

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

August 8, 2016

PUBLIC HEARING

Hearing opened by President Sarpen at 1830 hours. Present were:

*J. Blum – Vice President
B. Terrell – Council member
L. O'Brien – Council member (arri. 1838 hrs.)
K. Earll – Council member
B. Merrill – Council member
G. Andrews – Council member (arri. 1842 hrs.)
S. Hovis - Solicitor
T.L. Crawford – Administrator*

Solicitor S. Hovis explained the purpose of the public hearing is for Council to give consideration to the comments from the public. As defined in the PA Sunshine Law, comment is limited to Borough taxpayers and residents. He noted a public hearing is required by Article #1, Section #A of the SRPC Intergovernmental Agreement. It requires Council must hold a public hearing prior to taking any action concerning withdrawing from the SRPC. He also explained this hearing preserves the right to consider that action and adheres to the timeline set forth in the agreement. Solicitor advised the public they must state their name and address, and comments are limited to 5 minutes per person.

Jennifer Shaff of 120 Highland Ave. expressed her concern on the impact of Shrewsbury commercial properties impacting New Freedom. She suggested a traffic study could supply data to assist in determining where customers are coming from that utilize Shrewsbury businesses. She also noted Shrewsbury could charge their commercial properties impact fees, and not have any tax increases in New Freedom.

Mike Sharkey (Shrewsbury Council member) of 323 Cassidy Way, Shrewsbury Borough, noted he is the commander of the NF V.F.W., and explained Shrewsbury's position on per capita cost. He noted since NF has more residents they should pay more and not base it on calls and service. He also stated other formulas have been suggested that mix roads, populations and calls. B. Merrill questioned M. Sharkey on his understanding of the formulas.

Kim Butcher of 265 S. Constitution Ave. advised he has seen a lot of changes in NF, and most are positive, and the police are a good asset to NF. He stated he desires local police, since the response time would be better, he does not want PSP since they are understaffed and cover a larger area. He also questioned if a letter to withdraw is submitted, could it be rescinded within the year if problems get worked out.

Public Hearing closed at 1849 hours.

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

August 8, 2016

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

J. Blum – Vice President
B. Terrell – Council member
L. O'Brien – Council member
K. Earll – Council member
B. Merrill – Council member
G. Andrews – Council member
J. Halapin – Mayor
S. Hovis - Solicitor
T.L. Crawford – Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 2016- \$ 183,531.64

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

MINUTES: (July 11, 2016)

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by B. Terrell to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NF Heritage request tabled from 7/11/16 concerning a beer and wine garden at the Freedom Fest has been withdrawn. D. Folger requested Council authorize their written request (see attached) for signage, parking at Goodfellow Park, road closures and "no parking" areas during the day of the Freedom Fest. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by L. O'Brien to approve their request as submitted. Motion carried.

Phil Robinson inquired if the letter from Shrewsbury Borough concerning utilizing their line for sewer was acceptable. President Sarpen noted the letter was satisfactory; however there are numerous issues and several things that must be looked at before a decision can be rendered. Shrewsbury Borough Council President B. Buchanan advised they are willing to permit the line to be used, but must also complete some studies. He also noted any capacity sold to P. Robinson must come from NF, not magically appear from repairing sewer leaks. P. Robinson provided Council a copy of a conceptual plan for a shopping /commercial district in Shrewsbury Township over the next several years.

REPORTS:

Rec Council – M. Halapin introduced the new "teen" member, Noah Chiglinsky. She advised he has worked as a volunteer for the past 2 years, and will replace their current teen member who is moving. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by K. Earll to appoint Noah Chiglinsky to the Rec Council. Motion carried.

Solicitor – S. Hovis advised Council 6 properties in the Borough are listed for the tax upset sale in September.

BUSINESS:

Roads – J. Blum noted the road projects are progressing, and look good. He requested Singer Road be placed on the 2017 paving list.

PD Survey – B. Terrell requested the results of the survey. T. L. Crawford noted as of today 542 received, 536 do not want to subsidy any other municipality, 6 agree to subsidy Shrewsbury.

OTHER:

T.L. Crawford advised we are applying for another sewer/water grant with a 15% match.

T.L. Crawford reviewed the following recommendations for payment:

Fitz & Smith (School Alley & Smith Mill Road) \$ 167,199.20. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve. Motion carried.

Fitz & Smith (2016 Paving & Inlet Replacement) \$ 132,149.20. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve. Motion carried, with D. Sarpen abstaining.

Clearview Excavating (Rutledge Rd, Adams Ct., Storm Sewers) \$ 84,778.00. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by K. Earll, seconded by J. Blum to adjourn the meeting at 1923 hrs. Motion carried.