

FERNDALE BOROUGH

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REGULAR MEETING

MAY 11, 2015

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Monday, May 11, 2015, in the Fire Company's Recreation Hall at 618 Westinghouse Avenue, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Vice President Mary Rose Shaffer 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

Roll Call showed the following present: Cindy Dom, Al Lushko, Scott Miles, Mary Rose Shaffer, Mark Wissinger, Jr., Dave Ziemba, Mayor Edward Dallape, Solicitor Wayne Langerholc, Highway Foreman-Brian McAteer, AP/Payroll Anita Smith and Jackie Miller.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Mary Rose Shaffer. Jim Rigby took over the meeting at 7:15 after Ferndale phone business about Tillman Avenue. He asked if everyone had met the new Secretary/Treasurer other than by e-mail and it was indicated that everyone had met her.

VISITORS

Billie Michael of 115 Harlan Ave stated that she lives in an apartment building with 12 units and she needs a disabled parking spot because she cannot walk a long distance. Brian McAteer said he would be able to accommodate her.

Albert Cooper of 213 Summit Ave stated that he had a problem about a tree which is on Borough property between the curb and sidewalk. He wanted to cut down the tree limb and asked if he needed a permit and he does. Scott Miles said he would take a look at it.

Heidi Wallace stated that she has a non-profit organization registered with the state called Angel Help Foundation. She was inquiring if she could rent the grounds owned by the Borough to help the community by cooking in the kitchen and teaching others to cook and paying the residents. She would like to have a stand open all summer except during the Jubilee. She said she could make healthy meals very cheaply. Heidi also talked about Ferndale Band's Disney Trip as a way to get workers. Scott Miles talked about a school program where the kids were given free meals but the extra food was thrown away rather than given to the kids who were there who wanted to eat more. Jim Rigby suggested that she contact the school to see if she could utilize the concession stand. He also suggested that she contact someone from the Firemen's Association since the Borough does not own the kitchen on the park grounds. He did state that should the Firemen's Assn. disband, the kitchen would revert to the Borough.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion to accept the minutes from April 13, 2015 was made by Mark Wissinger and seconded by Dave Ziemba. All Council Members voted "Yes" and therefore, the motion was passed unanimously.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineers not present.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT + FIRE CO. REPORT+ WEST HILLS REPORT:

No Action Needed.

EQUIPMENT /STREETS TO BOROUGH PROPERTY REPORT

Jim Rigby asked if everyone received the West Hills Report and if there were any comments or questions. He said that Southmont was looking for help.

Brian McAteer stated that he lowered the tie-in on Margaret Avenue for 298 Goucher Street and he paved and leveled the manhole on the 300 block of Margaret Avenue and installed new basin and pipe to manhole on 500 block of Margaret Avenue. Brian repaired power flush at restrooms and he cut the field twice. He filled the sinking area by the playground with top soil and a French drain below the swingset. Brian spent 7 hours sweeping streets in Daisytown and 6 hours sweeping streets in Dale Borough. Brian repaired broken view ports on Glenwood. Geistown Borough borrowed the wood chipper. The equipment which needed attention and which Brian repaired were as follows:

The 550 needed a 6 month inspection, the 2005 F350 needed braked work, the Gator needed a tie-rod end, the 2008 F350 needed a beacon light, new mirror for excavator.

Roger from Stonycreek Twp. Wants to know if anyone will be attending The Pa One Call Meeting being held on May 13, 2015.

Brian stated that Ferndale will need a signed Easement from Penn Machine to install lateral sewer line for the Hershberger building.

Brian informed the Council that he would be on vacation from May 23, 2015 through June 6, 2015.

Jim Rigby stated that the front half of the municipal building is leaking and needs patched. He said that he wanted to get an idea of the cost of fixing the roof. He said it has been more than 20 years since it was tarred. Rubber roof would cost \$23,000. Hip roof would cost \$36,500. Jim Rigby said he knows he would have to advertise for bids, but he wanted an idea.

There was a discussion about 1717 Ferndale Avenue because it was a sheriff's sale and not in Nitka's name yet (even though he came in for a moving permit). Another sheriff's sale property a lady was cleaning and someone stopped to check property.

Hi-lift bucket was shown, but Al Lushko said that the buckets that are used by the utilities would be more effective and safer.

There was a discussion about accidents other than Workman Compensation being kept in personnel files in order to see which employees are the safest.

Brian said that a sump pump cannot work in the basement. Jim Rigby asked how much water was accumulating, and Brian said about 8 gallons- 5 times a day; he said we may need a bigger pump.

A motion to accept Equipment/Streets to Borough Property Report was made by Cindy Dom and seconded by Al Lushko. All council Members voted "Yes"; therefore, the motion passed unanimously.

TREES

A tree was cut down on Glenwood Avenue without a permit. Scott Miles said he was asked about trimming the tree, not cutting it down. Motion to accept the tree report was made by Cindy Dom and seconded by Al Lushko. The motion passed.

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORT

A discussion was started about Art Boring's health status, but the Solicitor said that this should not be a part of the public meeting because of confidentiality. It was tabled to be discussed at the Executive Session.

Scott Miles asked if everyone received the police report and if there were any questions or concerns. There were none.

There was a discussion about a property on Summit Avenue concerning the height of the fence and Stockade versus Shadow Box

A motion to accept the Mayor and Police Report was made by Al Lushko and seconded by Mrs. Shaffer. All Council Members voted "Yes"; therefore, the motion passed unanimously.

At this point the Council met for an Executive Session at approximately 7:45 p.m.

The Regular Meeting continued at 9:15 p.m. as follows:

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK REPORT + BILL LIST AND ADDITIONAL BILLS + TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Anita Smith stated that the Bill List amounts would not print so she needed to install them by hand. Mrs. Shaffer is going to try to fix.

Scott Miles asked why there had to be 13 separate Penelec bills. Anita answered that was the only way the company could be paid to keep track of the different meters. Anita Smith said that letter from the surveyor came in and was attached to her report, but Mrs. Shaffer said that the surveyor's letter should be discussed and Jim said that he would discuss that letter with 3 other letters later in the meeting.

The Additional Bills for May 11, 2015 amounted to \$20,424.24.

The Tax Collector's Report amounted to \$60,983.45 and another \$60,000 should be coming in as well. Motion to accept the Accounts Payable Clerk Report + Bill List And Additional Bills + Tax Collector's Report. Motion to accept the above reports was made by Scott Miles and seconded by Al Lushko. All Council Members voted "Yes"; therefore, the motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Nothing to report.

SEWERS –SEWER PROJECT

Cindy Dom asked Jim Rigby if he heard from Calvin of Bear Construction on restoring the property to the way it was prior to the sewer work on Station Street. The contractor dumped dirt on the property but Mr. Miller needs additional top soil. On the Havener property contractor said that lateral was too high; however Liberoni looked at the property and did not think it was too high so Liberoni said that if the lateral is put in and the view point is too high, he will be back from working in the Westend.

Motion to accept the Sewers -Sewer Project Report was made by Red Ziemba and seconded by Al Lushko. All Council Members voted "Yes"; therefore, the motion passed unanimously.

Jim Rigby mentioned a letter by Facciani that he thought was very disrespectful. The Council just mentioned that he could not double-dip if he gets money from his insurance company.

Jim Rigby brought to the attention of the Council a letter asking for an extension for the sewer project to October, 2015.

Jim Rigby made copies of a letter from Barbara Casavant regarding a trailer on Hystone Avenue. He said it will be taken care of.

Jim Rigby had Jerry Thomas, Surveyor, survey the Borough property. The surveyor indicated that the adjoining property is encroaching on the Borough building. The surveyor provided a survey and letter explaining the situation. Attorney Langerholc was asked to check into the problem.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Carol Schalles, the former Borough Secretary/Treasurer, was asking for additional money for vacation days. The Council determined that she was due 2 ½ days' vacation time consistent with the amount of her salary. Motion to accept this amount was made by Mrs. Shaffer and seconded by Cindy Dom. A roll call was taken and was unanimously voted "Yes."

RECREATION REPORT

Mark Wissinger brought to the Council's attention that the playground needed a new sliding board and he can purchase one for \$5,000. The proposal to purchase a new sliding board at the cost of \$5,000 was made by Scott Miles and seconded by Cindy Dom. All Council Members voted "Yes" and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

No action needed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Most of Attorney Langerholc's report was covered in the Executive Session. However, the Dollar General matter was brought to the table by Scott Miles. Attorney Langerholc will contact Dollar General on this trash problem.

Al Lushko made the motion and Cindy Dom seconded it. All Council Members voted "Yes" and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE

Jim Rigby indicated that he and Jerry Katzenstein attended Planning Commission Meeting at the Holiday Inn which was arranged by Ethan Imhoff. Lower Yoder, Westmont, Southmont, Ferndale and Upper Yoder were represented. The subject was consistency on municipal business. There is \$60,000 in matching grants. Each municipal would contribute \$5,000. Jim Rigby said that if the Ferndale High School building became available, it would help belonging to this commission. For instance Ferndale 9.5%, Westmont 30.2%. The commission is meeting again in a month. There was a discussion concerning only a one-time contribution of \$5,000 and Jim said it would be only the initial cost. The Motion concerning this proposal was made by Al Lushko and seconded by Scott Miles. All Council Members voted "Yes" so the motion passed unanimously.

The subject of Towing was brought up. Berkebile does some free work for the Police so it was suggested that if a resident has no preference that Berkebile should be called. Bratz is being used often and that company does not have the capacity to flip over a car onto a flatbed towing truck. Motion to use Berkebile Towing whenever possible was made by Mark Wissinger and seconded by Mrs. Shaffer. All Council Members voted "Yes" so the motion passed unanimously. It was brought up that a Memo needed to be sent to the Police Department.

The subject of Adjournment was made by Mrs. Shaffer and seconded by Mark Wissinger.

ADJOURN

The Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m. o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

JACQUELINE DONATE-MILLER
Secretary/Treasurer

05/11/2015