

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
April 11, 2015

Meeting called to order by President Sarpen at 1900 hours. Present were:

J. Blum – Vice President
L. O'Brien – Council member
K. Earll – Council member
J. Halapin – Mayor
T.L. Crawford – Administrator

Other present: see attached

CALL TO ORDER

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Sarpen noted Council member Brady Terrell was involved in a vehicle accident recently and is now in a rehab hospital.

TREASURER'S REPORT

April 2016- \$ 418,319.04

Motion J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve the reports as submitted. Motion carried.

MINUTES: (March, 2016)

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Mayor – Mayor Halapin noted the hours for police service in the past month have increased due to a recent criminal activity in the Borough.

Rec Council – M. Halapin noted the egg hunt revenue was \$ 200. She also reminded Council the Farmers Market begins May 7. M. Halapin also advised Mason/Dixon Soccer team will be placing a receptacle at Wethersfield Park for their supplies.

Police – J. Blum advised Council of the ongoing formula meetings. He explained it appears the committee will not recommend a PPU or time only formula for funding purposes. He elaborated on the desired formula, and the one regional police is based on per the DCED manual is “pay for the service you receive”. He noted if you pay 22% of the bill you should receive 22% of the service, which is not how the current or past formulas have worked. New Freedom is paying \$ 550,290. in 2016 which is 33.35% of the total budget, yet receives 22% of the service, while Shrewsbury pays \$ 527,028 which is 31.94% of the budget and receives 33.3% of the service. He advised if a time/service analysis was followed NF cost would drop \$ 70,000. He explained the difference would be spread out by users of the service, which several members do not want since it will increase their cost, and they would actually pay for what they use. J. Blum requests Council determine what direction they want to go, since some members want to use a mix of population and roads (which is used now) and time analysis. This will still result in a higher cost for NF since NF has the highest population and most road miles, but not the most police service needs; it also hinders any chance of a township ever becoming a member. J. Blum explained how Mike Ridgley of Shrewsbury felt it was not fair to Shrewsbury since some of the need for police is due to non-residents utilizing the police service when in their Borough for shopping, such as vehicle accidents, shop lifting etc. J. Halapin noted

that would mean if a NF resident is in a vehicle accident in Spring Garden Twp., NF should pay to Spring Garden for their resident. He noted how ridiculous that is, since all residents from all municipalities cross municipal borders numerous times in a day. L. O'Brien stated PPU's is the only way to have a fair and equitable agreement, you pay for what you use, and the municipality has some control over how much patrol time, what they can afford and how to budget for it. It also insures that each municipality pays the same hourly rate for police service, unlike now. Mayor Halapin voiced his concerns on NF being the highest hourly rate payer, and noted it is time NF stop subsidizing Shrewsbury Borough as it has done for years. Council continued a lengthy discussion on the inadequacies of the current formula, and the need for a halt to NF paying the most, and not receiving the service. J. Halapin also explained Stewartstown Borough is not happy that they are receiving more patrol time than needed and it impacts their cost. The Chief will look for ways to adjust that. Council noted the goal is to have a PPU formula or a strictly hourly formula, which are truly fair methods of payment. Council agreed to a phasing in of the PPU/hourly method not to exceed 3 years. J. Blum will meet with the committee and attempt to negotiate a formula with hours as the largest portion, and other factors the remaining portions, which would change over a 3 year period until the PPU/hourly formula is in place.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

YCP Regional Storm Water - T. Ruby reviewed the York County Regional Storm water concept, and provided handouts. She explained the watersheds in York County and the impact uncontrolled storm water has on the Chesapeake Bay. She advised the goal is a County wide organization, which is funded by all municipalities. Council questioned how projects will be selected, funding methods etc. T. Ruby noted several issues are still in the study phase, so decisions have not been made. She advised additional information will be coming in the future.

Lori Pierce Conditional Approval – L. Pierce of 22 John Randolph Drive provided handouts for her proposed dog grooming business. She advised Council she met with the zoning officer and reviewed the criteria set forth in the ZO for a home occupation. She noted she would be utilizing a portion of her garage, and will be limited to 2 day per week by appointment only. Council reviewed the criteria for conditional approval as set for in section 225-1005 of the ZO. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to grant the conditional approval for a home occupation. Motion carried.

A Boy Scout was present and questioned the role Borough Council and the challenges they face. President Sarpen advised some of the issues are what he has witnessed tonight such as storm water, finances, land use and numerous other issues. L. O'Brien noted he would talk to the man after the meeting to answer any additional questions.

BUSINESS:

FEMA DAP Forms – T.L. Crawford explained the forms and the process for reimbursement for the blizzard expenses from FEMA/PEMA. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by L. O'Brien to authorize the Disaster Declaration submission. Motion carried. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by L. O'Brien to appoint T.L. Crawford as the agent to handle the process. Motion carried.

York County Per Capita Letter – T.L. Crawford explained the impact and cost to the Borough after the County no longer has an enumerator or handles the printing of the nuisance (per capita/head) tax bills later this year. Council discussed the net revenue of the tax, and determined not to enact the tax in the future, beginning with the 2017 budget year.

L. O'Brien questioned the status of his request concerning sidewalks on Main St. at the Railroad tracks. T.L. Crawford advised letters were mailed to York County Parks, Steam into History and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. She reported Steam into History responded noting they do not own the property, but would discuss it at an upcoming meeting. No other responses received. Council determined if no response by the May 9 meeting a second letter will be sent.

Mayor Halapin inquired on behalf of the Fire Chief how a burn ban for the Borough is put in place, since the Borough already has a burning ban. Council discussed the issue and reviewed the Ordinance and determined it would be an official action of Borough Council.

Goodfellow Park (cook shack) – D. Sarpen explained a recent meeting was held with L.S.C. to review a few minor electrical changes to the drawings. The meeting also results in amending the project to adequately address the electrical source for the holiday lights. The change will result in separate boxes for the lights, and should stop the problem of the lights dimming as they go the length of the street.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to adjourn the meeting at 2053 hours. Motion carried.