

Borough of Freemansburg

600 Monroe St., Freemansburg, PA 18017

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 2, 2024-7:00 PM

➤ Pledge of Allegiance

➤ **Roll Call**

Mayor: Gerald Yob-*present* **Council Members:** Council President-Homer Lorrhah-*present*, Vice-President Jim Smith-*present*, Charles Derr-*present*, Colleen Gallagher-*absent*, Rudolph Gallich-*present*, Justin LaBar-*present*, Margaret Lorrhah-*present*

Borough Secretary: Justine Rossi-*present*

Solicitor: James Preston, Esq.-*present*

Borough Manager: Jonathan Itterly-*present*

Courtesy of the Floor

- ArtsQuest Presentation regarding partnership with amphitheater

Finance/Personnel

- Payroll Reports for paychecks dated 2/22/24, 3/7/24, & 3/21/24, *informational*.
- March 2024 Bills already paid due to due dates to avoid late fees, signed by Council, *authorization*.
Motion-to pay all bills listed from March, 2024 by M. Lorrhah, 2nd LaBar-PASS 6-0.
- Bills dated 4/2/2024, *authorization of payment*.
Motion-to pay all bills listed dated 4/2/2024 by M. Lorrhah, 2nd Smith-PASS 6-0.
- Monthly Tax Reports for **February 2024**, *informational*.
- **Resolution # 2024-016**, a Resolution assigning signers on all Borough Bank Accounts (Derr, Itterly, LaBar, H. Lorrhah, Smith), for *authorization*.
Motion-to authorize Resolution # 2024-016, a Resolution assigning signers on all Borough Bank Accounts (Derr, Itterly, LaBar, H. Lorrhah, Smith) by M. Lorrhah, 2nd Derr-PASS 6-0.
- **Resolution # 2024-017**, a Resolution authorizing the submission of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program grant application...*authorization*.
Motion-to authorize Resolution # 2024-017, a Resolution authorizing the submission of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program grant application by M. Lorrhah, 2nd Smith-PASS 6-0.
- **Resolution # 2024-018**, a Resolution authorizing the submission of the PA DCED "Greenways, Trails & Recreation Program" grant application...*authorization*.
Motion-Resolution # 2024-018, a Resolution authorizing the submission of the PA DCED "Greenways, Trails & Recreation Program" grant application by M. Lorrhah, 2nd Smith-PASS 6-0.
- Authorization to hire _____ for Full Time Administrative Assistant position beginning _____, with an hourly pay rate of \$18.00 per hour. *Executive Session discussion*.

- Legal agreement provided by UGI is with Solicitors Office for review. Borough to receive \$485,815.00 from UGI as a contribution toward our project, *for authorization*.

Motion-to authorize Council President Homer G. Lorrh to execute agreement between the Borough of Freemansburg and UGI by M. Lorrh, 2nd Gallich-PASS 6-0.

- Borough received a \$350,000.00 grant from our PA DCED Multimodal application which will be used toward the Main Street streetscapes project. This is in addition to the \$200,000.00 the Borough already received last year from the same grant program, *informational*.
- Authorization for Mayor Yob to attend the PSAB annual conference in April. Cost to include conference cost and hotel accommodation, *for authorization*.

Motion-to authorize payment for Mayor Yob to attend the annual PSAB annual conference by M. Lorrh, 2nd Gallich-PASS 6-0.

- Letter from Donald Mack’s “Executor to the Estate” Dale Mack in regard to eliminating Sanitation costs for 2/2023 until 3/2024. Mr. Macks house was condemned by Zoning 2/2023 and trash cart was removed from the property as neighbors were using the can without permission of the estate. Amounts requesting is \$495.00. (The house was sold in March 2024 and any new amounts are the responsibility of the new owner, and were paid at closing), *for authorization*.

Motion-to expunge Sanitation costs for property address 222 Juniata St. for 2/2023 through 3/2024 by M. Lorrh, 2nd Gallich-PASS 6-0.

- Copies of reports from Lisa Mack with amounts that were sent to Portnoff Law & Associates (Collection Agency) for Past Due Sewer and Sanitation for 2023, sent in February 2024.

Sanitation: \$75,211.70

Sewer: \$46,161.75

- Copy of report for 2023 delinquent Borough Real Estate Taxes sent to Portnoff Law & Associates for collections, *informational*.

Council Meeting Minutes:

3/5/2024 (Absent: -Gallagher/Gallich/M. Lorrh)-Minutes will be distributed at this evening’s meeting.

Motion-to authorize Council Meeting Minutes dated 3/5/2024 by Derr, 2nd smith-PASS 4-0 (abstain Gallich/M. Lorrh).

Community Development, Public Safety & Fire Company

- Monthly Fire Reports **February 2024**.

- Updated “Emergency Operations Plan” (EOP) for 2024, *for authorization*.

Motion-to authorize updated “Emergency Operations Plan” for 2024 by M. Lorrh, 2nd Smith-PASS 6-0.

- Deletion of pavilion rentals to the public at the Gerald C. Yob Community Park, due to current and upcoming construction projects, *authorization*.

Motion-to delete pavilion rentals at the Gerald C. Yob Community Park by Smith, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.

- Bethlehem Area School District Parcel Update
- Letter dated March 8, 2024 from Lower Saucon Twp. Borough Manager Mark Hudson thanking our Volunteer Fire Co. for their assistance with the Norfolk Southern Train Derailment on March 2, 2024.

Sewer, Sanitation, Streets/Public Works

- Monthly Whitetail Disposal trash hauling Report for **February 2024**.
- Monthly Public Works Report for **March 2024**.

Police Department

- Monthly Police Report for **March 2024** *will be distributed this evening*.

Parks & Recreation

- The kids Easter Bunny Pizza party was held here on Saturday afternoon where approximately 50 kids and their families attended. The Parks & Rec staff had pizza, drinks, snacks, face painting, coloring & crafts, pictures with the Easter Bunny where they received a goodie bag to take home. The volunteers are doing a great job with activities this year with many compliments from those who attend! Thank you!

Mayor, Manager & Council President

Miscellaneous

- Please remember to turn in the Statement of Financial Interest to the Office by **5/1/24**. **Forms are a mandatory requirement for Elected and appointed officials, and kept in the Borough Office. These forms can be audited by the State at any time. If you need a new form, please ask the office for one-thank you.**

Open Meeting Adjourn: 7:43pm

Executive Session: litigation, property acquisition & personnel matters

Returned to Open Meeting 8:09pm

Motion-to hire Cindy Amorim and Ramona Ruiz for Full Time Administrative Assistant positions beginning 4/15/2024, with an hourly pay rate of \$18.00 per hour by Smith, 2nd Gallich-PASS 4-0 (Abstain Homer Lorrh and Margaret Lorrh).

Motion to adjourn by LaBar, 2nd Smith-PASS 6-0. 8:14pm

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Justine A. Rossi, Borough Secretary

Approved by Council: _____ Certified: _____

