

## **BOROUGH OF NEW FLORENCE MINUTES JANUARY 16, 2024**

President Jason Beatty, called the regular meeting of the New Florence Borough Council to order on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 6:30 pm in the Borough Building.

### **ROLL CALL**

Members Present:

Jason Beatty, President  
Mason Luther, V. P.  
Jeff Rager  
Chuck O'Shell  
Dan Hewitt, Solicitor

Scott Fuller  
Gwen Dellett - Absent  
Ed Craft, Mayor  
Cheryl Priest, Secretary

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rich Trottier offered his services to plow snow if the council was in a bind for plowing.

Ed Craft, resigned as Mayor of New Florence Borough effectively immediately. Mason Luther made a motion to accept Ed Crafts resignation. Chuck O'Shell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chuck O'Shell made a motion to fill the open council seat with Ed Craft. Mason Luther seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Affidavit of residency, Oath of office and Resolution 2 of 2024 were done for Ed Craft.

Kerri Turner swore Ed Craft in as a new council member.

## **POLICE REPORT**

Jason Beatty gave the report on December's Police Report. The police department assisted the Westmoreland County District Attorney's office with a homicide investigation. It began as a "check on the welfare" and was brought to a conclusion. Few crimes were reported to the department this month. Also the department is "on the cusp" of being a NIBRS-certified/compliant department. This is a busy time the administrative with many responsibilities with reports to be filed.

We received a refund on the last year of police coverage that wasn't used for a check in the amount of \$1650.58.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chuck O'Shell made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting of December 19, 2023 as written. The motion was seconded by Mason Luther. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mason Luther made a motion to accept the minutes of the Reorganization meeting of January 2, 2024. The motion was seconded by Scott Fuller. All in favor. Motion passed.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mason Luther made a motion to accept the December 2023 Treasurers Report as written. Jeff Rager seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed. Ed Craft abstained.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Dan Hewitt spoke on the Property maintenance ordinance which he will have ready for the next meeting. Dan Hewitt is going to work with the Election Board on how to handle six (6) of our seven (7) seats that are up at the same time.

Jason Beatty made a motion that Ed Craft continues to be the Ordinance Officer in his new position as council member. Chuck O'Shell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**BUILDING, GROUNDS, & EQUIPMENT** – Mason Luther, Chair. Scott Fuller, second.

Mason Luther discussed the generator project has commenced. This will be completed in two (2) days.

Mason Luther also discussed on replacing the secretary's computer which is really old and trouble with the software and requirements need to be updated. Mason Luther got a quote from Norman Allen to replace the computer for full IT management of less than \$1500.00. Jeff Rager made a motion to purchase a new computer. Ed Craft seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Scott Fuller received a price of \$100.00 to replace three (3) fluorescent lights in the back-hoe bay. Council is going to table this until next meeting.

Jason Beatty welcomed Al Thomas, our new Borough Maintenance employee.

**STREETS AND DRAINS** – Chuck O'Shell, Chair, Jeff Rager, Second

Jason Beatty spoke in regards to Dan Beyer of EADS sending a request letter for final payment on the 9<sup>th</sup> Street project which the county pays. Jeff Rager made a motion to sign the letter for the EADS Group to receive payment. Chuck O'Shell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Penn Street has water running down the street and west end of the alley is sinking causing the storm drain to fill up with water. Jason Beatty will call Senator Pittman on the drains.

Jason Beatty spoke regarding when COG comes in to do the drains, in front of Hedges', water is plugged up causing a lake effect.

**GRANTS & FUNDING** – Gwen Dellett, Chair, Mason Luther, Second  
Jason Beatty spoke on the Opening for DCNR Grants starts today. EADS will be contacted regarding Memory Park.

**LANDBANK** – Ed Craft, Chair; Mason Luther, Second

No report on the Landbank.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

No report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

We are still waiting on paperwork for the demolition of the Overall Factory.  
No update on the speed signs.  
File storage was discussed by council on a date to start.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Jason Beatty discussed that the Sewage Authority Board still has an open seat.

Jason Beatty spoke on the website stats which Greg Csehoski compiled an up-to-date chart. Greg Csehoski does a fantastic job with the website.

Jason Beatty received a letter from the NFVFD and a group from New Florence would like permission to put a bench in Memory Park of the Gorirossis'. Council gave permission.

### **ADJOURN**

Jeff Rager made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mason Luther. All in favor. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.