

## **FERNDALE BOROUGH**

Regular Meeting  
September 10, 2020

The Ferndale Borough Council met on Thursday, September 10, 2020, 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: President Owen Hofecker, VP Connie Hobbs, Art Boring, Trish Corle, Cindy Dom, Mark Wissinger, Mayor Ralph Boyle, Police Chief John Blake, Secretary Nancy Hofecker and Street Foreman Sean Simmons. Attorney Joe Green was absent.

Trish Corle made a motion to amend the agenda for tonight's meeting by moving the Personnel Report to item number 2. Cindy Dom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **VISITOR'S**

Visitors present were Collin Hargnett, Jody Ingram, Dennis Kassick, Lisa & Sean Glenn, Cindy Huntley, Bette Weaver, Zachary & Wes Neal and William Jeschonek.

Dennis Kassick thanked the police and street department for placing the signs in the alley way. He has some questions/concerns about the gas line repair in Clem Alley.

Sean Glenn and William Jeschonek spoke regarding Louisa Alley. The gas company recently did work in the alley and left the alley a mess.

Bette Weaver spoke regarding parking on Suter Street.

Jody Ingram, Cindy Huntley, Zachary & Wes Neal were all observing.

### **MINUTES**

There were no changes to the August 13, 2020 minutes. A motion was made by Cindy Dom to accept the minutes, seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

### **PERSONNEL**

A phone vote was taken to hire Collin Hargnett as a Ferndale Borough Police Officer. A motion was made by Trish Corle to reaffirm the phone vote taken seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.

A phone vote was taken to hire Joseph Marsh as a Ferndale Borough Police Officer. A motion was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

Mayor Ralph Boyle then swore in Collin Hargnett. Joseph Marsh was unable to attend and will be sworn in at a later time.

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

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

No report given.

### **MAYOR AND POLICE REPORTS**

Chief Blake said that the no parking signs were placed on Henry in accordance with state code.

A motion to accept Mayor and Police Reports was made by Trish Corle seconded by Mark Wissinger. 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**

No report given.

### **STREETS AND PROPERTY**

Sean Simmons said PennDOT will be starting soon on the ADA sidewalks and drains on Ferndale Avenue.

Sean said with the new traffic lights at the intersection of Goucher St and Franklin St you can hook up a generator if the power goes out.

A motion to accept Streets and Property Report was made by Cindy Dom seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

### **TREES**

Art Boring said he is going to review the tree ordinance. He has noticed that there are a lot of trees hanging low in the borough that need trimmed. He wants to see if it is borough responsibility or homeowners to get them trimmed.

A motion to accept Tree Report was made by Trish Corle seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

## **SEWER/SEWER PROJECT REPORT**

Frank Diloreto was present from EADS. Twenty-eight pressure tests were completed in August.

Frank said they are anticipating work to begin around October 19<sup>th</sup> for Station Street Phase 1. EADS is still contacting contractors to request quotes for the Station Street Phase 2 project.

Frank said the Manhole Rehabilitation was completed on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. It went well and looks significantly better. However, there is still some leakage. EADS is working with AVANTI Grout and Sherwin Williams to determine the best way to fix it.

EADS is going to apply for the next available CFA Mini Grant to help us fund a building audit. The audit will increase the chances of being awarded funds to repair/upgrade the building.

James Excavating anticipates completing the work at 1713 Franklin Street in the coming weeks.

EADS is working on completing the survey on the borough property at 109 Station Street.

Ferndale Borough has been awarded the PA Small Water Grant. The grant will be used to complete the Hystone Avenue project. EADS suggested that they amend the grant to include additional costs, council agreed. EADS will process the amendment. Owen Hofecker thanked EADS for all their hard work in getting us the grant.

Frank reviewed the options to repair the hole in the sewer inlet. Council agreed that the street department can fix it to save costs. The repairs need to be completed by September 18 so that HRI can do their part prior to paving the road.

EADS has been notified that there is potential for COVID-19 stimulus bill for infrastructure projects that are ready to be constructed in 2020. A list of potential projects that could be funded are Station St Phase 2 and Goucher Street.

Owen Hofecker announced that Ferndale Borough has been granted an extension from DEP for all under-slab/underground piping. The deadline has been extended to September 1, 2021. He thanked EADS for all their hard work in preparing the letter and getting the information to DEP. If homeowners aren't completed by then they will be cited.

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

## **TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

A motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report for August was made by Art Boring seconded by Trish Corle. The motion carried.

## **FINANCE/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

A motion to pay all Accounts Payable was made by Trish Corle and seconded by Cindy Dom. The motion carried.

Trish Corle said that she is working on scheduling a time to meet with Herbert's to make sure we are on track financially. Cindy Dom will also be part of the meeting.

A motion to accept the Finance/Accounts Payable Report was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Connie Hobbs. The motion carried.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

No report given.

## **RECREATION REPORT**

Owen Hofecker said he signed a use of facility form for Sarah Riffle to use the elementary school gym for the basketball rec program. When and if the school approves the request, we will then put the insurance in place with FWF.

A motion to accept the Recreation Report was made by Trish Corle seconded by Art Boring. The motion carried.


## **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Eric Baumbaugh submitted a letter of interest to council regarding the empty seat on council. A motion was made by Trish Corle to accept Eric as the new council member seconded by Art Boring. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes. The motion carried.

A motion to accept Old/New Business was made by Mark Wissinger seconded by Connie Hobbs.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59pm with Cindy Dom making the motion, seconded by Mark Wissinger.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Nancy L. Hofecker  
Borough Secretary