

## **FERNDALE BOROUGH**

Regular Meeting

June 10, 2021

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, June 10, 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, Cindy Dom, Mark Wissinger, Jr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Police Chief John Blake, Street Foreman Sean Simmons and Secretary Nancy Hofecker. Trish Corle and Attorney Joe Green were absent.

### **VISITOR'S**

Visitor's present were Brett Pribulsky and Al Cooper.

Brett Pribulsky addressed council regarding his firework show during the jubilee. He said he will see that council gets all the required paperwork.

Al Cooper was just observing.

### **MINUTES**

There were no changes to the May 13, 2021 minutes. A motion was made by Cindy Dom to accept the minutes, seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

### **PERSONNEL**

No report given.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

No report given.

### **MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS**

Mayor Ralph Boyle introduced Adam Richards as a new part time officer of the borough.

Mayor Ralph Boyle announced that Chief John Blake has given his two-week notice. Chief Blake has taken a position at Upper Yoder Township. Mayor Ralph Boyle thanked Chief Blake for this service in the borough.

A motion was made by Art Boring to accept Chief Blake's resignation seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that we are still accepting applications for police chief and will be doing interviews soon. Mayor Ralph Boyle is going to ask Officer Todd Fockler to be the officer in charge until a new police chief is named.

A motion was made by Police Committee seconded by Mark Wissinger to hire Bill Richards as a part time police officer for the borough. The motion carried.

Chief John Blake thanked council for everything and said he enjoyed being here. His decision to move is for professional and personal growth.

A motion to accept Mayor and Police Reports was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. 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 said Roto Rooter was unable to come in to clean out the catch basins because their truck broke down and they weren't replacing it. He scheduled the city to come into the borough to do the work. They are currently working on it this week.

Chad the owner of Coal Tubin has moved into our borough back along the river. He has been working with Sean getting himself setup.

Owen Hofecker said that the street department did a great job repairing the bottom of Harlan Ave by putting a french drain in. It repaired the water problem from the heavy rains.

Nancy Hofecker read a letter she received regarding construction along Franklin St from its intersection with Southmont Blvd and heading eastbound to Valley Pike. The construction won't be in the borough but she thinks maybe signs for the detour will be placed in our borough.

Owen Hofecker is going to ask Attorney Green about changing our ordinance for paving with the utility companies, making them pave curb to curb if they dig up a road. It would also include any sidewalk work they do.

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

## **TREES**

Art Boring said he is going to contact the owners who took trees out but didn't remove the stump or replant.

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

## **SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT**

Frank Diloreto was present from EADS.

Nine pressure tests were completed in May. The final date for residents to be fully pressure tested is September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

Station Street Phase 2 project will have to be sent out for quotes with hopes that they come under the \$21,300.00 public bid threshold. If they are not under the \$21,300.00 bid threshold the project will have to be bid out.

Ferndale Borough was not awarded the grant for the energy audit. EADS discussed options for an energy audit with the CFA and they no longer award grants for energy audits. After discussing the grant with the CFA, 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 is coordinating with James Excavating on completing the work at 1713 Franklin Street.

Hystone Avenue project is currently out for bid. There are currently 4 plan holders for the project. The tentative schedule is to open bids July 1<sup>st</sup> and award the project July 8<sup>th</sup>. The contractor may begin after they submit all necessary paperwork.

Frank shared that grant application for its Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program has been submitted to DCED. They received questions on the application and they have all been addressed.

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.

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

## **TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

A motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report for May was made by Connie Hobbs seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

## **FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

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

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Eric Baumbaugh said he has spoken with John Feathers in regards to his things being placed on borough property. Mr. Feathers has removed his belongings. The situation is done and there are no hard feelings.

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

## **RECREATION REPORT**

Nancy Hofecker said that she received a donation of \$183.00 from the Ferndale United Methodist Church to go towards the playground.

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

## **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

The bid packets for the proposed paving project in the borough were opened. The following bids were submitted: HRI option 1 \$47,293.35 – option 2 \$38,595.15 and Quaker Sales option 1 \$53,811.50 – option 2 \$43,779.50.

A motion to accept HRI option 1 to complete the paving project was made by Art Boring seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

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

At 6:50pm the meeting went into executive session regarding a personal issue.

At 7:20pm council came out of executive session. A motion was made by Art Boring to approve Bill Richards pay rate seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Art Boring.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy L. Hofecker*

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Borough Secretary