

BOROUGH OF NEW FLORENCE MINUTES JANUARY 17, 2023

President Jim Moore, called the regular meeting of the New Florence Borough Council to order on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Borough Building.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Jim Moore
Jeff Rager
Jason Beatty
Jeff Miller, Solicitor

Gwen Dellett
Mason Luther
Chuck O'Shell
Cheryl Priest
Ed Craft, Mayor

Members Absent:
Ron Gyure

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment.

POLICE REPORT

There was discussion on the jake brake ordinance and speed control in general.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jeff Rager made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting of December 20, 2022, meeting minutes as written. Mason Luther seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jeff Rager made a motion to accept the December 2022 Treasurer's Report. Gwen Dellett seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING, GROUNDS, & EQUIPMENT – Ron Gyure, Chair. Jason Beatty, second.

Jason Beatty discussed the installation of a new, insulated garage door. The cost was \$3100.00. New front tires and lights were purchased and installed on the backhoe. New lights for the shop will be finished soon. Scrap was taken to the scrap yard.

A discussion was held on the possibility of purchasing a new mower and performing our own mowing in 2023.

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

Jeff Rager discussed a recent streetlight issue. He will have a contact posted on our website for streetlight issues.

Due to the availability of Liquid Fuels funds, there will be a limit on the 2023 road projects the borough can take on. EADS will put together a list of projects that are currently under consideration.

GRANTS & FUNDING – Gwen Dellett, Chair, Mason Luther, Second

Mason Luther discussed hiring a 'grant writer' who specializes in small municipalities.

Mason Luther commented on replacing the building code inspector MDIA with TKL Code Inspections from Indiana. Jason Beatty made a motion to

transition from MDIA to TKL. Gwen Dellett seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed. Jeff Miller will draft a letter/motion for us.

Jim Moore discussed Dean Smuro's garage being turned into an event/community center. David Black is the engineer that drew up the mechanical plans that have been approved and permitted by MDIA.

LANDBANK – Ed Craft, Chair; Mason Luther, Second

Jim Moore spoke on receiving a property conditions assessment plan from Daniel Carpenter. They provide the borough with an inventory, on-line tools, and a project timeline. The proposed cost is \$6000.00.

Jeff Rager made a motion that we authorize the Landbank to do this study at a cost of \$6,000.00. Chuck O'Shell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Ed Craft sent out three (3) ordinance violation letters. Noise issues were also cited. All the surrounding neighbors wanted to know about the burnt house, rodents, the house is falling down, why isn't it being torn down? DEP is starting an investigation on a property in town.

OLD BUSINESS

St. Clair Township has agreed to make back payments on the workman's compensation insurance.

The Council is still looking for volunteers for the New Florence Sewage Authority.

No word on the Memory Park walkways improvement plans. Mason Luther will investigate grant sources for the project.

Phil Ferris submitted a request for financial assistance for the purchase of sixteen (16) apparatus cylinders at a cost of \$625.00 each for a total of \$10,000.00. Jim Moore made a motion to use a portion of the Borough's

COVID funds for this request. Jeff Rager seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

The New Florence VFW has asked for a donation from the Borough.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Moore made a motion that we extend our 9th Street project end date to August 12, 2023. Jason Beatty seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Jim Moore distributed the 2022 statistics for the Borough Website.

Jim Moore called for an Executive Session at 8:12 p.m. to discuss employee matters. Executive Session ended at 8:32 p.m.

ADJOURN

Jeff Rager made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gwen Dellett seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.