

Borough of Freemansburg

600 Monroe St., Freemansburg, PA 18017

Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 6, 2024-7:00 PM

➤ Pledge of Allegiance

➤ **Roll Call**

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

Borough Secretary: ~~Justine Rossi~~ *absent*

Solicitor: James Preston, Esq.-*present*

Borough Manager: Jonathan Itterly-*present*

Courtesy of the Floor

Finance/Personnel

- Borough Council Committees Effective 2024 as chosen by Council President Homer Lorrh, *informational*.
- Payroll Reports for paychecks dated 1/11/24 & 1/25/24, *informational*.
- Monthly Tax Report for **December 2023 and January 2024**, *informational*.
- Letter to PSAB from Manager Itterly in regard to fraudulent activity for the Police Pension payment, *for discussion in Executive Session*.
- LA Building Contractor's Payment Application #1004 along with Justin Coyle's recommendation letter, *informational*.
- Eligibility List for Full Time List-Full Time Officer Position, *for authorization*

Motion-to authorize Martin Full Time Police Officer by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 7-0.

- Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) Program (Grant)-30% match \$100,000.00 minimum to \$3million maximum, *for discussion*.

Motion-for authorization to submit an application for the Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) Program (Grant)-30% match \$100,000.00 minimum to \$3million maximum by M. Lorrh, 2nd by Smith-PASS 7-0.

- COVID-19 ARPA Capital Projects Fund Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program (Grant)-no match is required-\$250,000.00 minimum to a maximum of \$2million, *for discussion*.

Motion-for authorization to submit an application for COVID-19 ARPA Capital Projects Fund Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program (Grant)-no match is required-\$250,000.00 minimum to a maximum of \$2million by Gallagher, 2nd M. Lorrh-PASS 7-0.

- Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (Grant)-15% match required, project not to exceed \$250,000.00, *for discussion*.

Motion-for authorization to submit an application for the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (Grant)-15% match required, project not to exceed \$250,000.00 by M. Lorrh, 2nd by Smith-PASS 7-0.

- Email from Borough resident in regard to past due Borough Invoices, *for discussion.*

Motion-for Manager directed by Borough Council to deny the request-ALL AYES.

- Update from meeting with representatives from Hogar Crea regarding property acquisition on Market Street. Property Appraisals required after Executive Session.
- Authorization for Northampton County to collect delinquent taxes on behalf of Freemansburg instead of Portnoff, *discussion in Executive Session.*

Council Meeting Minutes:

1/2/2024 (Absent: Gallich)

Motion to authorize Council Meeting Minutes dated 1/2/2024, without additions or corrections by M. Lorrh, 2nd Smith-PASS 6-1 (Gallich abstained due to meeting absence.)

Community Development, Public Safety & Fire Company

- Monthly Fire Reports, *distributed at this evening's meeting.*
- 2024 Hotel Tax Grant Award was awarded to the Borough in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the project titled "Amphitheater Construction", *informational.*
- Amendment to the Developers Agreement for 430 Cambria Street due to change of ownership, *for authorization.*

Motion -to authorize the Amendment to the Developers Agreement for 430 Cambria Street due to change of ownership **by M. Lorrh, 2nd Smith-PASS 7-0.**

Sewer, Sanitation, Streets/Public Works

- Whitetail Disposal Monthly trash hauling Report for **December 2023.**
- Copy of Public Works Report for **December 2023.**

Police Department

- Monthly Police Report for **December 2023 & January 2024, will be distributed this evening.**

Parks & Recreation

- Parks & Rec volunteers met on 1/24/2024 and planned events for 2024. Calendar was mailed to Borough residents with their 2/1/24 Sewer bill. Some new events and old favorites are on the calendar and we look forward to another year of fun activities in our Borough.

Mayor, Manager & Council President

- Copy of letter from business owner Santiago Martinez for FPS Investments, *informational.*

Miscellaneous

- Copies of 2024 Parks & Rec Calendar of Events, Borough Directory, and 2024 Borough Council Committees are included in this packet for Council members.

Open Meeting Adjourn: 7:45

Executive Session: litigation, property acquisition & personnel matters

Open Meeting resumed: 8:46

- Letter to PSAB from Manager Itterly in regard to fraudulent activity for the Police Pension payment, *for discussion in Executive Session.*

Motion- to reimburse pension plan from Borough account by Gallagher, 2nd by M. Lorrh PASS 7-0.

- Update from meeting with representatives from Hogar Crea regarding property acquisition on Market Street. Property Appraisals required after Executive Session.

Motion to proceed with obtaining general appraisals for the three (3) parcels in question by Gallagher, 2nd by M. Lorrh-PASS 7-0.

- Authorization for Northampton County to collect delinquent taxes on behalf of Freemansburg instead of Portnoff, *discussion in Executive Session.*

Motion-to authorize Northampton County to collect delinquent taxes on behalf of Freemansburg contingent on the Solicitor reviewing the Borough’s contract with Portnoff by Gallagher, 2nd by M. Lorrh-7-0.

Motion-to adjourn by LaBar PASS 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____

~~Justine A. Rossi, Borough Secretary~~
Jonathan Itterly, Borough Manager

Approved by Council: _____ Certified: _____

