

# Borough of Freemansburg

600 Monroe St., Freemansburg, PA 18017

Council Workshop Minutes

Tuesday, October 24, 2023-7:00 PM

## *Pledge of Allegiance*

## *Roll Call*

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

**Borough Secretary:** Justine Rossi-*present*

**Solicitor:** James Preston, Esq.-*present*

**Borough Manager:** Jonathan Itterly-*present*

## *Courtesy of the Floor*

- Residents will be limited to five minutes.

## *Finance/Personnel*

- Payroll Reports for paychecks dated 10/5/23, *informational*.

- List of bills dated 10/24/2023, *authorization of payment*.

Motion-to pay all M. Lorrh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Smith-PASS 6-0.

- Letter dated 9/25/23 from Fulton Bank in regard to loan the Borough had for the Municipal Building construction & renovation, *informational*.

- Preliminary Budget for 2024, ***Motion to authorize advertisement***. Tabled until Executive Session.

- **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 authorize 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 by Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.

- **Ordinance #2023-003**, an Ordinance authorizing a “DROP” program for eligible full time Freemansburg Police Officers, *authorization*.

Motion-to authorize Ordinance #2023-003, an Ordinance authorizing a “DROP” program for eligible full time Freemansburg Police Officers by M. Lorrh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Smith-PASS 6-0.

- **Resolution #2023-022**, a Resolution supporting the Act 537 Special Study at the City of Bethlehem Wastewater Treatment Plant, for discussion and *authorization*.

Motion- to authorize Resolution #2023-022, a Resolution supporting the Act 537 Special Study at the City of Bethlehem Wastewater Treatment Plant by M. Lorrh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Smith-PASS 6-0.

- Copy of report from Portnoff Law & Associates for unpaid Real Estate Tax Delinquency Balance as of 6/30/2023, *informational*.

- 2018 Ford Explorer sold on Muncibid for \$13,900. Monies will be used toward the last Police patrol car.

***Council Meeting Minutes***

9/5/2023

Motion-to accept Council Meeting Minutes dates 9/5/2023 without additions or corrections by Derr, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Lorrh-PASS 5-0 (Abstain Smith due to meeting absence).

10/3/2023

Motion-to accept Council Meeting Minutes dates 10/3/2023 without additions or corrections by Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Lorrh-PASS 5-0 (Abstain H. Lorrh due to meeting absence).

***Community Development, Public Safety & Fire Company***

- Kudos to the Volunteer Fire Co. and mutual aid fire companies for the quick knock down of the fire on Jackson Street on 10/15/23.
- Copy of “Charitable Organization” document for the Fire Co.
- Copy of draft fundraising letter from the Fire Co. that will be mailed to Borough residents for donations.
- Planning Commission met with the applicant on 10/17/2023 and is recommending Council grant Conditional Preliminary Plan approval for Freemansburg Industrial (1600 Freemansburg Avenue). Resolution authorizing Conditional Preliminary Plan approval will be provided at the November 8, 2023 Council meeting.
- Flags will be replaced at the cemeteries by employees volunteering to help Mayor Yob on Sunday 11/4/2023 at 9:00am.

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

- Proposal from B.F. Brown & Company in the amount of \$9,750.00 to mill and overlay at intersection of Garfield & Monroe Streets, payment to be made from Liquid Fuels funds, *for authorization*.

Motion to authorize Proposal from B.F. Brown & Company in the amount of \$9,750.00 to mill and overlay at intersection of Garfield & Monroe Streets by Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Lorrh-PASS 6-0.

- City of Bethlehem is in the process of completing final restoration on numerous trenches within the Borough. Shout out to Public Works Supervisor Phil Elliott for compiling a list of trenches requiring repair.
- Councilman Gallich thanked the Public Works Dept. for the great job they did cutting the bank along the canal. He also asked if something can be done with cutting the bank below the wall at the Borough hall parking lot.

***Police Department***

- Chief Itterly stated there is a perspective Officer for a part time position. He also stated that the Borough is selling the police sedan and public works dump truck on Muncibid and the Borough will retain one SUV for Borough use.

***Parks & Recreation***

- Trick or Treat-Friday (6-8pm) Bonfire will now be held Friday 10/27/2023 (8:15pm) after Trick or Treat. *Bonfire will be manned by the Fire Co. and other mutual aid departments. Parks & Rec reported that they will host a food truck, possibly the kettle corn truck, fire pits with s'mores kits, balloon animal artist, kids costume contest and candy & treats for the kids.*
- Holiday Vendor and Craft Show will be held on Saturday November 11, 2023 at Borough Hall from 8am to 2pm. Approximately 15 vendors will be present. Parks & Rec will sell hot dogs, drinks and baked goods as a P&R fundraiser. Basket Raffle that was supposed to be held at Fall Fest will be held at the Craft Show as another P&R fundraiser.

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

- *Itterly reminded Council that the next meeting will be Wednesday 11/8/23 due to the General Election.*

***Miscellaneous***

- Freemansburg Elementary School will be holding their annual Halloween Parade on Friday 10/27/2023 at 9:30 am. Feel free to come to Borough Hall to watch the students that morning.
- Freemansburg Elementary School will be holding a Veteran's Day Parade, along with Northeast Middle School and Liberty HS Cheerleaders on Friday 11/10/2023 at 9:30am. Members of Council & Staff are invited to either march with the school or stand in front of Borough Hall that morning, please let Justine know if you plan to attend.

**Open Meeting Adjourn: 7:30pm**

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

Executive Session Ended 8:00pm

Open Meeting Commenced where the following Motions were made:

Motion- to authorize the advertisement of the proposed budget by M. Lorrh, Gallich 2<sup>nd</sup> PASS-6-0.

Motion- to authorize the solicitor to prepare an agreement designating Kings Towing as the Borough's authorized towing service provider by M. Lorrh, 2<sup>nd</sup>-PASS 6-0.

Motion- to adjourn: LaBar-PASS-ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Justine A. Rossi, Borough Secretary

Approved by Council: \_\_\_\_\_ Certified: \_\_\_\_\_

