

## **FERNDALE BOROUGH**

Regular Meeting  
September 11, 2017

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Monday, September 11, 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. There was a moment of silence in remembrance for the victims of the 911 attacks on the U.S., after which, 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 (arrived at 7:15), Connie Hobbs, Robert Gray, Owen Hofecker, Ken Dom, Trisha Corle, Mayor – Ralph Boyle, Chief of Police - James Rigby, Street Foreman - Brian McAteer and Secretary, Anita Smith.

### **VISITORS**

Cynthia Dom, Zach Neal and Wes Neal – all were observing.

### **MINUTES**

A motion by Trisha Corle to accept the minutes of the August 14, 2017 was made. It was seconded by Robert Gray. The motion carried.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

No report was given.

### **SEWER/SEWER REPORT**

Mark Muir was unable to attend this meeting, but did meet with the Council at their Workshop meeting. He supplied them with the most recent peak flow chart.

The pumping station on Ferndale Avenue was discussed and the NPDES permits. Also, Mark Muir talked to Mike Bowser of PennDOT and he stated that Liquid Fuel funds can be used for the project on Goucher Street.

The secretary talked to Dan Mikesic and he did not put the work order in for the PennVest audit. He said he would do that today. But he said that the Engineers have to be involved with this situation in order for it to be resolved.

The EADS group was coming in for the monthly checks on the flow of certain manholes, but has not been in lately, so Ken Dom will meet with Brian McAteer to check these manholes on wet

and dry conditions and determine if anything can be done about this problem with the overflow readings on the meters.

A motion was made by Owen Hofecker and seconded by Trisha Corle to accept the Sewer Report. The motion carried.

### **PERSONNEL REPORT**

There was no official report given. However, President Miles said we must set aside our ego's and all work together to get this resolved. We must work for the good of the taxpayers. It was also suggested that the Engineer and Sewer Reports be combined for the Council meetings. All members agreed.

### **MAYOR AND POLICE REPORT**

Chief Rigby e-mailed all Councilmembers his report for August 2017 there were no questions on the Police Report.

The Mayor reported that he is waiting on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. bid to determine the cost to install a heating and air condition unit in the police station. He will report on this at the October meeting.

The officers have reported that they are having some problems with their radios. On certain calls, there are dead spots where they cannot contact 911. For some reason it seems to be in the valleys. Although there is still service in the Cruiser, but sometimes the officer cannot leave the scene to go to the Cruiser. Officer Hall was on a call to Sell St. (backing up the City police) and he did not have service and had to call on his cell phone.

They may have to purchase 3 or 4 radios at a cost of \$500.00 to \$600.00. The Chief said that 3 officers have their own radios.

Before we have that expense, Chief Rigby will talk to someone to see if this maybe a connector problem or a frequency problem.

It was reported that the Fire Co. has this same problem along with Upper Yoder Township officers. Chief Rigby will call 911 or the County to try and get this resolved.

New tires were purchased for the cruiser. The police will run the old cruiser in the winter.

Trisha Corle made a motion to accept the Police Report it was seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

No report was given. The Solicitor was unable to attend the meeting.

### **EMERGENCY MGT. + FIRE CO. + WEST HILLS REPORT**

The monthly report has been e-mailed to the Borough Office if you need the report just contact the Secretary and one will be provided.

## **FERNDALE FIRE ASSOCIATION REPORT**

Mayor Ralph Boyle reported that not all the bills have come in for the Jubilee and he should have all that information for the November meeting along with a check to the Borough. He stated that there will be a Jubilee in 2018 and they will give away another car.

The Ferndale Area Band Boosters will be more active next year for the Jubilee and they (the Boosters) have asked that if any Councilmember or employee would like to donate a basket for their Basket Party to be held on November 19, 2017. It would be greatly appreciated; they are raising funds for a trip in the spring of 2018.

The Fire Assoc. has granted permission to the 4 properties in question, that they can go through the Ferndale Fire Association's property for the sewer project. The other house in question is on Ferndale Avenue.

A motion to accept the Fire Association Report was made by Ken Dom and seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

## **STREETS AND PROPERTY**

Brian McAteer distributed his August 2017 report to the Councilmembers, no questions on the report.

Ralph Boyle had a question about the manhole cover on Vickroy Avenue. It was reported that they are the old style covers and will be replaced next year, along with ones on Ferndale Ave., Clay St. and Atlee St. The Borough will have to get state permits to replace these manhole covers.

Potholes on Quaker Avenue will be fixed this week. The potholes on Suter Street have already been patched. The Street Department will be working on Suter and Midway Dr. clearing grass and debris from the catch basins in preparation of the winter months.

Brian reported that the street sweeper is down – it will take a little while to fix it. In the meantime they would like to build a new leaf box, because the old one is no longer functional.

The Street Department will install the "No Parking" signs on Harlan Avenue, from Westinghouse Avenue to Station Street. This is due to street sweeping.

Owen Hofecker has been in contact with West Hills Regional Fire Company on the sale of the Gator with attachments. They (West Hills) will work out a payment with us. It most likely will be in reducing our obligation to West Hills for fire protection in 2018.

Owen Hofecker would like to see the weeds on Saly Alley (Borough property) be trimmed back from the road.

A resident on Colonial Street would like to see the residents on Forbes Court (whose property line extends to Colonial St.) to trim all the trees and weeds along Colonial Street, so that two cars can pass safely.

A motion to accept the Street and Property Report was made by Mark Wissinger and seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

## **TREES**

Councilmen Hofecker reported that only one person has replaced a tree after one had been removed. He said about 6 trees have been cut down. If a tree has been replaced and that tree dies, another tree does not have to be planted.

Trisha Corle made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Ken Dom. The motion carried.

## **TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

Taxes collected in August totaled \$1,632.90. Unpaid tax notices will be going out in October.

A motion by Connie Hobbs to accept the Tax Collector's Report and seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

## **FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

The invoice from Barnes, Saly and Company for \$7,000.00 was addressed again. On advice from our Solicitor, this invoice should not be paid, because they did not inform the Borough first of the extra expense. This amount is above the cost of the contract. We will contact our Solicitor Joe Green on this matter and let him handle it.

Trisha Corle and Connie Hobbs will meet with Herbert's in the near future, to go over the financial statement and the line items. This will help with doing next year's budget.

A motion to pay the Accounts Payable and accept the Financial Report was made by Robert Gray and seconded by Mark Wissinger. The motion carried.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

No official report was given, however; a resident has made numerous calls to the Borough and to Scott Miles, to complain about the garbage hauler. Their garbage has been missed, sometimes 2 and 3 weeks. The house is on Summit Avenue, but the driveway is on a side street and that is where the garbage is placed. Advanced Disposal has been made aware of the problem and will correct it.

## **RECREATION**

Councilmen Hofecker has taken care of the Recreation Insurance for the upcoming Elementary Sports Activities. The cost is \$1,300.00; this will cover approximately 40 wrestlers and 100 basketball players, both boys and girls programs.

The school has sent a letter given permission to use the school facilities, since the extra insurance has been purchased. Asst. Secretary Beverly Roth has sent letters to the other municipalities within the Ferndale Area School District, to request donations to offset the cost of the insurance.

A donation to the Ferndale Football Boosters of \$1,000.00 was given to help with the cost of the lights at the football field for the Berlin game. Since two new eateries have opened on Ferndale Avenue, the Council is hoping that it will bring money into the Borough and help their business succeed.

Owen Hofecker will help coach the girls' basketball team after the Christmas break. They will be in the East Hills Recreation program. This program will help develop the girls' basketball team for the high school teams in the future.

Sarah Riffle, the high school basketball coach, will be putting out a newspaper about the Elementary Sports programs.

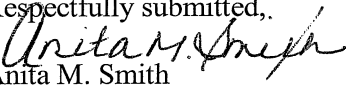
A motion by Trisha Corle was made to accept the Recreation Report and seconded by Connie Hobbs.  
The motion carried.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

The Cambria County Borough's Association 2017 Fall Dinner will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at the Cresson American Legion at 222 Ashcroft Avenue, Cresson, PA. Anyone interested in attending, please contact the secretary before Monday, October 16, 2017. The cost is \$20.00 a person, however; the Borough will pay for any Councilmember, Mayor or employee who would like to attend.

**The regular meeting ended at 8:25.  
The Council then went into Executive Session.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Anita M. Smith  
Borough Secretary