

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
May 9, 2016

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

L. O'Brien – Council member  
K. Earll – Council member  
G. Andrews – Council member  
B. Merrill – Council member  
J. Halapin – Mayor  
T.L. Crawford – Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

TREASURER'S REPORT

May 2016- \$ 167,862.93 Motion by K. Earll, seconded by B. Merrill to approve the reports as submitted. Motion carried.

MINUTES: (April, 2016)

Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by K. Earll to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

BIDS:

2016 Road Bids – Vice President J. Blum read the bids received as follows:

1. Labor and Placement of Materials

*Fitz & Smith, Inc. \$ 119,307.05 Stewart & Tate, Inc. \$ 119,964.00 Kinsley Const. \$ 162,073.00*

2. Furnishing & Delivering of Materials

*York Materials Group \$ 97,262.50*

Motion by L. O'Brien seconded by K. Earll to award the bid to Fitz & Smith for labor and placement in the amount of \$ 119,307.05 and York Materials, Inc. for the materials and delivery in the amount of \$ 97,262.50, contingent upon Solicitors approval. Motion carried.

Storm Water Pipe Bid – T. L. Crawford read the bids received as follows:

*Flyway Excavating \$ 74,690.00 Construction Masters, Inc. \$ 118,455.00.*

Motion by L. O'Brien seconded by K. Earll to award the bid to Flyway Excavating in the amount of \$ 74,690.00, noting Solicitors approval already obtained. Motion carried.

Street & Drainage Bids – T.L. Crawford read the bids as follows:

*Clearview Excavation \$ 174,580.00 Kinsley Construction \$ 239,350.00*

Motion by L. O'Brien seconded by K. Earll to award the bid to Clearview Construction in the amount of \$ 174,580, noting Solicitors approval already obtained. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Female resident from S. Front St. requested Council address parking difficulties on S. Front St. in the area of her home. She noted the problem is customers of the train and neighbors. She requested Council consider permit type parking for residents to be able to park in front of their property. Vice President Blum noted the street is public parking, and most properties have parking and garages at the rear of their properties via the alley. Council will have the Solicitor review the matter of restricted parking. A. Toy was present to request Council change Church Alley to one way, due to the narrow width of the alley, and add an additional stop sign. Council will have the public works department research the request and feasibility.

## REPORTS:

Mayor – Mayor Halapin noted Met Ed will be installing smart meters in the area between now and December 2016.

Rec Council – M. Halapin noted the Framers Market began last Saturday, and the circus is June 4. She also advised the Penn Waste Concert Series begins on May 14, and this is a result of a generous \$ 500.00 donation from Penn Waste to promote buy local and recycle.

## BUSINESS:

Allstate (water tank removal) Tower Final Payment – T. L. Crawford reviewed the final payment request of \$ 10,325.71, noting Paul Gross has reviewed the project and the work is 100% complete, and recommends payment. Motion by L. O'Brien seconded by K. Earll to approve the payment requisition as submitted. Motion carried.

Police – J. Blum advised Council of the results of the ongoing formula committee meetings. He explained in depth the various formulas being studied. He noted as of this date there has not been a formula that is acceptable to all municipalities. Three of the four municipalities want to utilize “hours”, basically you pay for what you use theory. However Shrewsbury Borough wants to use a mixed formula that utilizes population and road miles. J. Blum distributed several handouts on formulas. He also explained Stewartstown has expressed concern over too many patrol hours, since Southeastern School is contracted on their own. B. Merrill noted the cost per hour for contract entities is \$ 103.17, and explained how the number was arrived at. Council discussed the differences between the municipalities in road miles and population. He explained B. Buchanan believes if a municipality has more residents, even if they do not use the police more, they should pay more. Vice President Blum also explained Mike Ridgley of Shrewsbury Borough believes that since NF residents shop and drive through Shrewsbury Borough and could utilize the police so they should pay a portion of the service. If that theory was plausible anyone that drives or shops in Springettsbury, Spring Garden, and Manchester Twp. etc. should help cover their police costs. M. Ridgley also noted if the municipalities cannot agree he may go to the newspaper with the lack of cooperation being shown by the other municipalities. Mayor Halapin noted he has no problem with the press, and maybe if the NF residents realize they have been paying more to subsidize Shrewsbury Borough they would come to the Police Commission meetings. Mayor Halapin noted in 2015 NF Borough paid \$ 70,000. more than Shrewsbury Borough for police service, but received 400 less hours of service. Vice President J. Blum noted R. Herzberger of Stewartstown has distributed an e-mail that shows a formula that over a period of four years will work towards a cost of using 100% hours only. His formula is as follows:

*2017 – 1/3 police hours and 1/3 population and 1/3 road miles*

*2018 – 60% police hours and 40% road miles*

*2019 – 80% police hours and 20% mileage*

*2020 and beyond – 100% police hours*

*Police hours will be based on a 3 year rolling average*

L. O'Brien noted he still is in favor of either PPU's or hours or a pay for what you use system, it allows the municipalities to determine their need, and not pay for another municipalities services which we know has been the past practice. B. Merrill explained Glen Rock wants to pay what they can afford, but they have already given their notice to withdraw. Stewartstown wants to pay by hours, same as New Freedom. The problem is the intergovernmental agreement state all must agree to change the formula or it remains the same. Council continued a lengthy discussion for 57 minutes on the issue. Motion by L. O'Brien,

seconded by K. Earll to agree to accept the R. Herzberger formula shown above noting it works towards 100% hours in 2020 and beyond. Motion carried. B. Merrill inquired what will be the next step if Shrewsbury does not agree to a new formula. Vice President advised the steps in the agreement would be followed for a public meeting and letter of notice.

OTHER:

Vesper Request – Council reviewed the request for a reduction in his water/sewer bill, noting the water dept. did a meter check and did suggest it could have been a running toilet and that a furnace humidifier uses a large amount of water and the bills were for the coldest months. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by G. Andrews to deny the request for a bill reduction. Motion carried.

Standiford Request - Council reviewed the request for a reduction in his water/sewer bill due to a leaky toilet in one of his apartments. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by K. Earll to deny the request, noting there was a leak so subsequently water was used and treated, and this is the policy of the Borough for the past 20 years. Motion carried.

Steam Into History Request – T.L. Crawford advised the request is for use of a portion of Goodfellow Park for a Hobo camp on 5/14 and 5/15. Council discussed the use, noting the Ordinance must be followed, such as no open fire, closed by dusk, clean up and a cleaning deposit. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by K. Earll to approve the use in compliance with the Ordinance. Motion carried with B. Merrill voting opposed.

Fee Schedule – Council reviewed the update fee schedule provided by Stock and Leader for the handling of delinquent accounts. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by K. Earll to adopt the Resolution 2016-1 (Fee Schedule). Motion carried.

Stable Property – T. L. Crawford advised a request has been submitted to purchase the property and inquired if Council is willing to put it out for bids again. T.L. Crawford noted the property has not been leased. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by K. Earll to advertise the property for sale. Motion carried.

High Street Traffic Study – Council reviewed the traffic study provided by Buchar Horn on High St. from Front to Broad addressing parking, and the proposed Ordinance. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by K. Earll to advertise the proposed Ordinance. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by G. Andrews to adjourn the meeting at 2049 hrs. Motion carried.