

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting

October 8, 2018

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Monday, September 10, 2018, in the Fireman's Recreation Hall at 618 Westinghouse Avenue, Johnstown, PA.

President Owen Hofecker 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: President Owen Hofecker, V.P. Mark Wissinger, Trish Corle, Cindy Dom, Ken Dom, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Atty. Joe Green, Police Chief Jim Rigby, Secretary Nancy Hofecker and Street Foreman Roger Bock. Connie Hobbs and Dave Ziemba were absent.

VISITOR'S

Visitors present were Jared Ohler, Zachary Neal and Wes Neal.

All visitors were just observing.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the September 10, 2018 minutes. A motion was made by Trish Corle to accept the minutes and seconded by Ken Dom. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL

Ken Dom said that he has one resident interested in the part time street department position. He is going to have him stop by the office on Wednesday and fill out an application. Ken did look into posting the job position at Career Link. Ken will pursue Career Link if they decide not to hire the resident who is interested.

Trish Corle made a motion to change the personnel policy to read if hired the individual would agree to a pre-employment physical and drug screening. Ken Dom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The borough has received a letter from a property owner's insurance company in the borough attempting to subrogate payment for flooding damage. The secretary will contact FWF Insurance to see if there is coverage.

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

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Chief Rigby said he is working on a property on Franklin Street that has high grass. The property is being taken over by the bank. He is having a hard time getting in touch with someone. Nancy Hofecker said that she recently received information in the mail indicating that the property is being sold and she will get that information to Chief Rigby.

Ken Dom expressed concern regarding the grass on Ferndale Avenue. He asked who owns the property. Chief Rigby indicated that APR Supply owns it. Unfortunately only one person works behind the counter making it hard for him to leave and cut the grass.

Chief Rigby said that the one cruiser went in for inspection and got the winter tires placed on it. Come spring the cruiser will need new tires as the tread isn't good on the spring/summer tires.

Chief Rigby said that four officers will be re-qualifying on their service weapons during the month of October.

Mark Wissinger said he received a call from a resident regarding an abandon vehicle in the borough. The vehicle is sitting in the individual's yard. Chief Rigby said that our ordinance is written that the inspection and registration have to both be out for the individual to be in violation. Attorney Green is going to look into the abandon vehicle ordinance and will give suggestions into changing the ordinance. He will work on putting a rough draft together.

A motion to accept the Mayor and Police Reports was made by Trish Corle and seconded by Cindy Dom. 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

During the last fireman's association meeting, they sounded the fire siren in honor of the members who passed away from 2014 to present.

Ralph Boyle presented council with a check for \$11,000 from the Ferndale Fireman's Association. President Owen Hofecker thanked the association for the donation. The donation goes toward our fire protection in the borough.

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

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Roger is starting to build a new leaf collection box for leaf pickup. Both of the borough trucks are due for inspection by the end of this month.

There are issues with water running out onto the road on the backside of Hystone. Roger is going to dig a trench to divert the water toward the basin so it doesn't continue to go on the roadway.

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

TREES

No Report Given.

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Two pressure tests were completed in September. Mark shared graphs with council in regards to the water flow.

Mark Muir from EADS and President Hofecker shared that Ferndale Borough was denied the grant for PA Small Water and Sewer Program. Mark Muir recommended that the borough not give up and keep applying for the grants.

Mark Muir also recommended putting the manhole rehabilitation into our budget for next year. The rehabilitation on the one cracked manhole is scheduled to be repaired on October 16, 2018.

Attorney Green asked Mark if all the downspouts in Penn Machine have been tested. Mark said he was going to check his records to see what kind of inspections have been done at Penn Machine.

Mark Muir said he will be attending MS4 training. He suggested someone from council also attend. Since Cindy Dom is the chairperson for Sewers she will be attending.

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

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

A motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report was made by Trish Corle seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A motion to accept the Finance Report and to pay all Accounts Payable was made by Cindy Dom seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given.

RECREATION REPORT

No report given.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Nancy Hofecker shared with council that Keystate who published our ordinances in the past is no longer in business. The owner has passed away. She received an email from Rich at American Legal Publishing Corporation. At this time Keystate is willing to sell the files to American Legal Publishing for \$100.00. Everyone on council agreed that it would be a good idea to allow them to purchase the files. If down the road American Legal has to start from scratch it could be very costly.

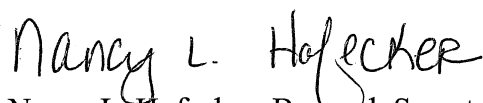
Attorney Green shared that Wednesday, September 26th, the zoning board had a hearing regarding Ferndale United Methodist Church turning the vacant lot that they own into a parking lot. He will be meeting with the zoning board again on October 10th. He is to do a fact finding letter and send it to everyone who was in attendance at the meeting. There was one resident who was very upset at the meeting and said that if the church is granted permission to make the lot a parking lot he will appeal the decision.

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

At 8:18pm the meeting went into Executive Session regarding a personnel issue.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. with Trish Corle making the motion.

Respectfully submitted


Nancy L. Hofecker, Borough Secretary