

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
March 10, 2014

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

J. Blum – Council member
K. Earll – Council member
L. O'Brien – Council member
D. Sarpen – Council member
G. Andrews – Council member
J. Halapin – Mayor
T.L. Crawford – Administrator
P. Ruth - Solicitor

Other present: see attached

CALL TO ORDER

DISBURSEMENTS (1/10/2014 – 3/4/2014)

General - \$ 358,198.14 Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve. Motion carried.
Water - \$ 87,701.24 Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by J. Blum to approve. Motion carried.
Sewer - \$ 108,418.85 Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve. Motion carried.
Rec. - \$ 1,731.60 Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by K. Earll to approve. Motion carried.
Comm. Ctr. - \$ 10,899.93 Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve. Motion carried.

MINUTES: (January 6, 2014)

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve the minutes with a correction noting G. Andrews declined the appointment to YAEITB. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Mayor – Mayor Halapin reviewed the emergency services report. He reported SRPD will be changing unions, and will join the F.O.P. union. He also advised a new officer has been hired, bringing the total of police officers to 14. He noted the SRPC draft minutes show that a representative is researching additional space to house the department. The representative visited the NF Borough office and another facility in Shrewsbury. He advised the department is short of space now that Stewartstown has joined. Council discussed this issue, noting in 2013 when the department was questioned about space for they advised they had ample space to add additional officers. Resident B. Merrill questioned the hourly rate being charged to Loganville and proposed to Winterstown and SE school district for a resource officer. Council discussed in length their concerns with future costs and services. G. Andrews also noted he still wants the police officers to be subject to mandatory "dope" testing. P. Ruth advised the department and SRPC is working on policies and testing could be addressed at that time.

Water – D. Sarpen noted follow up monitoring of iron and manganese in certain wells. G. Andrews questioned how the hydrants are flushed and if any tests are done before water is restored to normal. D. Sarpen explained the guidelines and methods for hydrant flushing. Council briefly discussed the increase of the York Water Co., rate to the Borough.

Solicitor – P. Ruth reported the SRPC has the 5 year lease and it is currently under review. G. Andrews questioned how the sewer is paid from other municipalities since there is no longer a Borough Authority. President Terrell explained it is paid to the Borough, as the operating

entity the same way it has since the wwtp was built, a proportionate sharing report. He explained that meters track the flow from other municipalities and then they are billed annually based on flow.

PUBLIC COMMENT

H.O.P.E. – Barb Tatanish and Christopher Lethridge provided Council with booklets outlining their concept to establish a “retreat cottage for cancer patients” on Ernst Park property. They explained the services the organization provides, and request Council consider a lease of a portion of the park to construct a cottage. She also noted they would improve and maintain the trail in the park and the park would remain open for public use. She advised they have met with the NF Recreation Council who supports the project. Council briefly discussed the idea, and advised additional information would be needed prior to any decisions. President Terrell appointed L. O’Brien (chairman), J. Blum and G. Andrews to a committee to meet with representatives of H.O.P.E. to discuss the concept and report back to Council.

OTHER:

Office Computer Memo – Council reviewed the memo, noting the age of the Borough computers. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve the purchase of the computers on co-stars at a NTE cost of \$ 6700. Motion carried.

Macomber Letter – Council reviewed the request to allow a basketball hoop to remain in the street ROW. Motion by L. O’Brien, seconded by D. Sarpen to deny the request, and a letter is sent advising the property owner to have the basketball hoop removed. Motion carried.

Snow Emergency Ordinance – T.L. Crawford advised Council several citations were written for vehicles that were not moved pursuant to the Snow Emergency Ordinance. District Justice Joy contacted the office noting the average fine for this type of violation is \$ 50. yet NF is \$ 35. , and Council should consider updating the penalty amount. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by L. O’Brien to amend the Snow Emergency to a penalty of NTE \$ 75. and the vehicle may be towed at the owner’s expense. Motion carried.

NF Borough Logo – T.L. Crawford advised an author contacted the office and requests authorization to use the NF logo in a book she is writing for Steam into History. She explained the book will be for sale at the store. Council discussed the request, noting pros and cons of the idea. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by L. O’Brien to authorize the use of the logo contingent upon a satisfactory draft being reviewed. Motion carried with B. Terrell voting opposed.

LSC Proposal – T.L. Crawford advised Council of the proposal for the engineering/contracting of the proposed maintenance building addition. L. O’Brien advised he is uncertain that this project is needed, particularly with the concern with the SRPC lease. J. Blum noted this has been approved twice by Council however the funds were used for other projects. K. Dickmyer advised both times the budgeted funds were used to purchase park property. K. Dickmyer explained the lack of space or accommodations during extended hours, noting the building has been the same since it was the former NF Police Dept. He also explained the need for a wash bay to clean trucks after winter maintenance, noting it is currently done outside and creates an ice problem. President Terrell noted the employees need a place to rest after extended plowing, not sleeping on a cement floor or lying in a truck to sleep prior to plowing again. G. Andrews noted he is concerned about spending any money for this project. L. O’Brien wants to do fact finding before a decision. President Terrell questioned Council members on if

they have been through the building, noting some have not. J. Blum expressed his dissatisfaction with Council members not taking the time to tour all the Borough facilities, or even meet with the employees. President Terrell noted on March 19 at 1000 hrs. he will meet any Council members that want to tour facility and see its condition.

President Terrell advised Council after the January meeting he was approached by L. O'Brien who requested to be a voting member of the Planning Commission instead of the liaison. Motion by K. Earll, seconded by D. Sarpen to appoint L. O'Brien to the PC as a voting member, not a liaison. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to adjourn the meeting at 2107 hrs. Motion carried.