

FERNDALE BOROUGH

Regular Meeting
September 12, 2024

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, September 12, 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, and Secretary Nancy Hofecker. Art Boring was absent.

A motion was made by Mark Wissinger Sr to adopt the September 12, 2024 agenda seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

VISITOR'S

Zachary Neal and Wes Watson were present to observe.

MINUTES

There were no changes to the August 8, 2024 minutes. A motion was made by Eric Baumbaugh to accept the minutes, seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

President Owen Hofecker did a recap of the committee meeting. Those in attendance were: VP Eric Baumbaugh, Cindy Dom, Connie Hobbs, President Owen Hofecker, Mark Wissinger Jr, Mark Wissinger Sr and Mayor Ralph Boyle. They created the agenda for this evening's meeting and reviewed the action items that are listed. Art Boring was absent (excused).

PERSONNEL

No report given

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Joe Green said he is working on redoing the deed for Rigby Park. He has to change some wording as to what it can and cannot be used for. It is part of the requirement for the grant that we received.

MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS

Mayor Ralph Boyle said that our officers are going to start foot patrolling the playground and basketball courts.

Chief Richards is working with Laurel Municipal in regards to some of the properties in the borough. He sent citations up to the magistrate's office for anyone who is not sewer complaint.

WEST HILLS REPORT

Kevin Schrock said they have been busy with some of the storms that came through. He said they received a microgrant through FEMA in the amount of \$55,000.00. The money will be used to replace hoses and nozzles. Some of the firefighters were recently recognized for their life saving efforts in two fires that happened in Westmont. They were recognized at this year's fireman's convention.

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

Ralph Boyle said they are waiting for two bills from the jubilee. The jubilee was an overall success. Hopefully by next month they will have received the bills.

STREETS AND PROPERTY

Nancy said she received the new contract for the salt for 2024-2025. The price for salt went up this year. The price per ton is \$94.91.

Nancy said that Roger hauled in some old scrap that the borough had. We received \$523.00 for it. The money will be placed in the general fund. Roger is working by himself for now but is doing a really good job.

Eric Baumbaugh said that John Custer would like to do a co-op program with us. Owen Hofecker and Eric talked about it. Owen is going to reach out to the co-op director at Vo-Tech to see if we can get him on the co-op program.

TREES

No report given

SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT

Frank DiLoreto was present from EADS.

Three pressure tests were completed in August.

Station St Walkway Rehabilitation Project: Straw has completed all patching work for the project and is ready for closeout and final payment. Closeout documents have been signed by Straw and can be finalized for processing.

Rigby Park Improvements Project: Park and Play have completed all playground work. Schrock has completed their fencing work. DCNR has approved the two quotes received. DCNR said that two quotes is enough since there has been difficulty getting a third quote. They are under review from the DCNR. Once approved we can begin the security camera work.

Ferndale Ave Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project: EADS completed surveying the sidewalk along Ferndale Ave. Base mapping and design work can begin with the survey completed.

Station St Phase 2 Project: The Business Partner ID was created. Scoping Field View was completed on 8/29/2024. PennDOT is to be working on the Resolution agreement for the grant.

PennDOT MTF Grant Application: Rigby Park lighting has not been awarded.

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

DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP): Grant announcement is anticipated for Spring 2024.

DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF): Applications were submitted for the walking track rehabilitation on 7/26/2024. Application was denied because the walking path was a closed loop and did not meet the grant requirements.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Collector's Report was presented for August 2024. The amount collected in August was \$5,501.20.

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Nancy said Barnes & Saly is wrapping up the audit for 2023.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report given

RECREATION REPORT

Nancy said she worked with Sarah Rifle and the school district to get the basketball drills and skills program in place for the year. The rec insurance that is required by the school is \$476.25. Letters went out to the other municipalities that are connected to the school asking if they could help with the cost.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Council decided that trick or treat will be held this year on Thursday, October 31st from 6pm till 7:30pm.

The meeting went into executive session at 6:46pm for a personnel issue and potential litigation. The meeting came out of executive session at 7:15pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16pm with Cindy Dom making the motion seconded by Connie Hobbs.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy L. Hofecker
Borough Secretary