

BOROUGH OF NEW FLORENCE MINUTES NOVEMBER 15, 2022

President Jim Moore, called the regular meeting of the New Florence Borough Council to order on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 6:30 pm in the Borough Building.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Jim Moore	Mason Luther
Jeff Rager	Ed Craft, Mayor
Jason Beatty	Cheryl Priest
Jeff Miller, Solicitor	

Members Absent:

Ron Gyure
Gwen Dellett
Chuck O'Shell

PUBLIC COMMENT

Phil Ferris of the NFVFC presented a list of EMS related equipment that is needed. The council is considering the use of COVID relief funds for these needs.

Dean Banko asked for permission to do the annual 5K Race on Sunday, December 18, 2022, with the Volunteer Fire Department. Borough has no issues with the race.

POLICE REPORT

Brandon Marsh gave an update. The department is still conducting several investigations. Officer Andrews began his employment but is not certified yet. All Police Officers passed the annual firearms qualifications that are being conducted this month. Jeff Rager asked if the police have stopped any trucks due to the new Jake Brake Ordinance. Officer Marsh responded that he does not have that information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jeff Rager made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting of October 18, 2022, meeting minutes as written. Jason Beatty seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jim Moore reported on current balance in the General Fund, State Highway Funds and Money Market accounts. After review, Jeff Rager made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report for October. Mason Luther seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Jeff Miller read to the Council the Landbank Ordinance Agreement. A motion to execute an Ordinance and spend \$5,000.00 (five thousand) dollars to join the Landbank was made by Mason Luther. Jason Beatty seconded. All in favor.

Jeff Miller also explained Act 57. The borough needs to pass a resolution on it before January.

Jim Moore appointed Ed Craft, Chair and Mason Luther, second on the Landbank Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Jason Beatty gave an update on the Borough Building security cameras, there are (4) four up and running. The garage lighting upgrade project is on hold as some of the wiring is not up to code. A new panel box is necessary. The borough truck is ready for winter, the plow and spreader have been installed. The floor drain in the garage was unplugged. Rainwater was coming in under the garage door. A new furnace is needed for the garage. Jim Moore made a motion to spend up to \$3500.00 (three

thousand five hundred) for the new furnace. Jason Beatty seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

STREETS AND DRAINS – Chuck O'Shell, Chair; Jeff Rager, Second
Jeff Rager asked what percent of the 9th Street Project has been completed. Also, he mentioned that several trees along Ligonier Street need trimmed.

Jim Moore spoke with Alyssa of EADS regarding Penn Street as well as a small water and sewer grant. Our match was over the 15% which will not work with our budget. Alyssa will try another avenue to pursue.

GRANTS & FUNDING – Gwen Dellett, Chair; Mason Luther, Second
Gwen Dellett is doing research on Mr. Katcher's grant information presented at the last meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

O.J. Simpson asked if his realtor could put a sign up selling his grandmothers' house. Mike Graff asked if we could contact the gas company because their cars are bottoming out in their driveway since the new line has been installed. Ed Craft served two (2) ordinance compliance letters on Barry Hutchinson's properties.

OLD BUSINESS

Norfolk Southern's railroad bridge at the underpass needs repairs.

The Council is still seeking volunteers to serve on the board for the New Florence – St Clair Sewage Authority.

No word yet on the Memory Park walkways improvement. This will be a Spring 2023 project. St. Clair Township's workman's compensation offset payments have not yet been resolved. They are still without a solicitor.

COVID relief fund disposition was again discussed. The council has not yet decided on the usage of the funds. Deadline to use is December of 2024.

There was no additional discussion on a radar operated speed alert sign.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Moore discussed the 2023 Draft Budget with the council. The annual donations to the Library and Community Development were increased for 2023.

The 2023 Draft Budget is \$227,942.00. Jason Beatty made a motion to advertise and adopt the Budget at \$227,942.00 at 20.5 mills. Jeff Rager seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Jim Moore discussed Liquid Fuels amount for next year. Jim Moore made a motion to incorporate the 2023 liquid fuels revenues and expenditures in our 2023 Budget. Jason Beatty seconded the motion. All in favor. Jim will revise the draft budget accordingly and distribute it for review prior to advertising.

Jim Moore called for an Executive Session at 8:04 p.m. for Personnel issues. Executive Session ended at 8:14 p.m.

Jim Moore made a motion for Jason Beatty to be the Borough Employee Manager of personnel. Jim Moore seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

ADJOURN

Jeff Rager made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason Beatty seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.