

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
March 11, 2013

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

J. Blum – Council member
D. Sarpen – Council Member
L. O'Brien – Council Member
K. Earll – Council Member
J. Halapin – Mayor (arrived 1947 hrs)
T.L. Crawford – Administrator
S. Hovis – Solicitor

Other present: see attached

CALL TO ORDER

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Teen Egg hunt on 3/22 Red Carpet event on 4/5 Southern School Play on 4/5
Planning Commission meeting 3/18 7:00pm Zoning Hearing Board Meeting 3/20 9:30 am

MINUTES: (February 11, 2013)

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS

General - \$ 91,457.51 Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by K. Earll to approve. Motion carried.
Water - \$ 31,406.63 Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve. Motion carried.
Sewer - \$ 79,717.55 Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by K. Earll to approve. Motion carried.
Rec. - \$ 270.00 Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve. Motion carried.
Comm. Ctr. - \$ 6,143.93 Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by J. Earll to approve. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Mayor - Mayor Halapin delayed, T.L. Crawford advised 40 fire department calls, and the SRPC meeting was rescheduled.

REPORTS

Rec. Council – M. Halapin reminded Council the teen egg hunt is March 22 after dark, and the Red Carpet Event is April 4. She also advised a free sports program is being offered at Goodfellow Park on weekends this spring and summer by a youth volunteer.

Water – D. Sarpen noted the contract for the water system repairs/improvements is out for bid, to be awarded in April. He also briefly noted State Bill # 351.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Freedom Green/NF Heritage - Sue Myers present to discuss plans for the park. She advised a new sign has been installed by an Eagle Scout. She provided a drawing indicating placement of paths, gazebo, benches, parking etc. Council discussed the long term landscape maintenance that will be required. S. Myers was advised a permit will be required for any electrical work, and a formal plan will need to be submitted prior to other work being done on the property. A lengthy discussion was held on the project.

BUSINESS:

Vice President Paules discussed the need to change the zoning district on several parcels along Playground Alley, noting the uses being done at those locations, such as the carnival, flea market etc. do not comply with the current zoning. Council noted the parcels involved would be Borough owned parcels except two, the Aero Oil parcel and the Patrick Fischer parcel. Council noted by changing the zoning to CBD it permits more flexibility for the property. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to authorize Solicitor Hovis to draft an Ordinance rezoning the parcels to CBD. Motion carried. S. Hovis explained the steps necessary prior to adoption of the Ordinance.

OTHER:

Vice President Paules reviewed a letter received from SRPD concerning the parking on S. Constitution Ave. east of Main St. They reported the heavily parked street, particularly near the intersection creates one travel lane. They requested a traffic study be performed for parking on S. Constitution Ave. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to request the traffic study from YCP. Motion carried.

D. Sarpen advised a policy should be set for excessive zoning relief requests, variances, special exceptions etc. on one application. He noted the costs of the stenographer, longer advertisements, mailings etc. for a hearing that involves numerous requests exceed the fee for the hearing. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to authorize the Solicitor to draft an Ordinance or Resolution for a single application and fee to cover two requests, and an additional fee for each additional request. Motion carried.

D. Sarpen noted a policy should be established addressing waivers requested from the SLDO. He suggested a waiver request be submitted on a Borough form with a fee. A waiver request requires additional review by staff, engineer and Council. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to authorize the Solicitor to draft a Resolution establishing a fee and form for waiver requests. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council convened to executive session for a litigation issue at 2010 hrs. Council reconvened to the regular meeting at 2022 hrs.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by J. Blum to adjourn the meeting at 2026 hours. Motion carried.