

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting

June 13, 2024

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, June 13, 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, Cindy Dom, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger Jr, Mark Wissinger Sr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Police Chief Adam Richards and Secretary Nancy Hofecker. Art Boring, Attorney Joe Green and Street Foreman Sean Simmons were absent.

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to adopt the June 13, 2024 agenda seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

VISITOR'S

Heather Brandle was present and addressed council with concerns regarding the vehicles that were broken into, police presence, dogs that aren't leashed and drones flying in the area.

Al Cooper was present and shared information with council regarding the school tax increase.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the May 9, 2024 minutes. A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to accept the minutes, seconded by Mark Wissinger, Jr. The motion carried.

President Owen Hofecker did a little recap of the committee meeting. Those in attendance were: VP Eric Baumbaugh, 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. Art Boring was absent (excused).

PERSONNEL

No report given

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report given

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that Chief Richards, Officer Todd Sherle and Officer Angel Raehl all attended the active shooter drill in Upper Yoder.

Chief Richards did request extra lighting for the Ferndale Jubilee. The street department will go pick it up.

We did apply for a grant for a computer program that will allow the police to dump cell phone information. After reviewing the information police committee and Chief Richards decided not to accept it. The match for the grant was high and the annual upkeep was costly.

We will be ordering vests for our new cadets that are starting in September. The vests take a while to arrive.

Chief Richards has been citing people that haven't been maintaining their grass.

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 the fire commission exploratory committee is on hold for now. They are in need of funding.

Kevin Schrock said there was an incident on Breezewood and Upper Yoder got dispatched instead of West Hills because the GIS map shows that the properties are in Upper Yoder. Kevin and Nancy are going to work with Tim Spangler to get the issue corrected.

FERNDALE FIREMAN'S ASSOC. REPORT

Owen Hofecker read a letter from the Ferndale Fireman's Association asking permission to use the recreation park for the jubilee. They asked to use the park from July 7, 2024 – July 27, 2024. It would be one week to set up, jubilee and one week to clean up. A motion was made by Cindy Dom to approve the request, seconded by Mark Wissinger Jr. The motion carried.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Eric Baumbaugh said that we currently have the hot box and they are filling pot holes. We will also be renting the stump grinder to remove the stumps up at the park. Sean will be going up to seal the roof again to make sure there are no more leaks.

We will be purchasing a power washer to help maintain the outside of the building. Once they cleanup the front of the police station they will then work on painting it.

Nancy said she received the Winter Traffic Services Agreement from Penndot for the 2024-2025 year. We will be receiving \$10,812.57.

The bid packets for the proposed paving project in the borough were opened. The following bids were submitted: HRI option 1 \$41,308.15 – option 2 \$38,972.50. Quaker Sales option 1 \$41,984.00 – option 2 \$37,144.00. Laurel Asphalt option 1 \$41,882.00 – option 2 \$34,263.00.

A motion to accept HRI option 1 to complete the paving project was made by Eric Baumbaugh seconded by Mark Wissinger, Jr. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

TREES

No report given

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank DiLoreto was present from EADS.

Six pressure tests were completed in May.

Station St Walkway Rehabilitation Project: The relocated utility pole was set on 5/7/2024. Penelec is scheduled to move their lines in the first week of July. Then Verizon and finally Breezeline. Once all the utilities are transferred then the existing pole can be removed, and the concrete can be patched. Straw anticipates patching the sidewalk and patching the hole in the retaining wall at the same time once the pole is removed.

Rigby Park Improvements Project: Marmat Inc started construction for the project on 5/22/2024. They anticipate completion of the project by June 21st, 2024. Park and Play structures submitted a revised layout. At the workshop meeting the layout was discussed and the notes were provided to Park and Play Structures to update the layout and provide the revised quote for execution. Fencing prices were received from various contractors. The prices were submitted to the DCNR today for approval. Security camera installers were contacted to provide a price. One quote was received to date. Tomorrow another installer will be meeting at the park to discuss details and provide a price.

DCED MTF Fund: Ferndale Borough was awarded the Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project. An agreement between EADS and Ferndale has been presented for approval.

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to approve the agreement between EADS and Ferndale for the Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Project, Mark Wissinger Jr seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes.

PennDOT TASA Grant: Ferndale Borough was awarded the Station St Phase 2 project. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 2, 2024 at 1:00pm to discuss the project.

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

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

DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP): Applications was submitted for Tennis/Pickleball Court Rehabilitation on May 30, 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 resurfacing and regrading the walking track.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Collector's Report was presented for April 2024 and May 2024. The amount collected in April was \$115,627.92. The amount collected in May was \$10,661.48.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given

RECREATION REPORT

Mark Wissinger Jr said the swim program is going on.

OLD BUSINESS - No Old Business

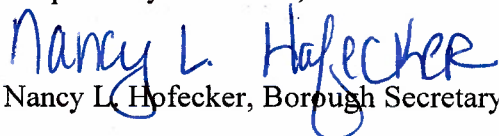
NEW BUSINESS

Owen Hofecker read a letter from Brian Robine requesting a handicap parking spot on Ferndale Ave for his mom, Peggy Robine. Everyone was in agreement.

The meeting went into executive session at 6:50pm for a personnel issue. The meeting came out of executive session at 7:03pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm with Eric Baumbaugh making the motion seconded by Connie Hobbs.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy L. Hofecker, Borough Secretary