

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting

July 11, 2024

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, July 11, 2024, 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: VP Eric Baumbaugh, Cindy Dom, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger Jr, Mark Wissinger Sr, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Police Chief Adam Richards, Attorney Joe Green, Street Foreman Sean Simmons and Secretary Nancy Hofecker. Art Boring was absent.

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to adopt the July 11, 2024 agenda seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

VISITOR'S

Sharon and Andy Bellak were present and addressed council regarding dogs in the borough. Sharon has concerns with the ones that are unlicensed, unleashed and bite. She had a few suggestions for council to look over.

Sean Glenn was present on behalf of Brett Pribulsky from Pyrotechnics. He presented all the proper paperwork for the fireworks display at the jubilee.

Wes Neal was present to observe.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the June 13, 2024 minutes. A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to accept the minutes, seconded by Mark Wissinger, Jr. The motion carried.

President Owen Hofecker said there was no committee meeting last week because of the holiday.

PERSONNEL

No report given

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report given

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that there were two arrests in the paper recently. Both arrests were made by our officers.

Chief Richards received some donated equipment from The 1889 Foundation, Judge Krumenacker's Office and County Sheriff's Department. We received a ballistics shield, rifle plates and a carrier. Nineteen departments throughout the county received the equipment.

All the officers from the borough will be helping at the jubilee next week.

Officer Angel Raehl has almost completed her commitment to us. She needs a few more hours to fulfill her agreement from us sponsoring her in the academy.

WEST HILLS REPORT

West Hills Regional e-mailed their report to the office, if anyone would like a copy, please contact the secretary.

Kevin Schrock from West Hills Regional said that the fire commission exploratory committee is on hold for now. They are in need of funding.

Nancy shared with Kevin Schrock that she spoke with Tim Spangler and he sent her an article regarding municipal boundaries. She is going to pass the article on to Kevin. Nancy said she is willing to help correct the problem. However, it sounds like the boundaries can't be changed.

FERNDALE FIREMAN'S ASSOC. REPORT

Ralph Boyle said they started setting things up at the jubilee. He thanked the borough for their support and allowing them to use the grounds. He said that the volunteers painted almost all the posts on the pavilions.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Sean Simmons said they finished up with the hot box and getting pot holes filled. Roger has been going down Ferndale Avenue touching up the paint on the curbs and repainting some parking spaces. A stump grinder was rented to remove some stumps in the park. Sean found a trailer that the mini excavator and other equipment can be hauled on. He reached out to some council members to get their approval for purchase.

HRI, Inc is planning on paving on the 29th and 30th of July.

Cindy Dom thanked Sean for cleaning up and painting the front of the police station.

Eric Baumbaugh said that Nancy and Chief Richards had a meeting with Laurel Municipal regarding some of the properties in the borough. Laurel Municipal is going to follow up on the ones they are working on.

TREES

Eric Baumbaugh mentioned that the trees on Plainfield Avenue are starting to hang low again. We might want to consider taking care of them and getting them trimmed.

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank DiLoreto was present from EADS.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to amend the agenda, adding Resolution #7. Item is as follows: Pass Resolution #7 for the PennDOT TASA Grant Business Partner Registration. The motion was seconded by Mark Wissinger Sr. The motion carried. Item C listed on the agenda was removed because the document was not ready for approval.

Eight pressure tests were completed in June.

Station St Walkway Rehabilitation Project: The relocated utility pole was set on 5/7/2024. Penelec is scheduled to move their lines in the first week of July. Then Verizon and finally Breezeline. Once all the utilities are transferred then the existing pole can be removed, and the concrete can be patched. Straw anticipates patching the sidewalk and patching the hole in the retaining wall at the same time once the pole is removed.

Rigby Park Improvements Project: Marmat Inc started construction for the project on 5/22/2024. They anticipate completion of the project by June 21st, 2024. Park and Play structures agreement was signed and will be submitted to the DCNR with the Schrock Fencing quote. Security camera installers were contacted to provide a price. One quote was received to date.

A motion was made by Cindy Dom to accept the Schrock Fencing quote in the amount of \$8,351.00 seconded by Mark Wissinger Jr. The motion carried.

Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project: The agreement with EADS and Ferndale Borough was executed. The site will be surveyed and fieldwork completed to establish the existing site conditions.

Station St Phase 2 Project: A project kickoff meeting with PennDOT was conducted on 7/2/2024 to discuss the project for logistics for the grant funding. PennDOT provided us with directions on the checklist items that will need to be completed for the grant. EADS is preparing an agreement for the preliminary design work that will be necessary for bidding on the project.

A motion was made by Connie Hobbs to Pass Resolution #6 for the PennDOT TASA Grant in the amount of \$280,000.00 seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Connie Hobbs to Pass Resolution #7 for the PennDOT TASA Grant Business Partner Registration seconded by Eric Baumbaugh. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

PennDOT MTF Grant Application: PennDOT anticipates a 2024 spring/summer announcement.

DCED LSA Grant: Grant announcement is anticipated for Fall 2024.

DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP): Applications was submitted for Tennis/Pickleball Court Rehabilitation on May 30, 2024.

DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF): Transportation projects between \$100,000.00 to \$3,000,000.00 with no match. Applications are due by July 31st, 2024. Application will be submitted for resurfacing and regrading the walking track.

A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to Pass Resolution #5 for the Multimodal Transportation Fund seconded by Connie Hobbs. A roll call vote was taken with all present members voting yes. The motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Collector's Report was presented for June 2024. The amount collected in June was \$13,832.71.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Nancy shared that Barnes Saly is starting on the borough audit for 2023.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given

RECREATION REPORT

Mark Wissinger Jr thanked Frank DiLoreto from EADS for working so hard to get us grant money for the park.

Nancy shared that the swim program has finished with the YWCA. There weren't as many kids as last year.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Nancy shared letters that she received from two residents who weren't able to attend the meeting.

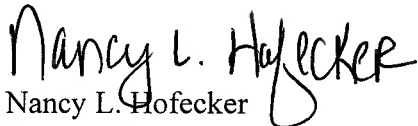
Karen Thomas from Summit Ave wrote a letter in regards to the fireworks that occur all hours of the day and night. Nancy was going to reach out to her and let her know about the noise ordinance the borough has and encourage her to call the police when it happens.

Brenda Childers purchased 719 Suter Street. She would like to put a driveway in to make it easier on her husband. They were told it is a borough right a way and they have been told that there was a driveway there before. Council suggested they get the property surveyed to determine whose property it is.

The meeting went into executive session at 7:00pm for a personnel issue and potential litigation. The meeting came out of executive session at 7:35pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:36pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Connie Hobbs.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy L. Hofecker
Borough Secretary