

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
December 8, 2014

Meeting called to order by President B. Terrell at 1850 hours. Present were:

J. Blum – Council member
E. Paules – Vice President
D. Sarpen – Council member
K. Earll – Council member
L. O'Brien – Council member
G. Andrews – Council member
J. Halapin - Mayor
T.L. Crawford – Administrator
S. Hovis - Solicitor

Others present: see attached

CALL TO ORDER

TREASURER'S REPORT (11/1/2014 – 11/30/2014)

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve the report as submitted with disbursements of \$581,332.26. Motion carried.

MINUTES: (November 10, 2014)

Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by E. Paules to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Mayor – Mayor Halapin reported the police department recently had several personnel changes, 1 office staff member and 1 police officer are no longer with the department. The SRPC has interviewed for the police officer position, and made an offer of employment to one of the candidates. He also reports the contract negotiations are going well, and health insurance coverage is one of the issues currently being discussed.

Sewer – D. Sarpen commended the Borough public works department on the Christmas tree decorations. He briefly reviewed an article from the Bay Journal concerning the Chesapeake Bay. The article addresses another possible nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) reduction plan, which will impact wastewater treatment plants. A copy of the article will be placed in all Council members mailbox.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rodney Winmond, 10 Barelyn Drive requested Council grant relief of his high water/sewer bill. He explained his home had a leak under the house that went undetected until he heard a noise and found water coming in the basement. He is having a restoration company working on the repairs. Council explained the policy on leaks and water/sewer usage. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by J. Blum upon receipt of a verified plumbers bill noting the water used did not go into the sewer, his sewer bill will be reduced to his average sewer bill, the water amount remains as billed (\$2,916.) however the time frame for payment without penalty on the water portion is extended to 1 year. Motion carried.

M. Michaels (Rec tennis coach) present to discuss the policy on tennis class free use of the community center, when a request is submitted for a fee rental on the same date. Council discussed in length, including the history of the uses, costs, flexibility etc. T.L. Crawford advised she will be talking with the proposed rental applicant on Wednesday to confirm if they are renting the facility. Council requested The Recreation Council discuss the situation and work on a solution, and Council will consider a policy for Community Center reservations.

BUSINESS:

CFR Partner Plan - J. Holley present to review the plan consisting of 4 single story townhouses on a single parcel at the corner of High St. and Front St. Planning Commission recommended approval of the plan, noting all engineering comments have been addressed. J. Holley requested the following waivers: SLDO 194.510 (sidewalks on Front St), SLDO 194.511 (curbing along Front St., SLDO 194-513 (street lighting). PC and Buchart Horn recommended approval of the requested waivers. Motion by E. Paules, seconded by K. Earll to grant the aforementioned waivers as requested. Motion carried with D. Sarpen abstaining. J. Holley requested Council approve the plan and sign and date when the fees are paid at a later time, noting it will need dated within the 90 days or revisited for the County to record. S. Hovis requested all maintenance issues and responsibility for the storm water be placed on the deed for lot #1. Motion by E. Paules, seconded by L. O'Brien to approve the plan and sign at the appropriate time contingent upon all fees paid in full, and all storm water responsibility be noted on the deed and shown on the plan for lot # 1. Motion carried, with D. Sarpen abstaining.

Resolution 2014-4 (Act 44 compliance) – S. Hovis explained this is Act outlines procedures for professional service contract provisions of pension providers. Motion by K. Earll, seconded by J. Blum to adopt Resolution 2014-4 as presented. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by G. Andrews seconded by J. Blum to adjourn the meeting at 2023 hrs. Motion carried.