

## **FERNDALE BOROUGH**

Regular Meeting

October 12, 2023

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, October 12, 2023, 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, Trish Corle, Cindy Dom, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger Jr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Attorney Joe Green, Secretary Nancy Hofecker and Police Chief Adam Richards. Absent: Street Foreman Sean Simmons.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to adopt the October 12, 2023 agenda seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

### **VISITOR'S**

No Visitor's

### **MINUTES**

There were no changes to the September 14, 2023 minutes. A motion was made by Trish Corle 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, Trish Corle, Cindy Dom, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, and Mark Wissinger. Mayor Ralph Boyle was absent (excused). They created the agenda for this evening's meeting and reviewed the action items that are listed.

### **PERSONNEL**

Trish Corle said that the committee is working on changing the personnel policy for the full-time employees who don't take health care. They would receive cash back in their pay check (25% of the cost). They are also working on a waiver. She asked Attorney Green to review the documents.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

No report given

## **MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS**

Resolution #5 was presented in regards to reducing the police officer's contributions to the police pension plan for the year 2024. A motion was made Art Boring to pass resolution #5, seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

Mayor Ralph Boyle introduced Officer Angel Raehl to council. She is training with Chief Richards and Officer Sherle.

Our new cruiser is back and outfitted. We are just awaiting on the new radios to be installed.

## **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**

Mayor Ralph Boyle said they have their appreciation banquet for those who helped at the jubilee on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

Santa will be making his rounds through the borough on Christmas Eve, weather permitting.

## **STREETS AND PROPERTY**

Eric Baumbaugh said that the one truck went to Sleek's for inspection and needed a lot of work. The cost was approximately \$1700.00.

Roger is doing a good job getting things done since Sean has been out.

## **TREES**

Art Boring said that the tree did get removed on Harlan Ave. Jordan's Tree service it the work.

## **SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT**

Frank DiLoreto was present from EADS.

Three pressure tests were completed in September.

Station St Walkway Rehabilitation Project: Construction for the project is ongoing and approximately 30% completed to date. EADS will be working with Straw Construction to review submittals as they are received. Issues with the retaining wall have put a temporary pause on construction.

A motion was made by Trish Corle to approve payment request #1 for Straw Construction contingent on resolving the retaining wall issue, seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to approve change order #1 for Straw Construction regarding fence mounting modification and upgrading the fence to black vinyl, seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

Rigby Park Improvements Project: The layout of the playground needs to be finalized before the layout can be completed. EADS is preparing the pavilion roofing package for bidding. A preliminary set of drawings will have to be reviewed by the DCNR prior to bidding.

PennDOT Manhole Complaints: After coordination with PennDOT, they will be making repairs to the road surface around the manholes on Franklin St.

PennDOT MTF Grant Application: Ferndale Borough was not awarded but there is a new grant program available to resubmit the application for funding. The deadline for submission is November 13, 2023.

DCED Small Water and Sewer/H2O Grants: Grants were submitted for Goucher St Storm Sewer Rehabilitation & Stormwater improvements and Manhole Rehabilitation. Announcement for the grant is expected to be after their meeting on Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

DCED MTF Fund: Grants were submitted for Station St Walkway Rehabilitation Phase 2 and Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Rehabilitation. Announcement date for the grant has not been determined.

PennDOT TASA Grant: Applications were submitted on 9/11/2023. The announcement is expected to be April 2024.

DCED LSA Grant: 1. LPR's for Police cruisers to be submitted, Adam provided quotes to include with the grant. 2. Ferndale Borough Maintenance Equipment. Pelican submitted a price of \$295,000 for an Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper. Frank will reach out for loader and trailer prices if council pursues the additional equipment.

Resolution #6 was presented for LSA Grant, License Plate Readers. A motion was made by Art Boring to pass resolution #6, seconded by Cindy Dom. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

Resolution #7 was presented for Ferndale Boro Street Maintenance Equipment. A motion was made by Cindy Dom to pass resolution #7, seconded by Art Boring. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

## **TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

Tax Collector's Report was presented for September 2023. The amount collected in September was \$565.84.

## **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**

Nancy said that CamTran will be parking a bus down by the jubilee kitchen from October 16<sup>th</sup> - October 27<sup>th</sup> during the day (9am-3:30pm).

## **NEW BUSINESS**


No New Business

The meeting went into executive session at 6:37pm regarding a personnel issue.

The meeting came out of executive at 6:59pm

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm with Art Boring making the motion seconded by Cindy Dom.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Nancy L. Hofecker  
Borough Secretary