

**NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**November 9, 2015**

Meeting called to order by President Terrell at 1902 hours. Present were:

J. Blum – Council member  
K. Earll – Council member  
G. Andrews – Council member  
L. O'Brien – Council member  
D. Sarpen – Council member  
T.L. Crawford – Administrator

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Terrell congratulation Bruce Merrill on his election to Borough Council.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Oct. 2015 - \$ 872,508.50 Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve as submitted. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** (Oct. 19) Motion by J. Blum seconded by K. Earll to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

Rec – M. Halapin advised Council of the Veteran's Day event at the Community Center on Nov. 15. She also noted the Farmers Market will be held once a month in the Community Center until spring, when it will return to Smith woods.

**BUSINESS:**

Ordinance 2015-3 (water rate amendment) - Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to approve as submitted. Motion carried.

PA Properties Plan – T.L. Crawford advised the plan is a minor subdivision to add less than 2 feet to an adjoining property. The PC and all entities reviewing the plan have recommended approval. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by L. O'Brien to approve the plan, with D. Sarpen abstaining. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Phil Robinson and Attorney Stacey McNeal present to discuss the availability of sewer capacity. Attorney McNeal reviewed the history of the sewer and lack of capacity in certain municipalities, and the various reports and agreements that exist between the municipalities. She noted the various groups that support the Penn Works grant application, which resulted in a grant of \$ 100,000. To assist in repairing the I&I problem. Council explained the status of the sewer lining project, noting the total cost for this phase is \$ 331,000. Council also explained it is still uncertain the impact the repairs will have on the total capacity. P. Robinson expressed his dissatisfaction with the handling of capacity by Shrewsbury Borough, and their Authority. Attorney McNeal request Council agree to meet with representatives of the user municipalities and her client to work toward a remedy that can address the availability and capacity concerns. L. O'Brien noted he would be willing to serve on a committee to discuss the issues. He also stated if there is no remedy and this issue results in litigation, he does not want New

Freedom named in such an action. Council agreed to meet with representatives, and requested the meeting be held at the New Freedom municipal building so the Director of the WWTP can be present to provide facts and reports on the plant. Attorney McNeal will make contact with the representatives and advise T.L. Crawford of available dates.

Tax Collector Request – Letter from S. Webb requesting to increase her duplicate tax bill fee from \$ 3.00 to \$ 5.00. Motion by L. O'Brien, seconded by J. Blum to authorize the increase as requested. Motion carried.

OTHER:

President Terrell requested Council honor a member of the Recreation Board by placing a plaque at Bunker Hill Park. He noted Joan Davis has been a long term Rec Board member, and has worked to improve the park in her development. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to have a plaque placed at Bunker Hill Park in her honor. Motion carried.

Council continued the lengthy discussion on the police budget. They noted the major concern is the formula. J. Blum noted if PPU's or something similar was utilized the municipalities would get what they are paying for, and this could open the way for other municipalities to be interested in joining, or purchasing service. Council noted they will not approve the 2016 proposed budget that was based on the current formula, but will fund the same amount as the 2015 budget.

G. Andrews began discussing a riser ring that was placed on Freedom Ave. when it was paved several years ago. President Terrell explained it was a typical manhole riser, same as is done on all newly paved roads. G. Andrews began questioning the engineers for Freedom Ave. and other issues with the water from the road. Several Council members advised this matter is in litigation and cannot be discussed at a public meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by D. Sarpen, seconded by K. Earll to adjourn the meeting at 2031 hours. Motion carried.