

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING October 17, 2005

Meeting called to order by President Terrell at 1900 hrs. Present were:

J. Blum – Vice President
D. Sarpen – Councilman
W. Burgess - Councilman
W. Cerkan – Councilman
C. Herrmann - Councilman
J. Joy - Mayor
T.L. Crawford -Borough Secretary
D. Jones - Solicitor

Also Present: (see attached list).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Terrell reviewed the dates of several upcoming events; Christmas tree lighting 12/3/05, Borough appreciation banquet 12/2/05, 2006 parade 7/8/06. President Terrell reviewed the progress of the Katrina aid effort. He explained that the Commonwealths Code prohibit monetary donations, subsequently another method of aid was sought. A contact was made with a LA State Trooper who provided cell phone numbers for fire chiefs, police chiefs, sheriffs and public works personnel in the small hardest hit areas. After numerous conversations with these individuals there equipment needs were determined, noting they did not want monetary aid, just material goods. Contact was made with the York County Fire Chiefs Assoc., York County Police Chiefs Assoc. and the York Chapter of APWA requesting donation of goods. The response was donations of equipment for all public services, and some agencies made purchases of equipment to send. NF donated a service truck and SRPD donated a police cruiser, as well as took a 24 ft. moving van loaded with equipment. President Terrell advised Council he met with K. Dickmyer after his return and Keith explained the difficult conditions in the area, and the gratitude expressed by the depts. Another truck and police cruiser departed on 10/15, and 3 trucks and 1 cruiser departed this morning for Lacombe, LA. Council commended T.L. Crawford for handling the endeavor and organizing the trips. Photos were distributed that were e-mailed to T.L. Crawford from a Chief in the area.

Mayor Joy swore in Jr. Council member Kristine Mastaler, and welcomed her to the Borough Council.

DISBURSEMENTS:

GEN (001): Total \$ 436,692.92 Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Burgess to approve. Motion carried.
WAT (006): Total \$ 59,473.81 Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by J. Burgess to approve. Motion carried.
SEW (008): Total \$ 91,980.78 Motion by W. Burgess, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve. Motion carried.
REC (009): Total \$ 6,888.42 Motion by W. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve. Motion carried.
CC (099): Total \$ 2,676.46 Motion by C. Herrmann, seconded by J. Blum to approve. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by C. Herrmann to approve the minutes of 9/12/05. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Mayor – Mayor Joy read the emergency services reports for Sept. Mayor Joy noted the preliminary budget is drafted. NF has a slight increase, and the amounts will be adjusted as final numbers such as insurance, additional officers costs etc. are factored in. W. Cerkan reviewed the police minutes noting the following; a grant was received for a motorcycle, a grant was received for 2 cameras and scanner and for a new speed trailer. He also advised a deer was struck with a cruiser causing significant damage. President Terrell discussed the concern of NF with the lack of hours being spent patrolling in the Borough due to an increased call volume in the other bailiwicks.

Heritage Group – M. Furio noted the festival was a success, and the crowd larger than anticipated. She extended the groups gratitude to SRPD for their assistance. They will be starting the planning process earlier next year. She noted the businesses in the area saw an increase in their clientele for the day.

Web Site – W. Burgess requested some photos of the Katrina area we are aiding be put on the web site.

Rec. – J. Blum noted the Rec. Council would like to commend Donald Bortner for all the work and time he put into the Veterans Park project. He also noted the Bunker Hill Park needs mulch, and the bleachers at Veterans Parks need some boards replaced. The Rec. Council did approve the recommendation of lights on the tennis courts that would be a pay-to-play method. The office will check into the type of meters and costs involved in this type project.

SRPC – D. Sarpen noted that Pat Fero of the commission is inquiring into a possible fire dept. consolidation involving Glen Rock, NF and Shrewsbury Borough. J. Joy noted the idea sounds possible, however does not believe all depts. are ready for such a move, and notes the Twp. does not have a fire dept. D. Sarpen advised the PUC is inquiring into the status of the complaint filed by the Borough concerning the services of Met Ed. He will respond to the PUC, however he will request Met Ed provide an outline of the improvements finished and those projected for the area. He will advise Council of the outcome.

Bull Property – B. Terrell advised settlement was held on 9/29/05. The building is in extremely poor condition and has been vandalized, as well as utilized as a loitering location for juveniles. The Zoning Officer has determined upon numerous inspections the buildings should come down as soon as possible. All utility companies have been contacted to disconnect services as soon as possible. Kinsley Construction will begin to demo the building this week and haul debris away. Removal of this dilapidated building will improve the area around the rail-trail as well as deter a hangout for juveniles.

BUSINESS:

Refuse Contract 2006 – T.L. Crawford reviewed the option in the current Penn Waste contract that permits a one-year renewal with increases just for the additional units. A meeting was held with Solicitor Hovis and Penn Waste to discuss this option. The only change would be to terminate a bulk pick-up day, and permit 1 bulk item to be put out every week on the second pick-up. This method is used in other areas and seems to be popular with residents, since they do not have to store items for a year. The municipalities that have put refuse out for bid this year are seeing increases up to 41%. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Burgess to authorize a one year extension of the waste contract in the amount of \$ 340,752.00. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2005-10 (Sewer Rates) – President Terrell reviewed the Ordinance. The rate is being increased by \$ 2.00 per quarter for minimum use, and \$.50 per every 1000 gallons over minimum. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to adopt the Ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2005-11 (Water Rates) – President Terrell read the Ordinance, noting the increase is \$ 1.00 per quarter for minimum and \$.50 per 1000 gallons over minimum. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to adopt as presented. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2005 –12 (Real Estate Tax Rate 2006) President Terrell noted the real estate tax rate will be .83 mil, same as the past 8 years. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Burgess. Motion carried.

County Pictometry _ Council reviewed the proposal, and the Buchar Horn memo. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Cerkan to authorize the project for \$ 190. per sector, noting the Borough is 2 sectors. Motion carried.

Comcast Resolution 2005-9 – D. Jones reviewed the Resolution noting this permits the Adelphia contract to be sold to Comcast. This is an action as part of the Adelphia bankruptcy proceedings. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Cerkan to approve the Resolution as presented. Motion carried.

Maude Fry Final Subdivision Plan – J. Holley present to review the plan. The plan is to subdivide an existing house into 2 houses. The only issue that poses a problem is the sewer connection. The plumber will tap a separate water line and connection, however the sewer is a major problem and cost prohibitive. He noted this same problem was remedied in the past with a note on the plan, and on the deeds that responsibility for the line is jointly shared. He also explained W. Portner has been consulted and has no problem with this remedy. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by C. Herrmann to approve this type of connection that must be noted and recorded on the plan and on both deeds. Motion carried. J. Holley requested the following waivers, which were recommended for approval by PC: Section 4.22.1 contours, Section 4.22.5 soil and Section 4.24.6 EIS plan.

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Burgess to grant all waivers as requested. Motion carried. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Burgess to approve the final plan of Maude Fry as noted above. Motion carried.

CITIZENS FORUM:

SYCR Library – Representatives of the Library were present to express their gratitude for the monetary support received for 2005. They also advised a new Librarian has begun at the facility, and noted the various upcoming programs.

WWTP Truck Memo – T.L. Crawford reviewed the memo on replacing the 98 Ford Ranger with a full size F150 truck. The transmission has rebuilt once and is slipping again. The estimate to rebuild the transmission is \$ 2400., and Kelly Blue Book value is \$ 3200. The cost of a F150 on the PAC Contract is \$ 25,014.50. Motion by W. Burgess, seconded by J. Blum to purchase the F150 on the Pac contract in the amount of \$ 25,014.50. Motion carried.

2006 MMO – President Terrell reviewed the 2006 MMO of \$ 54,782.24. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpem to adopt the MMO for 2006. Motion carried.

Vactor – Glen Rock Sewer Authority submitted a written offer of \$ 8,000. to purchase the 1985 Vactor Truck from the WWTP. The vactor is not sufficient for New Freedom's use due to the different types of lines, noting the Bay Savers are a particular problem. Glen Rock has utilized our crews and the vactor on numerous occasions, and knew NF was considering an upgrade. The vactor does meet their needs, and sales between municipalities need not be bid, subsequently they submitted the offer. The vendor was contacted and stated maximum value would be \$ 10,000. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Cerkan to accept the offer of \$ 8,000. Motion carried.

Yard Sales – W. Burgess noted a problem with a particular resident that owns an adjoining lot and hold 4 yard sales a year. She holds 2 on her improved lot, and 2 on the unimproved lot. Motion by W. Burgess, seconded by D. Sarpem to have the Solicitor amend the Ordinance to permit yard sales on improved lots only. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council convened to executive session at 2100 hours to discuss a possible litigation issue. Council reconvened to the regular meeting at 2118 hours.

ADOURNMENT:

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by W. Burgess to adjourn at 2143 hrs.