

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
March 10, 2008

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

J. Blum – Vice President
E. Myers - Councilman
E. Molinsky – Councilman
W. Cerkan – Councilman
G. Andrews - Councilman
J. Joy – Mayor (arrived 1940 hrs.)
T.L. Crawford -Borough Secretary
S. Hovis - Solicitor
J. Childs – Police Chief

Also Present: (see attached list).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Terrell noted the upcoming events; SRPC awards ceremony on 3/19, York County Parks Banquet, NF Gardeners Codorus Creek Watershed seminar and Stock & Leader Right To Know Law update.

DISBURSEMENTS:

General Fund - \$ 110,160.63. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by E. Molinsky to approve. Motion carried.
Water Fund - \$ 18,010.59. Motion by E. Molinsky, seconded by E. Myers to approve. Motion carried.
Sewer Fund - \$ 77,165.13. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by E. Myers to approve. Motion carried.
Rec. Fund - \$ 215.01 Motion by J. Blum, seconded by E. Myers to approve. Motion carried.
Com. Ctr. - \$ 6698.64. Motion by E. Myers, seconded by E. Molinsky to approve. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by E. Molinsky to approve the minutes of 2/11/08 & 2/20/08 with correction as noted. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Mayor – Mayor Joy presented Erin Holloway a certificate for completion of an EMA class for the County of York. Mayor Joy read the emergency services report for February 2008. Mayor Joy also noted the proposed curfew Ordinance being circulated by the County has the same time frames as the Borough's current Ordinance. He explained the "fish/pill" incident was not done by the manufacturer, but was an herbal supplement placed in the fish at the residence where the incident occurred. He advised the trailer received from Homeland Security that has been in the parking lot will be moved in the near future. He also noted the fire company banquet was a success.

Solicitor - S. Hovis advised Council the refuse contract with Penn Waste is signed, with service beginning on 4/1/08.

Police – Chief Childs presented tips and information on the common "scams" that operate during the spring months. The most common are driveway repair, roofing and minor construction projects. Chief Childs reminded residents to use reputable contractors and do not pay the entire bill in advance. If a resident is approached and has concerns they can contact the police dept. He also discussed the recent gang activity that the dept is dealing with along the rail trail. There have been several arrests of individuals in the park area, and the symbols of 410 & 420 are gang related, they represent telephone area codes. Members of the NF Heritage questioned the Chief on the lights at the tennis courts. He explained the Ordinances, and the police do not do selective enforcement, the Ordinances are applied equally to all individuals and facilities. The group inquired about block watch or teen watch programs. Chief Childs explained teen watch programs lead to retaliation, and historically do not work. Block watch programs also fail to be very successful since people must get involved and call 911 when the incident is occurring. Chief Childs discussed the concept of cameras and the expense, noting the ones at Veteran Park do not provide a clear photo for a positive identification. Chief Childs explained the decrease in vandalism at the park since lights have been off. T.L. Crawford advised the office has never received a call about the lack of lights, except from the NF Heritage recently. T.L. Crawford also explained the concept of meter and pay as you play lights, which is done in 1 municipality in York County that has lights. T.L. Crawford noted the cost is a concern for additional electric, and is uncertain how Rec. will pay for the lights. President Terrell noted the light were installed years ago by the Jaycees and were not paid for by tax money or recreation funds. Council discussed the issue and their concerns. Motion by E. Molinsky, seconded by E. Myers to have the Solicitor review the Ordinance for the possibility of addressing the tennis lights in a different manner. Motion carried.

Parade – W. Cerkan reported the date for the 2008 parade is July 5. The registration forms will be going in the mail in the near future. W. Cerkan questioned the status of the Borough web site. T.L. Crawford advised after numerous e-mails and

letters no response has been received from the pervious web master. The office will be contacting NFDC about taking over the web site, since they previously made an offer.

BUSINESS:

Ordinance Codification – Council reviewed the proposal submitted by General Code, Inc. in the amount of \$ 10,100. S. Hovis noted this is very much needed since the last update was 14 years ago, and most municipalities are on a schedule of 5-10 years for codification of Ordinances. Motion by E. Molinsky, seconded by J. Blum to accept the proposal as submitted. Motion carried.

Council Resignation – President Terrell read the letter of resignation submitted by Jeff Blum effective 3/31/08. President Terrell commended J. Blum for his 14 years of active service on Council and to the community. He noted J. Blum had been a supporter of progressive programs and needed change in the Borough. President Terrell noted J. Blum will be missed not only by Council and staff, but by the community. Motion by E. Molinsky, seconded By G. Andrews to accept the resignation of Jeff Blum as submitted. Motion carried.

J. Blum commended Borough Council and the Borough staff for the progress New Freedom has made in the past 14 years. He reminded Council of the old equipment once used to maintain streets, the out dated facilities etc. He noted without a supportive Council and aggressive staff the Borough could not have come so far. J. Blum noted he will truly miss New Freedom, but will be back to visit and social events.

CITIZENS FORUM:

Jean Brown requested Council consider a method to dim the street light along the new section of Front St. at the Townhouses. She explained the light shines into her window. Chief Childs asked if this location is where the light was tampered with and resulted in police and the codes dept. becoming involved. She advised it was. T.L Crawford advised the codes dept. has contacted Brockmyer Electric to research a possible shield or remedy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council convened to executive session at 2015 hrs. to discuss litigation involving DEP and the Capital Hill COG. Council reconvened to the regular meeting at 2027 hrs.

OTHER:

President Terrell noted S. Hovis will monitor the COG v. DEP case, as well as staff contacts.

Motion W. Cerkan, seconded by G. Andrews to appoint Dennis Sarpen to the Council vacancy resulting from J. Blum resignation on 4/1/08. E. Molinsky questioned if the vacancy should be advertised to allow others to express interest. Council noted D. Sarpen has been very involved in his past 2 terms and brings his strong technical abilities and knowledge of water and sewer issues to the table which benefits the Borough. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by G. Andrews, seconded by W. Cerkan to adjourn at 2042 hrs. Motion carried