

# Borough of Freemansburg

600 Monroe St., Freemansburg, PA 18017

## Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday April 7, 2026 -7:00 PM

➤ Pledge of Allegiance

➤ *Roll Call*

**Mayor:** Gerald Yob  
**Council President:** Homer Lorrh  
**Council Vice-President:** Jim Smith  
**Council Members:** Margaret Lorrh, Monica Elliott, Justine Rossi, Beth Zmijewski, Colleen Gallagher  
**Council Secretary:** Ramona Ruiz  
**Borough Manager:** Jonathan Itterly  
**Solicitor:** Anthony Giovannini

### *Courtesy of the Floor*

Resident Patrick Esposito inquired about whether the state can fine Bethlehem City for the deplorable conditions of Market Street. The Borough Manager replied that there is a Department of Environmental Protection Report. Resident Mark Sobota requested permission to portray Uncle Sam on stilts and hand out American flags to the children during the 250<sup>th</sup> Stars and Stripes of America Celebration on Main Street July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. Council unanimously agreed.

### *Finance/Personnel*

- Payroll reports for paychecks dated 3.28.2026. *Informational.*
- Bills Paid dated 3.24.2026 & 3.30.2026 in view of due dates to avoid late fees. *Informational.*
- Tax Collectors Monthly Report for March 2026. *Informational.*
- Remittance Reports from Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd. reflecting collections as follows:  
Week of March 11, 2026 – Sewer \$1,589.06; Trash \$1,660.02.  
Week of March 18, 2026 – Sewer \$640.94; Trash \$1,056.07. *Informational.*
- Authorization for the Solicitor to mail the attached correspondence to Hogar Crea in regards to Ordinance #2026-001 ***Motion Required.***  
Motion to authorize the Solicitor to mail correspondence to Hogar Crea regarding Ordinance #2026-001 by M. Lorrh, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Elliott-PASS 7-0.
- Notice of Liquid Fuel Tax Fund Payment in the amount of \$77,188.28 to be paid on 3.27.2026. *Informational.*
- Authorization for Council President Homer Lorrh to execute the traffic signal plans for SR 3007 (Freemansburg Avenue/Pembroke Road) and SR 3005 (Washington Street)/Cambria Street for 1600 Freemansburg Avenue (Freemansburg Industrial). ***Motion Required.***  
Motion to authorize Council President Homer Lorrh to execute the traffic signal plans for SR 3007 and SR 3005 by J. Rossi, 2<sup>nd</sup> -PASS 7-0.
- ***Council Meeting Minutes*** 3.3.2026 & 3.24.2026. ***Motion Required.***  
Motion to approve Meeting Minutes from 3.3.2026 & 3.24.2026 by B. Zmijewski, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Elliott-PASS 7-0.

### ***Community Development***

- Notification from United States House of Representative Ryan Mackenzie’s office that the Borough’s 2027 Community Project Funding Request was selected for consideration during the annual appropriations process for fiscal year 2027. This submission does not guarantee funding will be awarded. *Informational.*

### ***Sewer, Sanitation, Streets/Public Works***

- Public Works PA 1 Calls for March. *Informational.*
- Public Works Monthly Report for March. *Informational.*
- Public Works Pump House Report for March. *Informational.*
- Authorization to advertise the bid specifications for collection transport and disposal of municipal solid waste and recyclables for the Borough of Freemansburg Garbage Bid for 2027 (to be distributed at the meeting). ***Motion Required.***  
Motion to table this item until the next council meeting by J. Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Zmijewski-PASS 7-0.

### ***Parks & Recreation***

- Motion to authorize request from Freemansburg Elementary to plan a park visit for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders on 6.2.2026 from 9:45am – 2:30pm. Certificate of Liability Insurance provided. ***Motion Required.***  
Motion to authorize Freemansburg Elementary to utilize the park for 5<sup>th</sup> graders on 6.2.26 from 9:45AM-2:30pm.
- 250<sup>th</sup> Stars & Stripes of America Block Party Update. *Informational.*

### ***Police Department, Public Safety & Fire Company***

- Monthly Police Report for the Month of March (to be distributed at meeting). *Informational.*
- Fire Company Call Runs Report for the Month of February and March 2026. *Informational.*
- Fire Company’s Treasurer Reports for January, February and March 2026. *Informational.*
- Update from the incident in Lower Saucon Township on 3.25.2026. Two Freemansburg Officers responded to this incident at the request of the Lower Saucon Police Chief. While parked blocking traffic on Applebutter Road, the suspect fired 3 rounds from a high-powered rifle through the windshield of Freemansburg Patrol vehicle #124. A Hellertown Police Department vehicle also sustained damage from gunfire. Vehicle #124 has extensive interior damage. The damage has been submitted to the Borough’s insurance company for review. No officers were injured during this incident. *Informational*
- Update from the dwelling fire at 9 Market Street on 3.25.2026. *Informational.*
- Authorization to purchase 5 patrol rifles for the Police Department. The current patrol rifles were purchased in 2014 and are in need of an upgrade to be effective during critical incidents. As per the Finance Director, the \$19,605.30 purchase amount will be taken out of the Local Service Tax Fund. ***Motion Required.***  
Motion to approve the purchase of 5 patrol rifles for the Police Department in the amount of \$19,605.30 to be taken out of the LST Fund by J. Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> C. Gallagher-PASS 7-0.

***Mayor, Manager & Council President***

- Council President update on Pole Banner Program for Main Street. *Informational.*

***Miscellaneous***

- Update from Solicitor regarding donation request letters for the Parks & Recreation Committee. *Informational.*

***Members of Council***

- Request from Councilwoman Rossi to discuss a noise nuisance occurring in the City of Bethlehem, off of Shimersville Road, that is affecting Freemansburg residents. *Informational.*  
Motion to authorize the Solicitor to send a letter to the City of Bethlehem and the property owner regarding people trespassing through a gated area when heading to the riverbank where they create a nuisance by playing loud music that can be heard by the surrounding residents by C. Gallagher, 2<sup>nd</sup> J. Rossi-PASS 7-0.

**Open Meeting Adjourn: 8:00PM**

**Executive Session: litigation, property acquisition & personnel matters**

Personnel Matter Updates.

**Executive Session Start: 8:03PM**

**Executive Session Adjourn: 8:27PM**

**Open Meeting Start: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Open Meeting Adjourn: \_\_\_\_\_**

Approved by Council: \_\_\_\_\_ Certified: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Ramona Ruiz, Council Secretary