

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting
December 11, 2017

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Monday, December 11, 2017, in the Fireman's Recreation Hall at 618 Westinghouse Avenue, Johnstown, PA.

President Scott Miles called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

ROLL CALL

The Roll Call showed the following present: Pres. Scott Miles, V.P. Mark Wissinger, Trisha Corle, Ken Dom, Robert Gray, Connie Hobbs, Owen Hofecker, and Mayor Ralph Boyle, Atty. Joe Green, Police Chief James Rigby, Street Foreman Brian McAteer and Secretary Anita Smith.

VISITOR'S

Nancy Hofecker, Madison Hofecker and Cynthia Dom were just observing.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the November 13, 2017 minutes. A motion by Connie Hobbs and seconded by Trisha Corle was made. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL

A motion by Trisha Corle to hire Nancy Hofecker as temporary Secretary/Treasurer until the January 2, 2018 reorganization meeting was made and seconded by Robert Gray. She will be appointed then. A roll call vote was taken; all voted "yes", except for one, he abstained, because of a conflict of interest.

A motion to accept the Personnel Report was made by Connie Hobbs and seconded by Trisha Corle. The motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Atty. Joe Green has tried numerous times to contact Terry Shook of Barnes, Saly and Company to no avail. It was suggested to pay this year's bill of \$3,300.00, so they can file our audit with DCED. And we will continue to work with them on the outstanding bill. Councilwomen Trisha Corle stated that we did have extra work in 2015, but that should not affect the audit for 2016.

We still have not heard by Dan Mikesic on the Penn Vest audit. The secretary contacts him in July and September, but still no responds at this time.

We will work with Bill Patrick and Dave Duray at CJL to see if they can help with some additional information for the flow charts.

A motion to accept the Solicitor's Report was made by Mark Wissinger and seconded by Owen Hofecker. The motion carried.

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Chief Rigby e-mailed all Councilmembers his report for November 2017. There were no questions on the report.

Mayor Boyle would like the Council to approve the hiring of at least one or maybe two additional part-time police officers. Chief Rigby is in the process of getting together a new pay scale for the part-time police so we can be more competitive with other police departments. He will have everything for the reorganization meeting. Mr. Rigby would like to start them out at \$10.00 an hour or maybe \$1.00 more for officers with experience or maturity. Chief Rigby will document all requirements on weapons, court costs and anything else related to police work.

Rite-Aid has a drug drop-off box through the county. This will be available to all drugs. Chief Rigby would like to place one in the lobby of the police station. It will be bolted to the floor and the Chief will call the county and they will pick up the drugs. The police department is in need of a new shredder and he has ordered a new one through W.B. Mason, because of the free shipping.

Southmont Borough again contacted Chief Rigby about police protection. They are thinking about withdrawing from West Hills Regional. They will call us one year before the end of the current contract. Chief Rigby will have to calculate the cost and manpower to provide this service. It would include one full-time police officer and another vehicle. New members are coming onto the Council and they are very much interest in obtaining Ferndale Police Department as their protection.

Again, the part-time police hiring was discussed. The borough did not receive any resumes after the ad was placed in the Tribune-Democrat, however; did receive an application from a gentleman that he was impressed with and would like to hire him how as soon as possible. He has is psych involution, physical and mopac test from IUP.

The reason for the rush is because Jr. Berkebile has fallen off a ladder and will be unable to work his regular shifts.

Chief Rigby worked the day after Thanksgiving, so instead of time and a half, he will use that day as a floating holiday sometime later this year.

Councilmen Hofecker is working with Chief Rigby on the radio issue.

A motion on the wage scale for the part-time police was made by Connie Hobbs and seconded by Mark Wissinger. All Councilmembers voted "yes".

A motion to accept the Mayor and Police Report was made by Ken Dom and seconded by Owen Hofecker. 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

Mayor Ralph Boyle has invited the Council and guest to their Christmas Party on Saturday, December 23th. at 7:00 p m in the Fireman's Hall.

Santa and his sleigh will make a special appearance on Christmas Eve for the children in the Borough; he will not go to Brownstown or Westmont this year.

A motion by Connie Hobbs to accept the Fireman's Report was made and seconded by Trisha Corle. The motion carried.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Street Foreman Brian McAteer gave a copy of his report to the Councilmembers, no questions on the report.

Mr. McAteer would like to know if we could start looking into grants for street equipment. Councilwoman Trisha Corle will contact John Dubmansky to local looking at possible grants. It takes about 2 years for this process.

Daisytown has picked up the 4 tons that was coming to them. They have built a storage bin, but still are unable to load it in their trucks.

Mr. McAteer has asked that anyone with portable basketball hoops should move them back off the street or alley, because of snowplowing and it could be danger and damage the trucks.

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

TREES

No report given.

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Mark Muir had to attend another meeting and came in at 7:45 p.m.
His report is as follows:

1. Pressure Testing Inspections
 - Completed Pressure Tests – 2 transfers in September
 - 2 transfers in October
 - 1 transfer in November, 1 repair
2. Items for Discussion
 - Franklin and Goucher Storm line
 - Receiving quotes – quotes over \$18,900 – need bid out

- Engineering Fee to include Design, Specifications, Plans, Permits, Bidding and Construction Admin. \$10,000.00
- Construction Inspection \$3,000 to \$5,000

Station St. CIPP

- The two laterals need done and homeowners need to connect first
 - Bid out Bursting at Goucher St.
 -
3. MS4 Permit
Packet was submitted – Lost in DEP, need new check for \$500
4. Flow Graphs
Mag Meter installed by JRA
- News software to read real-time, Jan. 2018
 - Will monitor flows during wet weather

Margaret Avenue has come into play again and Councilman Dom would like to see if we could have a meter installed to check the water flow. Mr. Dom has been checking on this problem during the wet and dry season and thinks that might be some of our problem. Mr. Muir said he can put an extra meter in to check it. Also, Mendall Ave. is still a problem. They cannot put a camera in the line and we have no idea where the water is going. Mr. Muir said don't cap it permanently, but plug it as soon as possible. It might have been broken when the new sewer line went in and was never fixed. It was suggested to dig a trench line and see where the water goes. There are no lines below Mendall.

A motion by Trisha Corle to give Mark Muir the go ahead to work on a grant for the additional work that needs to be done. It was seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

A motion to accept the Sewer Report was made by Owen Hofecker and seconded by Trisha Corle. The motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Anita Smith reported that she collected \$1,094.74. Delinquent tax notices have been mailed out in November.

A motion by Trisha Corle was made and seconded by Robert Gray. The motion carried.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A motion to pass the 2018 Budget was made by Owen Hofecker and seconded by Robert Gray. A roll call was taken with all the Councilmembers voted "yes".

A motion to extend the Line-of-Credit with Somerset Trust for another 6 months was made by Trisha Corle and seconded by Ken Dom. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers voting "yes".

A motion to accept the Finance Report and to pay all Accounts Payable was made by Mark Wissinger and seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given.

RECREATION REPORT

The 4th, 5th, & 6th. Grade Spring Basketball team is enrolled for the Tournaments at the East Hills Recreation facility. All the fees were paid by donations and fundraisers.

President Scott Miles reported that he has 51 wrestlers this year. On January 23rd, the Ferndale Wrestlers will be honored by Westmont Wrestling Boosters.

At a game (to be announced later) the 1988 Girls' Basketball team will be honored during the regular season Girls Basketball game.

A motion to accept the Recreation report was made by Ken Dom and seconded by Owen Hofecker. The motion carried.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

The reorganization meeting will be held on January 2, 2018,

It was discussed if the regular meeting can be held after the reorganization meeting. The secretary will look into it.

Councilwoman Corle would like to have it on record, that Secretary Anita Smith is retiring and the Council would be thanking her for her 28 years of service and dedication to the Borough and their residents.

Ken Dom suggested that Scott Bennett's hourly wage be increased thirty cents effective January 1st, 2018. Scott's new hourly rate would be \$10.50 an hour.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. with Connie Hobbs making the motion and seconded by Trisha Corle.

Respectfully submitted



Anita M. Smith
Borough Secretary