

Borough of Freemansburg

600 Monroe St., Freemansburg, PA 18017

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 3, 2023-7:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

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

Borough Secretary: Justine Rossi-*present*

Solicitor: John Harrison, Esq.-*present*

Borough Manager: Jonathan Itterly-*present*

Courtesy of the Floor

- Northampton County Executive Lamont McClure will present a CDBG Grant Check to the Borough
- Residents will be limited to five minutes.

Finance/Personnel

- Payroll Reports for paychecks dated 9/7/23 & 9/21/23, *informational*.
- List of bills dated 9/26/2023, already signed by the Finance Committee, *authorization of payment*.
Motion-to pay all bills listed 9/26/2023, previously signed by the Finance Committee by Gallagher, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.
- List of bills dated 10/3/2023, *authorization of payment*.
Motion-to pay all bills listed 9/26/2023, previously signed by the Finance Committee by Gallagher, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.
- Monthly Tax Report for **August 2023**, *informational*.
- 3rd/Final Sewer Invoices were mailed 10/1/23 and are due 10/31/23. Reminder is playing on the digital message board. Sanitation Statements for any past due Sanitation accounts (payment was due 9/17/23) were included with residents Sewer Invoice-if applicable.
- 2013 Ford Interceptor SUV sold on Municibid for \$2,900.00, *informational*.
- Application for Payment No. 1001, payment in the amount of \$119,700.00 to LA Building Contractors, Inc., for the amphitheater project, *authorization for payment*.
Motion-authorization to pay Payment No. 1001 in the amount of \$119,700.00 to LA Building Contractors, Inc., for the amphitheater project by Smith, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.
- Authorization to close Fulton Bank Account for LSA Grants (account no longer being used). All grants will either be under Facilities or Gerald C. Yob Park bank accounts. Remaining funds to be transferred into Yob Bank account, *for authorization*.

Motion-for authorization to close Fulton Bank Account for LSA Grants with all grants will either be under Facilities or Gerald C. Yob Park bank accounts, and remaining funds to be transferred into Yob Bank account by Smith, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.

- **Resolution #2023-021**, a Resolution of Council requesting the name of SR-3007, changed from Constitution Blvd. to Freemansburg Ave, will be provided at this evening’s meeting, for discussion.

Motion-to authorize Resolution #2023-021, a Resolution of Council requesting the name of SR-3007, changed from Constitution Blvd. to Freemansburg Ave.by Smith, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 5-1; (No-Gallich).

- **Ordinance #2023-002**, an Ordinance authorizing Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) provision in the Freemansburg Police Pension Plan for eligible full time Police Officers. Attached Pension Joinder Agreement was amended to reflect change, authorization.

Motion-to advertise Ordinance #2023-002, an Ordinance authorizing Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) provision in the Freemansburg Police Pension Plan for eligible full time Police Officers by Gallagher, 2nd Smith-PASS 6-0.

- Freemansburg Borough Police Pension Deferred Retirement Option Program (“DROP”) **Ordinance # 2023-003**, an Ordinance authorizing a “DROP” program for eligible full time Freemansburg Police Officers, authorization.

Motion to advertise Ordinance # 2023-003, an Ordinance authorizing a “DROP” Freemansburg Borough Police Pension (Deferred Retirement Option Program) for eligible full time Freemansburg Police Officers by M. Lorrh, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 6-0.

- **Rescind Motion** from August 22, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes for: “2024 Financial Requirement and MMO ‘Police Pension Plan’ for 2024 for \$49,895.00”, *motion to authorize.*

Motion-to rescind Motion from August 22, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes for: “2024 Financial Requirement and MMO ‘Police Pension Plan’ for 2024 for \$49,895.00” by M. Lorrh, 2nd Smith-PASS 6-0.

- 2024 Financial Requirement and MMO “Police Pension Plan” for 2024 for \$42,323.00, *for approval.* (Yearly approval.)

Motion-to approve 2024 Financial Requirement and MMO “Police Pension Plan” for 2024 for \$42,323.00 by Gallagher, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.

- Authorization to auction for Public Bid on Municibid the following vehicles (**separate Motions**)
 1. 2015 Ford Taurus Interceptor (vehicle was replaced with new Police vehicle obtained by grant)-*item was tabled for Executive Session.*
 2. 2018 Ford Explorer Interceptor (vehicle was replaced with new Police vehicle obtained by grant)-*item was tabled for Executive Session.*
 3. 2008 Ford F-350 Super Duty Dump truck (vehicle was replaced with 2023 dump truck)

Motion-to authorize the placement of the 2008 Ford F-350 Super Duty Dump Truck on Municibid for public auction by Smith, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.

- Preliminary Budget for 2024, **Motion to authorize advertisement.** *Item was tabled to Executive Session.*

Council Meeting Minutes

- 8/22/2023

Motion-to approve Council Meeting Minutes dated 8/22/2023 without additions or corrections by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0 (Abstain-M. Lorrh due to meeting absence.)

- 9/5/2023-item tabled due to lack of quorum to vote due to meeting absence on 9/5/2023- (Smith/Gallich/Gallagher)

Community Development, Public Safety & Fire Company

- 2023 Volunteer Fire Relief Allocation was received in the amount of \$15,555.30 from the Commonwealth. Payment was Direct Deposited to the Borough and the Borough gave the Relief a check.
- Councilman Gallich discussed the need to extend the garage bay for the Fire Co. to use to store their new vehicle. Further discussion needed.

Sewer, Sanitation, Streets/Public Works

- Whitetail Disposal Service **Overview for August 2023** – Councilman Smith commended the trash hauler for the excellent job they are doing per monthly report for customer service.
- Public Works Monthly Report for **September 2023**- Councilman Smith commended Public Works Supervisor Philip Elliott for his excellent job with the monthly report supplied to Council and PW Staff for doing such a great job in the department.
- Handicap Application for resident John Greene, 132 Main Street. Property does not have frontage parking due to no parking in that area, resident is requesting sign if approved to be placed across the street, for discussion and authorization.

Motion-for Conditional Approval for Persons with Disabilities Parking at 132 Main St. (property has no parking at frontage) with the written approval from homeowners at proposed parking location by M. Lorrh, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 6-0.

Police Department

- Monthly Police Report for **September 2023**, will be distributed at this evening’s meeting.
- The Police Department will be receiving the last police cruiser soon.

Parks & Recreation

- Fall Fest & Bonfire will be held Saturday 10/14/2023 (3pm-6pm with Bonfire at 6:15pm). Parks & Rec will have a basket raffle and 50/50 drawing for P&R fundraising. **Please let the office know if you are available to volunteer.**
- Holiday Vendor and Craft Show will be held on Saturday November 11, 2023 at Borough Hall from 8am to 2pm. Parks & Rec will sell hot dogs, drinks and baked goods as a P&R fundraiser.
- Flyer with remaining P&R events for 2023 (Fall Fest, Craft Show & Kids Christmas Party) were mailed to residents with the Sewer Invoice 10/1.

Mayor, Manager & Council President

- Huge Thank You to Justine Rossi for coordinating this year’s Iron Pigs Outing. Event was a success!

Miscellaneous

Open Meeting Adjourn: 7:49pm

Executive Session: litigation, property acquisition & personnel matters

Executive Session Ended ____pm

Open Meeting Commenced at _____where the following Motions were made:

Motion-to eliminate the \$15.00 sewer discount to avoid a sewer rate increase by Gallagher,2nd Gallich-PASS 5-1 (LaBar NO).

Motion-to advertise the 2015 Ford Interceptor Sedan on Municibid by Gallagher, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.

Motion-to have Solicitor pursue the property acquisition of the two parcels next to Hogar Crea that are currently being utilized as an illegal truck terminal. Gallich, M. Lorrh 2nd-PASS 6-0.

Motion to adjourn by LaBar-PASS-ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____

Justine A. Rossi, Borough Secretary

Approved by Council: _____ Certified: _____

