

FERNDAL BOROUGH

Regular Meeting
September 11, 2025

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, September 11, 2025, 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. Everyone stood for a moment of silence in memory and honor of those who lost their lives on 911.

ROLL CALL

The Roll Call showed the following present: VP Eric Baumbaugh, Cindy Dom, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, Zachary Neal, Mark Wissinger Jr, Mark Wissinger Sr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Police Chief Adam Richards, Secretary Nancy Hofecker and Attorney Joe Green.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to adopt the September 11, 2025 agenda seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. The motion carried.

VISITOR'S

Ralph Zoerner III from Waste Management and Mike Bellvia from Pro Disposal were present for the trash hauler bid opening.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the August 14, 2025 minutes. A motion was made by Mark Wissinger Sr to accept the minutes, seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

President Owen Hofecker did a recap of the committee meeting. Those in attendance were: President Owen Hofecker, VP Eric Baumbaugh, Cindy Dom, Connie Hobbs, Zachary Neal, 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

Attorney Green said that himself and Attorney Dave Raho (solicitor for West Hills Fire Dept) met with Judge Kiniry in regards to the contract signed between Ferndale and West Hills for fire protection. Judge Kiniry advised both attorneys to file a joint motion for declaratory judgement. They will state all the facts and the courts will decide. Attorney Green asked Nancy to provide him with what was paid to West Hills since 2019.

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that Chief Richards and Officer Miller both just finished the new taser training. Chief Richards will be scheduling a date to train the other officers in the department.

WEST HILLS REPORT

West Hills Regional e-mailed their report to the office.

FERNDALE FIREMAN'S ASSOC. REPORT

Mayor Ralph Boyle said EMC will be holding their annual 5K at the grounds this coming Saturday. He said they are waiting to receive four more bills then he will be able to give a report on the jubilee.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Eric Baumbaugh said that they put no parking signs back up at the dead-end stretch of Louisa Place. There were issues with where vehicles were parking and no one could get down the alley. He said the street crew also placed two stop signs on Louisa Alley that were missing.

TREES

Zachary Neal said a tree came down on Vickroy Ave and it is all cleaned up. He is going to talk to the owner about removing the stump. He said there was still an outstanding stump on Summit Ave. Nancy informed him that the owner removed the stump and replanted a tree.

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank DiLoreto was present from EADS.

One pressure test was completed in August.

Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project: The bid opening occurred on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 10am. The lowest bidder for the project was Kishmo, Inc for a total of \$86,890.00. The bid report for the project was sent on 9/9/25. A motion to award Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Project to Kishmo, Inc for a total of \$86,900.00 for the base bid and add alternate #1 was made by Mark Wissinger Jr, seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

Station St Phase 2 Project: Construction started 8/18/25. Slight delay for inlet manufacturing but they are working now.

DCED LSA 2024 Grant: Grant announcement is delayed until there is an approved budget. Once the budget is approved, they will meet to determine the projects receiving funds.

DCED MTF 2025 Grant: An application was submitted for the sidewalk between Vickroy and Ferndale Avenue. A grant announcement date has not been determined at this time.

DCED LSA 2025 Grant: Projects between \$25,000-\$1,000,00. Applications are accepted from September 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Collector's Report was presented for August 2025. The amount collected in August was \$3,666.89.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

A motion to approve and accept the 2024 audit was made by Cindy Dom, seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Owen Hofecker shared a piece that he thought would be nice to place in the Tribune Democrat in regards to Rigby Park.

RECREATION REPORT

Mark Wissinger Jr thanked Nancy for sending out letters to other municipalities talking about our rec program and the costs involved. The letter asked for financial help since it involves all Ferndale Area School District kids.

OLD BUSINESS

Nancy said no bids were received for the property located at 535-535 ½ Vickroy Ave. She will need to advertise it again.

Nancy said no bids were received for auditor. Nancy asked Attorney Green if they had to place it out for bid. He said no because of the amount and they are a professional service. Nancy was going to reach out to Barnes Saly who has been doing the audit to ask for an RFP.

Attorney Green said there were two bids received for trash hauler for 2026-2028. The results are as follows:

Pro Disposal (Carts): 1st year \$15.16 per unit per month = \$141,351.84 year;
2nd year \$15.90 per unit per month = \$148,251.60 year;
3rd year \$16.55 per unit per month = \$154,312.20 year
Total contract \$443,915.64

Waste Mgt (Carts): 1st year \$16.24 per unit per month = \$151,421.76 year;
2nd year \$17.05 per unit per month = \$158,974.20 year;
3rd year \$17.90 per unit per month = \$166,899.60 year
Total contract \$477,295.56

Waste Management also provided two other options:

Waste Mgt (Traditional Pickup): 1st year \$17.05 per unit per month = \$158,974.20 year;
2nd year \$17.90 per unit per month = \$166,899.60 year;
3rd year \$18.80 per unit per month = \$175,291.20 year
Total contract \$501,165.00

Waste Mgt (Electronics Recycle): 1st year \$1.84 per unit per month = \$17,156.16 year;
2nd year \$1.97 per unit per month = \$18,368.28 year;
3rd year \$2.11 per unit per month = \$19,673.64 year
Total contract \$55,198.08

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to accept Pro Disposal (Carts) as the trash hauler for the 2026-2028 contract period. Motion was seconded by Zachary Neal. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

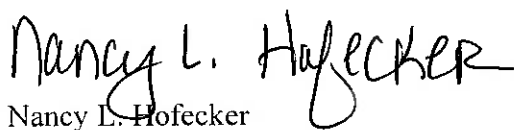
The lowest bid was accepted however there is still an increase in cost. Therefore, there will be an increase to the residents.

NEW BUSINESS

Nancy said that two individuals came into her office that are with a solar panel company. They did register with her and will be soliciting in the borough. She shared their information with the police department as well.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Eric Baumbaugh.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy L. Hofecker
Borough Secretary