

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting

March 14, 2024

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, March 14, 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, Cindy Dom, 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.

A motion was made by Art Boring to adopt the March 14, 2024 agenda seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

VISITOR'S

Zachary Neal was present to observe.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the February 8, 2024 minutes. A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to accept the minutes, seconded by Connie Hobbs. 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

No report given

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that they interviewed three cadets from the academy. The committee has selected two to sponsor. The two cadets are Nathan Kniss and Mark Meek. A motion was made by the committee to sponsor both cadets seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

Nancy said she has been receiving complaints in regards to people allowing their dogs to go to the bathroom in the rec park. There are signs up that indicate no dogs allowed. She did mention something to Chief Richards and asked for the other officers to keep an eye on it as well.

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 was present he talked about some of the vacant structures in the borough and those that would be unsafe for fireman. He also reminded council about the resolution for the fire commission.

FERNDALE FIREMAN'S ASSOC. REPORT

No report given

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Sean Simmons said that they cut the tree down at the park and replaced the lights with the new sensors.

Sean said he has 50 more tons of salt to purchase. He spoke with the gas company and they said they will start paving in April.

Eric Baumbaugh said that B. Hale is doing the sewer work in the borough building.

TREES

No report given

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank DiLoreto was present from EADS.

Six pressure tests were completed in February.

Station St Walkway Rehabilitation Project: Construction for the project is ongoing and approximately 95% has been completed to date. The only remaining items for the project are the final paving and utility pole relocation. The fencing wingwalls were repaired and have been

improved to remove any loose movement. The handrail for the steps was completed on 3/12/2024. EADS had a meeting with Verizon on 1/14/2024 at 1:30pm to visit the site and determine a new location for the utility pole. We are still waiting to hear back from the various utilities on the status of the pole relocation. Straw Construction requested an approved Change Order #3 for the additional paving work. The cost of the work will be an additional \$35,805.00 which will be fully covered by the grant.

Rigby Park Improvements Project: The Prebid meeting was held on 3/6/2024. There were various questions that were answered for the project. An addendum for the questions asked was submitted on 3/11/2024. Bids are due on Thursday, March 21st at 10:00am.

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

DCED MTF Fund: The announcement date for the grant is anticipated to be spring 2024.

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. Example projects include bicycle and walking nature trails, passive recreation areas, access roads, parking areas, walkways, comfort station, lighting, landscaping, and signage. Applications are due by May 31st, 2024.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to amend the agenda by adding an action item under the Engineers Report. The action item is to approve the change order #3 for Straw Construction. The motion was seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mark Wissinger Sr to approve change order #3 for Straw Construction seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

Owen Hofecker thanked Frank DiLoreto for all his hard work on the grants. To date Frank has helped the current council receive \$925,000.00 in grant funds for various projects.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Collector's Report was presented for February 2024. The amount collected in February was \$2,569.73.

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

No report given

OLD BUSINESS

Owen Hofecker presented Ordinance # 507. AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FERNDALE, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CODIFIED FERNDALE BOROUGH ORDINANCE CHAPTER 20, SECTION 109, PARAGRAPH 1. ENTITLED ANNUAL FEE FOR FAMILY UNITS (MUNICIPAL REFUSE COLLECTION).

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to pass ordinance # 507 seconded by Mark Wissinger, Jr. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

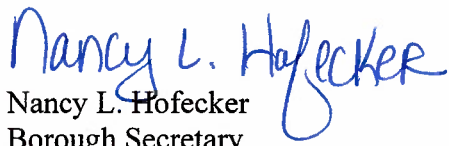
NEW BUSINESS

Owen Hofecker received an email from the school district asking for taxes to be exonerated on 617/619 Summit Ave. The property is being torn down because of the condition of the property. A motion was made by Art Boring to exonerate the taxes, seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

The meeting went into executive session at 7:00pm regarding a personnel issue. The meeting came out of executive at 7:22pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Mark Wissinger, Jr.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy L. Hofecker
Borough Secretary