

Borough of Freemansburg

600 Monroe St., Freemansburg, PA 18017

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 7, 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-*absent*, Rudolph Gallich-*present*

Borough Secretary: Justine Rossi-*present*

Solicitor: ~~James Preston, Esq.~~ Anthony Giovannini-*present*

Borough Manager: Jonathan Itterly-*present*

Courtesy of the Floor

- Aiden Kindrew- Eagle Scout project-Mr. Kindrew was present and discussed his ideas for his service project to become an Eagle project. He would like to construct items for the park including benches, a flag pole or a small gazebo. Councilman Smith asked him who would be working on the project, he stated at the park. Smith mentioned that he could use the shed for storage and the electric for power tools. He also asked who would be assisting and he stated his troop members and parents. Manager Itterly suggested benches would be the best option as the playground area could use benches.

Motion-in support of allowing Aiden Kindrew to construct benches for the park by Gallagher, 2nd Smith-PASS 5-0.

- Cindy Amorim-*resident is also Borough Crossing Guard and was present to ask if the Borough could possibly place stone or something for parking her car near the digital sign. She stated it is the best possible spot to be able to watch the students but it is ripping up the grass.*

Motion-to authorize Public Works to make a permanent parking spot for Crossing Guard use-ALL AYES.

Russell Sutton, Lower Saucon resident was present to educate Council and residents regarding the proposed landfill expansion. He was asking for Borough Council and residents to support their efforts to stop the expansion. He also encouraged Council to send the solicitor or member of Council to the hearing being held on February 8.

Finance/Personnel

▪ Payroll Reports for paychecks dated 1/12/2023 & 1/26/2023, *informational.*

▪ List of bills dated 2/7/2023, *authorization of payment.*

Motion-to pay all bills listed dated 2/7/2023 by LaBar, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.

▪ Monthly Tax Reports for **December 2022 & January 2023**, *informational.*

▪ Copy of "Return of Taxes for the Year of 2022" (delinquent accounts) being sent back to Northampton County for Collection (Portnoff), total amount outstanding is \$19,888.13, *informational.*

- 124 Somerset St. Resident request to be exempt from Sewer and Sanitation for house fire in May 2021, moved back into residence July 2022 when house was completed, *for discussion*.

Motion-to exempt 124 Somerset St. from Sewer and Sanitation Invoices for 2022 due to the inability to occupy the home due to a house fire, by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 4-1 (No-Gallich).

- Copy of SANITATION accounts that were sent to Portnoff Law for collections by office staff **this week**, *informational*.
- Copy of SANITATION accounts that are **already at Portnoff** Law for collections, with no additional sent for 2022, *informational*.
- Copy of SEWER accounts that were sent to Portnoff Law for collections by office staff **this week**, *informational*.
- Copy of SEWER accounts that are **already at Portnoff** Law for collections, with no additional sent for 2022, *informational*.
- Copies of checks received for Grant reimbursements for the following grants:
 1. *Façade Grant (C.I.P.P.)- \$15,000*
 2. *Digital Message Board (2021 Round 2 Grow Norco Grant)- \$10,800*
 3. *Police Patrol Vehicle (2021 Round 2 Grow Norco Grant)- \$34,600*
 4. *Emergency Mobile Trailer (2021 Round 2 Grow Norco Grant)- \$32,200*
 5. *Police Simulator (CFA LSA Monroe County)- \$29,467*
 6. *Community Parking Lot Extension (Nor Co)- \$65,000*

✓ **Council Meeting Minutes**

December 6, 2022

Motion-to adopt Council Meeting Minutes dated December 6, 2022 without additions or corrections by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.

Community Development, Public Safety & Fire Company

- Authorization **Ordinance 2023-001** restricting parking in certain areas on Ramblewood Lane per Traffic Study supporting the prohibition of parking on Ramblewood Lane completed by Borough Engineer, *authorization to adopt*.

Motion-to authorize Ordinance 2023-001 restricting parking in certain areas on Ramblewood Lane by Smith, 2nd Gallagher- PASS 5-0.

- Email from Anna Kristjansen of the D&L in regard to D&L Festival of Races presented by St. Luke's" on November 12, 2023. They are seeking support of the race, *informational*.

Motion-to support the D&L Festival of Races presented by St. Luke's Hospital on 11/12/23 by Gallagher, 2nd Smith-PASS 5-0.

- December 2022 Monthly Fire Reports *and January 2023, to Council this evening. Chief Itterly commended the volunteer fire company for their quick response in regard to a large dwelling fore on Ramblewood Lane on January 31. He stated 12 agencies responded and all worked well together.*
- Copy of TuWay Communications quotation for Portable Radios for the Fire Co., *for discussion. The item was table to Executive Session.*

Sewer, Sanitation, Streets/Public Works

- Public Works Dept. completed the brick façade portion of the digital display sign and will be placing the message board this week.
- Green Street roadway repair, *for discussion in Executive Session.*
- Jackson Street issue, *for discussion. Street is a Liquid Fuels roadway.*
- *Public Works Garage expansion now has electric installed and the HVAC will be completed by the end of the month.*

Police Department

- January 2023 monthly report will be distributed at this evenings meeting. *Coffee With a Cop will be held on Monday 2/20/23 (9-11AM), all are welcome to attend. Civil Service will be meeting in regard to hiring an additional Full Time Officer and the Corporal promotion.*

Parks & Recreation

- 2023 Calendar of Events was mailed to residents with the Sewer Invoice this week. The committee did a great job of altering some previous activities as well as adding some new ones!

Mayor, Manager & Council President

-

Miscellaneous

- NIXLE alerting platform has been initiated. Borough staff will begin the training process to move forward with the program for resident use shortly. NIXLE will send informational updates programmed by staff to alert registered residents (by using their cell phone number) regarding road closures, snow emergencies, weather emergencies, community events etc. by text message. This program was made possible by a grant from Northampton County DCED 2022 Public Safety grant.

Open Meeting Adjourn: 8:08pm

Executive Session: litigation, property acquisition & personnel matters

8:56pm Open meeting

Motion to adjourn-LaBar, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.

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

Approved by Council: _____ Certified: _____