the residents.

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

TREES

Art Boring said people are complaining about the look of the tree stumps on Summit Avenue. Art is in contact with the owners and they are aware they need to remove the stumps and replant trees.

A motion to accept the Trees Report was made by Cindy Dom seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank Diloreto was present from EADS.

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

Frank said that B. Hale began work on December 28th for Station Street Phase 1. They have completed the mainline work and only need to replace the viewport at the 609 Ferndale Avenue property.

Since the quotes have been high for the Station Street Phase 2 project it will be bid together with the Hystone Ave project but under a separate contract.

Frank said that EADS has picked up the materials from Sherwin Williams to complete the Manhole Rehabilitation. EADS will schedule their confined space employees to complete the repairs.

EADS is going to apply for the next available CFA Mini Grant in January to help us fund a building audit. The audit will increase the chances of being awarded funds to repair/upgrade the building. Those grants are released in May.

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

EADS is waiting to hear about a potential for COVID-19 stimulus bill for infrastructure projects that are ready to be constructed.

EADS has a preliminary design of the Hystone Avenue project. They plan to bid the project early 2021 and construct in the summer 2021.

Frank shared with council DCNR will begin accepting applications for its Community Conservation Partnerships Program on January 19th. If council is interested, they should contact their Bureau of Recreation and Conservation Regional Advisor to discuss project ideas and application requirements prior to submitting.

A motion to accept the Sewer/Sewer Project Report was made by Art Boring seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

A motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report for December was made by Art Boring seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Trish Corle to accept the December 31, 2019 audit done by Barnes and Saly, seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

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

A motion to accept Finance/Accounts Payable was made by Cindy Dom seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given.

RECREATION REPORT

Art Boring and Eric Baumbaugh took a walk around the recreation park and are looking at doing some upgrades to the lighting around the park.

A motion to accept the Recreation Report was made by Cindy Dom seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

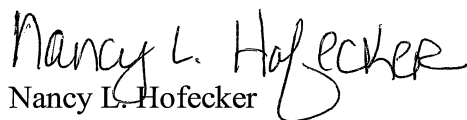
OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Nancy Hofecker read Ordinance 500 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FERNDALE, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ELECTING TO AMEND ITS NON-UNIFORM PENSION PLAN ADMINISTERED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT LAW; AGREEING TO BE BOUND BY ALL PROVISIONS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT LAW AS AMENDED AND AS APPLICABLE TO MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES. The ordinance will be advertised and voted upon next meeting.

A motion to accept Old/New Business was made by Eric Baumbaugh seconded by Cindy Dom.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Art Boring.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy L. Hofecker
Borough Secretary