

## **FERNDALE BOROUGH**

Regular Meeting

July 8, 2021

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, July 8, 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, Street Foreman Sean Simmons and Secretary Nancy Hofecker.

### **VISITOR'S**

Visitor's present were Zachary Neal, Al Cooper, Allyssa Richards, Emma Richards, Wes Neal, Hayley Richards.

All visitors were just observing.

### **MINUTES**

There were no changes to the June 10, 2021 minutes. A motion was made by Connie Hobbs to accept the minutes, seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

### **PERSONNEL**

No report given.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Attorney Joe Green said he is working on an ordinance for curb to curb paving when a utility company digs up the road.

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

### **MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS**

A motion was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Eric Baumbaugh confirming the phone vote to hire Adam Richards as Ferndale's new police chief. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes. The motion carried.

Mayor Ralph Boyle then introduced Adam Richards and he took a seat at the table with the rest of council.

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that the jubilee will be taking place the week of July 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be officers on the grounds walking around. There will also be an officer in the cruiser patrolling the streets.

Mayor Ralph Boyle said they are looking to hire more part time police officers.

A motion to accept Mayor and Police Reports was made by Trish Corle seconded by Art Boring. 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**

Eric Baumbaugh said they will be setting up tents this Friday for the jubilee. He talked to Chief Adam Richards about police coverage. Bartlebaugh Amusements will be bringing their rides in early this year. They will be operating on Friday, Saturday and Sunday prior to the jubilee start date of July 19<sup>th</sup>. He also said they are looking for volunteers to help during the jubilee.

A motion to accept the Ferndale Fireman's Association Report was made by Art Boring seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

### **STREETS AND PROPERTY**

Sean Simmons said they took a pile of scrap down and turned it in. They received \$379.00 for the scrap.

City of Johnstown came in last month and helped clean the catch basins in the borough. We received the bill and it came in lower than the quote.

Sean said they are getting new signs for the recreation park. They are also going to get locks to lock the gates. There will be one way in and out for anyone who rents the pavilion. They will only be permitted to go on the grounds to load or unload.

During the recent storm a tree came down in Mendell Alley. The street department was unable to remove it because it came down on Verizon's fiber optic lines. Verizon had been notified by our officer on duty and by the 911 center. He is asking for residents to please be patient in situations like these.

HRI, Inc came in and completed the paving project they were awarded. They did a nice job on all the roads. Mike Bowser from PennDOT will come in and review the work prior to paying the bill.

A motion to accept Streets and Property Report was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

## **TREES**

Art Boring said that David Gerak owns a property on Summit Ave in which he removed a tree. He didn't remove the stump during the removal process. He said he wasn't told to remove the stump. Council all agreed that when removing a tree, the stump is included because it is part of the tree.

Art said there is a tree up in the recreation park by the kitchen that should come down. Sean Simmons is going to look at it to see what can be done.

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

## **SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT**

Frank Diloreto was present from EADS.

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

Station Street Phase 2: EADS has been in contact with contractors about pricing for this project. Based on conversations with contractors this project cannot be completed under the bid threshold of \$21,300. EADS is talking with the DCED to see if this can be added to the Hystone Avenue project since they have similar scopes.

EADS discussed options for an energy audit with the CFA and they recommended using the DIY energy audit toolkits to evaluate the building for energy efficiency losses. Those DIY audits can be used and submitted for Penelec Sustainability Energy Fund submissions. EADS will coordinate with Ferndale Borough on using these toolkits to update their building.

EADS is coordinating with James Excavating on completing the work at 1713 Franklin Street.

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. Attorney Joe Green reviewed the bid and everything is in order. The contractor anticipates beginning the work in November 2021.

A motion was made by Trish Corle to accept Snyder Environmental Services to perform the work on the Hystone Avenue project at a cost of \$250,000.00. The motion was seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Art Boring to sign the agreement with Snyder Environmental pending the acceptance of bonds and insurance, Mark Wissinger seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Connie Hobbs to submit the notice to proceed pending signature of the agreement and acceptance of bonds and insurance, Trish Corle seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

EADS is currently working on preparing the Multimodal Transportation grant application. It would be for the replacement of the stairs and sidewalks from Summit Avenue to Saly Alley.

Frank presented council with Resolution #3 allowing Owen Hofecker and Eric Baumbaugh to sign documents in regarding to the Multimodal Transportation grant.

A motion was made by Trish Corle to sign Resolution #3 seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes.

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

### **TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

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

### **FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

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

Trish Corle said that everyone received a copy of the quarterly report from Nancy. Everything looks like it is on track.

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

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Trish Corle said she received a right to know request from an attorney who represents several municipalities in regards to pay of our employees and health care coverage. All of which is public knowledge.

Council is going to do a press release to the Tribune Democrat announcing Adam Richards as our new police chief.

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

### **RECREATION REPORT**

No report given.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

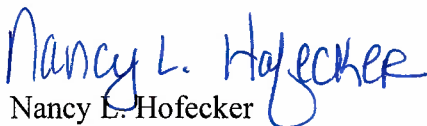
No old/new business.

At 7:00pm the meeting went into executive session regarding potential litigation and personnel.

At 7:53pm council came out of executive session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Connie Hobbs.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Nancy L. Hofecker  
Borough Secretary