

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
December 9, 2013

Meeting called to order by Vice President Paules at 1850 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 (arrived 1945 hrs.)
T.L. Crawford – Administrator

Other present: see attached

CALL TO ORDER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice President Paules extended his gratitude to the office staff for handling the appreciation banquet.

DISBURSEMENTS

*General - \$ 313,362.62 Water - \$ 155,813.68 Sewer - \$ 53,951.04 Rec. - \$ 186.00 Comm. Ctr. - \$ 5,205.37
Total Disbursements \$ 528,338.71*

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by D. Sarpen to approve all fund disbursements as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES: (November 18, 2013)

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

REPORTS:

Mayor – Mayor Halapin absent. E. Paules reviewed the emergency services report. He reported a copy of the SRPC 2014 budget draft has been distributed, and briefly reviewed cost to each municipality with the addition of Stewartstown. Concern was expressed on the 9.21% increase to NF, noting with the “buy-in” credit it only appears to be a 4% increase. Council questioned why such a significant increase in the budget. No one was available to answer any questions. E. Paules advised Council the “buy-in” reduction is only applied to 4 years, so the cost and increases will need to be monitored closely. He also advised with the addition of Stewartstown there are still some unknown factors. .

Sewer – D. Sarpen noted based of the previous water concern of J. Velli the wells will be sampled each month at the source. He also noted the recently passed PA transportation bill has increased the prevailing wage for road projects to \$ 100,000. He noted he spoke with State Representative Miller and some of the fuel taxes should filter down to the municipalities as an increase in liquid fuels funding.

Rec. Council – J. Davis reported the Veterans Day Picnic was a success, and the circus will be coming to the Borough on June 8, 2014. She briefly reviewed some upcoming events such as the 2014 Farmers Market.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BUSINESS

Ordinance 2013 -8 (SPRC) intergovernmental Agreement) – J. Blum noted all municipal attorneys involved have met and fine tuned the agreement. G. Andrews questioned if the “rent-a-cop” issue has been resolved. No one was available to answer his concerns. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by K. Earll to adopt Ordinance 2013-8 as presented. Motion carried.

Freedom Green Final LDP – J. Holley and S. Myers present to review the plan. J. Holley requested the following waivers from the SLDO sections; #194-302.E.16, 194-301.D. 3&4, 194-305.A.1 and 194-502.5 (see PC minutes). J. Holley noted all other comments from YCP and BH and has been addressed. J. Blum expressed concerns on the size and placement of structures that would impact the tree lighting ceremony. He also advised the stage at Goodfellow Park can be used for concerts or shows, as opposed to building another. Council questioned the size and need for such a costly gazebo. L. O’Brien requests to see the quotes and specifications on the proposed gazebo. After a lengthy discussion on the use of Freedom Green the following action was taken. Motion by J. Blum, seconded by L. O’Brien to grant the waivers as requested. Motion carried, with D. Sarpen abstaining. Motion by L. O’Brien, seconded by K. Earll to approve the final land development plan, noting placement of structures, lighting, benches etc. will be finalized as a later time. Motion carried, with D. Sarpen abstaining.

OTHER:

None

CONTINUATION:

Motion by J. Blum, seconded by L. O’Brien to continue the meeting on December 30, 2013 at 0730 hrs. Motion carried. Meeting continued at 1950 hours.