

**FERNDALE BOROUGH**  
Reorganization Meeting/Regular Meeting  
January 3, 2018

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Monday, January 3, 2018, in the Fireman's Recreation Hall at 618 Westinghouse Avenue, Johnstown, PA.

The Honorable Ralph Boyle, Mayor 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: Trisha Corle, Cindy Dom, Ken Dom, Connie Hobbs, Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger, Dave Ziemba and Mayor Ralph Boyle, Atty. Joe Green, Police Chief James Rigby, Street Foreman Brian McAteer, Secretary Anita Smith and Nancy Hofecker.

The Honorable Ralph Boyle, Mayor swore in the following elected officials Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger, Connie Hobbs and Dave Ziemba.

Nominations for President of Council were open. Ken Dom nominated Owen Hofecker. No other nominations were made. Mark Wissinger motioned to close the nominations for President. Roll call was taken with all members voting yes.

Nominations for Vice President of Council were open. Ken Dom nominated Mark Wissinger. No other nominations were made. Cindy Dom motioned to close the nominations for Vice President. Roll call was taken with all members voting yes.

Mayor Ralph Boyle then turned the meeting over to President Owen Hofecker.

Nominations for Pro Tem of Council were open. Mark Wissinger nominated Connie Hobbs. No other nominations were made. Ken Dom motioned to close the nominations for Pro Tem. Roll call was taken with all members voting yes.

A nomination was made by Cindy Dom to appoint Trish Corle to the vacancy board chair. Motion was seconded by Connie Hobbs. All members voted yes. Trish Corle was then sworn in by President Owen Hofecker.

Secretary Anita Smith asked for permission to complete the required Act 44 form for the pension. Trish Corle made the motion and was seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to appoint Nancy Hofecker as the Secretary/Treasurer at a rate of \$10.25 an hour not to exceed 24 hours a week. Motion was seconded by Dave Ziemba.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to retain Joe Green as the Solicitor. Motion was seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ken Dom to retain CJL as the engineer firm. Motion was seconded by Trish Corle. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mark Wissinger to retain EADS. Motion was seconded by Dave Ziembra. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to retain Plgit Bank. Motion was seconded by Trish Corle. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mark Wissinger to retain FNB Bank. Motion was seconded by Ken Dom. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Trish Corle to retain Somerset Trust to accept payments for the sewer project. Motion was seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Trish Corle to appoint Dawn Null, Tax Collector to receive per capita tax, LST and to make assessments to change the per capita. Motion was seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

The reorganization meeting ended at 7:35pm. The regular council meeting then began.

#### **VISITOR'S**

No Visitors were present.

#### **MINUTES**

Ken Dom indicated that Scott Bennett's pay increase of thirty cents an hour effective January 1<sup>st</sup> was omitted from the minutes. His hourly rate would then be \$10.50 an hour. A motion to accept the minutes with the correction was made by Trish Corle and seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

#### **PERSONNEL**

Chief Jim Rigby informed council that Officer Nathan Homyak has reached 500 hours with the department and should be moved up to the next pay level.

The following procedure has been put into place. Chief Rigby will track the hours of his officers. He will inform council when an officer has reached the next pay level and Mayor Boyle will sign off on the pay increase.

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 been playing phone tag with Terry Shook of Barnes, Saly and Company. We haven't heard any more from them since the 2018 installment has been paid. The audit was released by Barnes, Saly and Company.

He has not heard anything more about the CJL meeting.

Nothing more has been heard from Dan Mikesic regarding the PennVest Loan. Nancy will ask Anita if she has heard from them.

A motion to accept the Solicitor's Report was made by Trish Corle and seconded by Dave Ziembra. The motion carried.

### **MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS**

Chief Jim Rigby reported that he has been spending time in court for the four juveniles that were arrested in the borough. He asked Mayor Boyle if it would be okay to have an officer help cover his shift so that there is an officer on duty in the borough while he is in court.

Officer Adam Waddell qualified on the firearms and everything else has been cleared. He will be riding along with some of the other officer before having his own shift.

Officer Nathan Homyak would like to do some additional training in New Mexico. The training is free. He just needs Chief Rigby to sign off on the training. Chief Rigby will have Officer Homyak sign off that he won't come back on the borough for travel expenses and that he will act in a professional manner while in New Mexico.

An email was received from DOJ indicating that we haven't submitted to get reimbursed 50% for the vests that were purchased. It was a grant that we applied for 2 years ago. We have till August 2018 to get reimbursed. We have a fund balance up to \$5000. It was suggested that we give the officers the option to purchase new vests at 50% of the cost with payroll deduction. According to our SOP it is mandatory that all officers wear vests.

Once the new police committee is established Chief Rigby would like the committee, mayor and police officers to meet.

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that a letter was received praising Officer Nathan Homyak for his kindness during a traffic stop.

A motion to accept the Mayor and Police Report was made by Cindy Dom and seconded by Dave Ziembra. 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**

Chief Jim Rigby reported that Christmas Eve with Santa riding through the borough went well.

A motion by Trish Corle to accept the Fireman's Report was made and seconded by Connie Hobbs. 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 reported that they are slowly starting to put Scott Bennett into the truck more and on call. Daisytown has requested for us to order their 50 tons of salt and have it directly delivered to them. We would be billed and Daisytown would pay us. They recently received 3 ton of salt and we will be billing them for that.

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

## **TREES**

No report given.

## **SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT**

Mark Muir wasn't present but reported to Anita. The MS4 report was found at the DEP's office. He will attend workshop on February 5th. He will do the semi-annual JRS report \$100.00 filing fee, no charge from EADS. Once report is complete Owen Hofecker will signoff as President. Grant money cannot be used for Goucher and Franklin but can be used for Station Street.

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

## **TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

No report given.

## **FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Barnes, Saly and Company submitted our audit with DCED. \$390.00 for PURTA was on the wrong line and Barnes and Saly changed it. The audit was then accepted.

The accounts payable list was not available for the meeting. Shawn Toth will complete it and Nancy will email it to the council members. Council members will okay the list via email and confirm it during the February meeting.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

No report given.

### **RECREATION REPORT**

No report given.

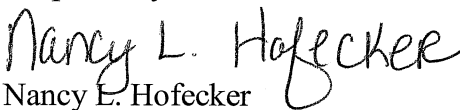
### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Now that new council members are in place and Anita Smith is retiring new signature cards for Plgit, FNB and Somerset Trust need to be signed. The following individuals are on the Plgit account, which requires two signatures: Nancy Hofecker, Cindy Dom, Dave Ziemba and Owen Hofecker. Nancy and Owen have agreed that they would never sign the same check. The FNB account will be Nancy Hofecker and Cindy Dom. The Somerset Trust account will be Nancy Hofecker and Cindy Dom.

A motion was made by Trish Corle to accept the new signatures and seconded by Connie Hobbs.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. with Connie Hobbs making the motion and seconded by Trisha Corle.

Respectfully submitted

  
Nancy E. Hofecker  
Borough Secretary