

## **FERNDALE BOROUGH**

Regular Meeting

August 12, 2021

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, August 12, 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, Mark Wissinger, Jr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Attorney Joe Green, Police Chief Adam Richards, Street Foreman Sean Simmons and Secretary Nancy Hofecker.

### **VISITOR'S**

Visitor's present were Jody Ingram, Dennis Kassick, Zachary Neal and Al Cooper.

All visitors were just observing.

### **MINUTES**

There were no changes to the July 8, 2021 minutes. A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to accept the minutes, seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

### **PERSONNEL**

Trish Corle said they had a conversation in police committee about how to keep new officers. They are tossing around ideas. One idea that was mentioned was doing something with the uniform allowance. Attorney Joe Green suggested placing new officers on a six-month probation.

A motion to accept the Personnel Report was made by Art Boring seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Attorney Joe Green said he is working on an ordinance for curb-to-curb paving for when a utility company digs up the road. Attorney Green had some questions for council as to the details of the ordinance. Attorney Green is going to draft the ordinance and present it to council.

A motion to accept the Solicitor's Report was made by Cindy Dom seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

## **MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS**

Mayor Ralph Boyle thanked Chief Adam Richards and the Ferndale Police Department for their coverage and protection at the jubilee grounds and on the streets during the jubilee.

Art Boring said that residents have approached him and said that they are happy to see a lot more of the police cruiser patrolling the borough.

A motion to accept Mayor and Police Reports was made by Art Boring seconded by Mark Wissinger. 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.

## **FERNDALE FIREMAN'S ASSOC. REPORT**

No report given.

## **STREETS AND PROPERTY**

Sean Simmons said the street sweeper is down. He had to order parts to repair it and they are in the process of putting it back together.

Sean said that Barclay Electric came in and replaced the lights on Plainfield Avenue.

Council discussed have Sean Simmons go out with Roger Bock to do pressure tests. Council thinks it would be beneficial to have Sean also learn how to do to them in case Roger isn't available.

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

## **TREES**

Art Boring said that David Gerak still hasn't removed his tree stump on Summit Ave. Council all agreed that when removing a tree, the stump is included because it is part of the tree. Council agrees that he needs to remove the stump or he will be fined under our ordinance.

Art Boring will be sending letters to other residents that have trees stumps that need removed.

A motion to accept the Tree Report was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

## **SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT**

Frank Diloreto was present from EADS.

Five pressure tests were completed in July. The final date for residents to be fully pressure tested is September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Letters were sent out on August 7<sup>th</sup> reminding residents of the deadline.

Station Street Phase 2: EADS has received a quote to reline the mainline and laterals from Snyder Environmental Services for \$37,586.23. EADS will submit the quote with maps and narrative to the DCED to see if this can be added to the Hystone Ave project since they have similar scopes.

EADS received a quote from Snyder Environmental Services for \$9,500.00 to reline the lateral at 1713 Franklin Street. Frank is going to contact James Excavating to see if they are still interested in doing the work.

Hystone Avenue Sewer Rehabilitation: Bids were received on July 1, 2021 for the project. Snyder Environmental Services was the low bidder at \$250,000.00. Snyder Environmental Services has returned their signed copy of the agreement, performance and payment bonds, and insurance certificate the project. All were reviewed by EADS and Joe Green. Only one revision to the insurance certificate needs to be made. The contractor anticipates beginning their work November 2021 and be completed early December.

Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program for the Rigby Park Improvements Project is expected to be announced November/December of 2021.

Multimodal Transportation Fund Program for the Station St Walkway Rehabilitation Project was submitted. They have not announced the award date for the grant.

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

## **TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

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

## **FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Trish Corle shared that the borough will be receiving covid money (American Recovery Act) which will need to be spent by December 2024. Ferndale Borough will be receiving \$156,480.48. The funds can be used for public safety so we will be using it to enhance our police department. We will also be using it for capital purchases for our street department.

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

A motion to accept the Finance/Accounts Payable report was made by Eric Baumbaugh seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Trish Corle said she received a right to know request from an individual. The individual also made the same right to know request with EADS. Attorney Joe Green said a right to know request can't be made to a non-governmental agency. Trish will contact the individual and discuss the right to know requests, giving him the information, we have.

A motion to accept the Public Relations Report was made by Cindy Dom, seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

## **RECREATION REPORT**

Mark Wissinger said that the DCED grant that we applied for to update Rigby Park will be a huge improvement to the park. He thanked Eric Baumbaugh for doing a lot of the work to get the grant submitted.

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

## **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Owen Hofecker read a parking spot request from Donna Kosher who runs the gift and second-hand shop at 600 Ferndale Avenue. The beauty salon next to the shop currently has two spaces. Chief Adam Richards will look at the situation to see if there is room to provide Ms. Kosher with a space.


A motion to accept Old/New Business was made by Art Boring seconded Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

At 6:57pm the meeting went into executive session regarding potential litigation and contract.

At 7:37pm council came out of executive session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38pm with Trish Corle making the motion seconded by Cindy Dom.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Nancy L. Hofecker  
Borough Secretary