

Borough of Freemansburg

600 Monroe St., Freemansburg, PA 18017

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 22, 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: Anthony Giovannini, Esq. -*present*

Borough Manager: Jonathan Itterly-*present*

Courtesy of the Floor

➤ Residents will be limited to five minutes.

Lower Saucon Residents Russ Sutton, Victoria Cordero, and Stacie Mizczenski were present with updated information regarding the landfill expansion. They attended to ask Borough Council to offer support to the residents to oppose the expansion.

Chris Houser, resident of Bethlehem Twp. (at Borough border on Lockhouse Road) was present to seek information regarding the future construction of a warehouse at 1600 Freemansburg Avenue. His concern is the traffic congestion that is already happening at the intersection of Main and Freemansburg Ave., and Freemansburg Ave. at Willow Park Rd.

Finance/Personnel

- Payroll Reports for paychecks dated 8/10/23, *informational*.
- List of bills dated 8/11/2023 previously signed by the Finance Committee, *authorization of payment*.
Motion-to pay all bills dated 8/11/2023, previously signed by the Finance Committee by Smith, 2nd LaBar-PASS 5-0.
- List of bills dated 8/22/2023, *authorization of payment*.
Motion-to pay all bills dated 8/22/2023 by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.
- Monthly Tax Collector Reports for **July 2023**, *informational*.
- 2024 Financial Requirement and MMO “Police Pension Plan” for 2024 for \$49,895.00, *for approval*. (Yearly approval.)
Motion-to approve 2024 Financial Requirement and MMO “Police Pension Plan” for 2024 for \$49,895.00, by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.
- 2024 Financial Requirement and MMO “Non-Uniformed Defined Contribution” for 2024 for \$11,600.00, *for approval*. (Yearly approval.)
Motion-to approve 2024 Financial Requirement and MMO “Non-Uniformed Defined Contribution” for 2024 for \$11,600.00, by Gallagher, 2nd Smith-PASS 5-0.

- Authorization to hire applicant Devon Carlson as a Full-time Public Works employee. Recommendation to hire from Public Works Supervisor and Public Works Council Liaison Jim Smith following applicant interviews, *for authorization.*

Motion-for Authorization to hire applicant Devon Carlson as a Full-time Public Works employee with a rate of \$17.00/hour by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.

- Comcast Franchise agreement update from Solicitor and motion authorizing agreement and Council Vice President to execute the agreement on behalf of Freemansburg. *To be distributed at meeting. Manager Itterly stated that the Borough already receives franchise fees from Service Electric and Astound. Offering Comcast would bring an additional income to the Borough and also another choice for residents.*

Motion-to authorize the Comcast Franchise Agreement by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.

Council Meeting Minutes

✓ August 1, 2023

Motion-to accept Council Meeting Minutes dated August 1, 2023, without additions or corrections by Derr, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.

Community Development, Public Safety & Fire Company

- Monthly Fire Report for July 2023.
- Reimbursement Request letter to Bethlehem Area School District for Crossing Guard Reimbursement for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount of \$24,690.70. Reimbursement includes Crossing Guard wages, Workers Comp, and expenses, *informational.*
- Borough Engineer recommendation letter regarding the bids received through PennBid for Phase 1 of the Borough's Amphitheater Project. *For discussion and possible motion to award. Item was tabled to Executive Session. Any motions made would be during the open meeting following the Executive Session.*
- Proclamation of Council to Bernie Brown (B.F. Brown Paving) for loaning the Borough heavy equipment to complete the site work for the Amphitheater at Yob Park. *To be distributed at meeting.*

Motion-to authorize the Proclamation of Council to Bernie Brown (B.F. Brown Paving) for loaning the Borough heavy equipment to complete the site work for the Amphitheater at Yob Park, by Smith, 2nd Derr-ALL AYES.

- Proclamation of Council to Joseph Senetti for his generous donation to the Freemansburg Police Department, Public Works Department and Fire Company. *To be distributed at meeting.*

Motion-to authorize the Proclamation of Council to Joseph Senetti for his generous donation to the Freemansburg Police Department, Public Works Department and Fire Company by Smith, 2nd Gallagher-PASS 5-0.

Sewer, Sanitation, Streets/Public Works

- Whitetail Disposal Service Overview for July 2023.

Police Department

- Monthly Police Report for July 2023, *will be distributed at this evening's meeting.*

Parks & Recreation

- Clothing & Shoe Drive Fundraiser was held Saturday 8/20/2023 and it was a great success! Two Parks & Rec volunteers attended and supervised five (5) students from Liberty and Notre Dame High Schools (for community service hours) and did a great job unloading cars and loading the box truck. Amount raised will be provided to Council at the next Council meeting.

- Next Event Reminder: Senior Health & Wellness Fair-Wednesday 8/23/23 (6-8pm)-Borough Hall. There are 15 vendors that will be present with informational items for everyone. Parks & Rec hopes to see you all there to support the committee.

- Fall Fest & Bonfire will be held Saturday 10/14/2023 (3pm-6pm with Bonfire at 6:15pm). More food trucks will be there this year. Please let the committee know if you are available to help with the event that day. Set up begins at 9am. Thank you for your support!

Mayor, Manager & Council President

Miscellaneous

Open Meeting Adjourn: 7:56pm

Executive Session: litigation, property acquisition & personnel matters

Executive Session ended at 8:51pm

Open Meeting Commenced where the following Motions were made:

Motion-to award amphitheater Project, to the lowest qualified bidder as specified in the Engineer's Recommendation for Bid letter, to LA Building Contractors in the amount of \$649,500 by Gallagher, 2nd Smith-PASS 5-0.

- Council authorized the removal of vehicles parked on railroad property in violation of the Neighborhood Improvement Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance by the Police Department. Vehicles were subject to prior enforcement actions.

Motion- to adjourn at 8:58pm by LaBar-ALL AYES.

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

Approved by Council: _____ Certified: _____

