

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
July 14, 2014

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

J. Blum – Council member
K. Earll – Council member
D. Sarpen – 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 (6/10/2014 – 6/30/2014)

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve the report as submitted with disbursements of \$ 207,076.66. Motion carried.

MINUTES: (June 9, 2014)

Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by K. Earll to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Mayor – Mayor Halapin advised the SRPC meeting is will be on 7/15/14, so no report is available.

Sewer – D. Sarpen reviewed a brief article concerning the Chesapeake Bay and EPA guidelines. He explained if agriculture does not show a reduction in pollutants to the bay, they may request additional efforts be done by sewer plants, which would be costly to users. He will draft a letter to the state representative concerning this issue.

J. Blum requested the office contact Met Ed to request a representative attend a meeting to discuss the frequent electric outages, and if they do not agree to meet to file a complaint with the PUC.

Rec – Rec Council members provided a brief presentation on future improvements planned for Goodfellow Park. They are working on fund raising and donations for the project. T.L. Crawford advised Buchart Horn is reviewing the property and feasible locations for equipment to avoid storm water problems. She also advised Buchart Horn will be submitting a grant to DCNR that is a 50/50 match for multiple use type recreation facilities. Joan Davis requested Andy Bobby be appointed to the Rec Council. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to appoint Andy Bobby to the Rec Council as requested. Motion carried, with B. Terrell opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jack Anile Correspondence – Council reviewed the request to change parking along Front St. to 20 minutes, instead of the 4 hours that it is currently. Council discussed the limited parking in the area, but noted he has a parking lot for his restaurant, and can designate spots for “carry out only”. Council also noted public parking is for anyone, and should not be marked or altered for any particular group.

Jim Holley requests the Borough take action to have the tree trimmed or removed at the property located at Singer Road and High Street. The office will send a letter to the property owner and also advise the police of the problem, as has been done in the past.

BUSINESS:

Ecostruction Payment Request – stream bank stabilization project is finished, the request is for the contract price of \$ 63,715.00. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve as requested. Motion carried.

Railroad Alley – J. Blum requested Council permit him to facilitate a meeting with NF Heritage and the County Parks to discuss a solution to limit the parking along the grass strip beside the tracks. He discussed the possibility of a stoned walkway with benches, noting it would keep vehicles off Freedom Green and improve the appearance in the area. Council expressed concerns with the maintenance and costs, noting it is County owned property. Council discussed in length with D. Sarpen and B. Terrell opposed and K. Earll and G. Andrews in favor. Mayor Halapin also advised he supports the effort as long as there is no cost or commitment by the Borough.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council convened to executive session at 1940 hrs. and reconvened the regular meeting at 1957 hrs. The purpose of the session was pending litigation.

OTHER:

Public Works Facility Study – J. Blum reviewed the Buchart Horn assessment of the public works building. Council discussed the needs of the public works department and the costs of renovations. G. Andrews questioned the need for an area for employees to shower or rest. President Terrell reminded Council this has been approved twice and the funds were used for parks. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve option # 1 (renovation) and begin the process to obtain bids. Motion carried. J. Blum reminded Council after bids are received it may be feasible to build in phases, and those decisions can be made at that time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by K. Earll seconded by D. Sarpen to adjourn the meeting at 2041 hrs. Motion carried.