

# **FERNDALE BOROUGH**

Regular Meeting

June 12, 2017

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Monday, June 12, 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., and those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

## **VISITORS**

Lanelle Moore, representing the Ferndale Area Competitive Cheerleading Squad Boosters, was requesting the use of the Ferndale Park on Ferndale Ave. for a fundraiser. They will have vendors such as Pamper Chef, Tupperware and different crafts and jewelry vendors. They will have refreshments available. They would like to have both pavilions, along with electricity and the use of the tables for the vendors.

Chief Rigby stated that no vehicles will be allowed to park on the grounds and it must be open to the public. The Cheerleading Boosters have the necessary insurance to cover any damage or injury, should any occur.

A motion to allow the Cheerleading Boosters use the park was made by Ken Dom and seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

Other visitors included Justin Pavic, who was observing as a student at Ferndale Area High School., Wes Neal, Zach Neal and Catherine Baldwin, all were observing.

## **MINUTES**

A motion by Trisha Corle, seconded by Connie Hobbs, to accept the minutes of the May 9, 2017, meeting was made; and all Councilmembers approved. The motion carried.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

No report was given.

## **SEWERS/SEWER PROJECT REPORT**

Mark Muir of EADS distributed the June Report it is as follows:  
657 inspections have been completed.

- Entire System Tested – 295
- Tested to inside Foundation -128
- Outside only tested – 235
- Storm Verification only -9
- Vacant and Not Connected - 14
- 1 Sale transfers in March
- 2 Sale transfers in April

Items discussed: Franklin and Goucher Storm line could cost as much as \$70,000.00. Mr. Muir will meet with PennDOT officials to discuss options. We could do spot repairs, but the permits could cost \$1,500 to \$2,000. Maybe 10 to 20 feet will need to be replaced. We will need to get this number from PennDot. The Council feels that some of the problem is the terra-cotta pipe on Mendall Alley, if this was plugged, it may help with the Storm Sewer water infiltrating into the Sanitary Sewer Lines. We think this is a dead end line, but there still could be some leakage. JRA has not installed the meters to monitor this flow.

It was also discussed, that JRA has moved the objective and has made it almost impossible to achieve the end result. JRA told the Borough in the beginning of the project that they only had to do to the foundation. But now we cannot get the peak flow below the acceptable reading. This will be addressed at the next meeting.

Mark Muir talked about the 4 homes on Ferndale Avenue, behind the Borough building. There needs to be easements signed before we can proceed with this project. The Secretary will look into this, to make sure they were signed at the beginning of the project.

Brian McAteer said that CSX covered up the manhole on Ferndale Avenue, when they came in to repair the railroad tracks. We will have to have Roto-Rooter come in and televise the line. This will be the responsible of CSX to fix this manhole cover and the cost to have the line televised.

The viewports on the backside of Hystone Avenue will be looked into by Roger Bock and Councilmen Ken Dom. They will have to open the viewport on the opposite side of the road (it is on a slight bank) if the depth is more than 4 ft. it will have to go out for bid. The existing laterals will have to be located first and that is at the expense of the homeowners. A letter will be sent to all the homeowners informing them of this.

A motion to accept the Sewer/Sewer Project Report was made by Robert Gray and seconded by Owen Hofecker. The motion carried.

## **PERSONNEL REPORT**

Councilmen Dom has made some changes to the Personnel Policy for the Borough employees. He has asked that the Committee review the changes and when they are satisfied with the changes, then it will be presented to the Council along with a copy of the old policy, so they can see the changes.

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

## **MAYOR AND POLICE REPORT**

Chief Rigby e-mailed his May 2017 Report to all Councilmembers; there were no questions on the Report. Chief Rigby reported that a new Police Officer was hired, his name is Nathan Homyak. He is 20 years old and a graduate of UPJ.

Five officers have taken the 3 hour on-line training, there are 3 officers' left, but they will take the on-line training by June 30, 2017.

On another matter, the officer in question is having problems with the phone and e-mail address, it was suggested that a certificated letter be sent to the officer.

A handicap sign on Station Street at the intersection of Clem Alley will be moved to a better location within the space provided and that the curb is repainted. Also, there are other handicap spaces to be painted along with the emblem. The crosswalk's in the Borough need to be painted as well. Brian McAteer said he would get to it, but for now, his top priority is the catch basins Midway Drive and Harlan Avenue to have them done before the paving begins in July.

A motion by Connie Hobbs was made and seconded by Ken Dom. The motion carried.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Atty. Joe Green's report will be presented during an Executive Session at the end of the Council meeting.

## **FERNDALE FIRE ASSOCIATION REPORT**

Mayor Ralph Boyle reported that the kitchen for the Jubilee will only be open from 5:00 to 10:00 Monday thru Friday and Saturday from 5:00 to 11:00. No matinee will be held on Wednesday, but there will be a matinee on Saturday. Fireworks on Saturday evening and the car give away.

## **STREETS AND PROPERTY REPORT**

Brian McAteer submitted his report and no questions on the report. He reported that the Street Department is getting ready for the paving. Also, in 2018 Route 403 (Ferndale Avenue) will be paved from one end of Ferndale to the Central Avenue Bridge.

The Gator has been advertised for \$4,500.00. There were offers, but no sale to date.

A motion to accept the Streets and Property Report was made by Trisha Corle and seconded by Robert Gray.

## **TREES**

Owen Hofecker reported that the tree on Vickroy Avenue in front of Arcuri's home was taken down. The homeowner paid the cost to remove the tree. Michael Oliver of Victim's Service had the tree trimmed in front of the business. The cost was paid by the business.

A motion by Trisha Corle to accept the report was made, seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

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

The Tax Collector reported collections for the month of May 2017, totaling \$1,441.44. June will be the last month to collect at the face. Usually June's collection will bring in an additional 8 to 10 thousand dollars more before the penalty is assessed.

A motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report was made by Mark Wissinger and seconded by Trisha Corle.

### **FINANCE REPORT/ACCOUNT PAYABLE**

Councilmember Trisha Corle wants the Council to review the Financial Statements for all accounts and if there are any questions, please ask them. We can re-examine the budget in July and make sure the income and expenses are close to the budget. We can seat down with Herbert's CPA and discuss any changes for the next years' budget.

A motion to accept the Finance Report and to pay all bills was made by Robert Gray and seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

President Scott Miles reported that a neighbor called him about a problem she had, it turns out she had a bear on her front porch. He scared the baby cub away and all's well that ends well.

### **RECREATION**

Councilmember and Recreation Chairman Mark Wissinger reported that the Summer Swim Program has started at the YWCA.

A question was asked about the bench at the Ferndale Park that had a sign for Sally McNally. Mr. McAteer will look into where the sign was placed. He also, reported that the Street Department mulched the entire area around the playground equipment. Mr. Miles said that there is a large hole under the fence from the playground to the schools' ball field. Brian McAteer is aware of the hole and has filled it several times, but the kids keep digging it out.

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

### **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

The Ferndale United Methodist Church has requested that a part of Vickroy Avenue and Atlee Street be blocked off for their annual Strawberry Festival on Sunday July 9, 2017 from 3:00 to 6:00. This time includes set-up and clean-up. The Council approved the request. All Councilmembers voted "yes".

The regular meeting concluded at 8:25 p.m.

The Solicitor presented his report along with other will matter during the Executive Session.

Submitted by

Anita M. Smith  
Borough of Secretary