

Borough of Freemansburg

600 Monroe St., Freemansburg, PA 18017

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday September 16, 2025-7:00 PM

➤ Pledge of Allegiance

➤ ***Roll Call***

Mayor: Gerald Yob

Council President: Homer Lorrah

Council Vice-President: Jim Smith (Excused Absence)

Council Members: Charles Derr, Colleen Gallagher (Excused Absence), Rudolph Gallich, Monica Elliott, Margaret Lorrah

Council Secretary: Ramona Ruiz (Excused Absence)

Borough Manager: Jonathan Itterly

Solicitor: Anthony Giovannini, Esq.

Courtesy of the Floor

Finance/Personnel

- Payroll Reports for paychecks dated 8/21/2025. *Informational.*
- Bills paid dated 9/16/2025 in view of due dates to avoid late fees. *Informational.*
- Remittance Reports from Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd. reflecting collections of sewer and trash fees as follows:
 - Week of August 13, 2025 – Sewer \$1,132.62; Trash \$2,730.61.
 - Week of August 20, 2025 – Sewer \$1,360.94; Trash \$1,097.25.
 - Week of August 27, 2025 – Sewer \$886.08; Trash \$214.70.
 - Week of September 3, 2025 – Trash \$365.09. *Informational.*
- Tax Collector's Monthly Report to Taxing Districts August 2025. *Informational.*
- Authorize Application for Payment No. 12, period ending July 31, 2025, prepared by Construction Masters Services, LLC for the Main Street Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$385,568.86. ***Motion Required.***
Motion to authorize payment #12 in the amount of \$385,568.86 by M. Lorrah, 2nd by M. Elliott. Motion passed 5-0.
- Authorization to submit a RACP funding request for the Community Center Project to the Office of the Budget in the amount of \$1,000,000.00. ***Motion Required.***
Motion to authorized the submission of a RACP funding request of \$1,000,000.00 to the Office of the Budget by M. Lorrah, 2nd by R. Gallich. Motion passed 5-0.
- ***Council Meeting Minutes: 8/19/2025 (No absences).*** *No corrections/changes. Motion Required.*
Motion to approve the minutes by M. Lorrah, 2nd by R. Gallich. Motion passed 5-0.

Community Development, Public Safety & Fire Company

- Authorize a \$500.00 donation to the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LVRHAB) to assist with coordinated services to people in the community experiencing or at risk of homelessness. ***Motion Required.***
Motion to authorize a donation of \$500.00 to LVRHAB by M. Lorrach, 2nd by R. Gallich. Motion passed 5-0.
- Discuss the request from Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company asking the Freemansburg Borough to write an LSA grant on their behalf for medical equipment. ***Motion Required.***
Motion to deny the request from Bethlehem Township due to the concern that the request may affect the Borough grant application by M. Lorrach, 2nd by M. R. Gallich. Motion passed 5-0.
- Authorization for Council President to execute the indemnification agreement prepared by the solicitor regarding 1600 Freemansburg Avenue. ***Motion Required.***
Motion to authorize Council President to execute the indemnification agreement between the Borough and 1600 Freemansburg Avenue (Freemansburg Industrial) by M. Lorrach, 2nd by M. Elliott. Motion passed 5-0.

Sewer, Sanitation, Streets/Public Works

- Review Public Works July Report. *Informational.*
- Authorize HC Parking Permit Application resubmittal (with updated, signed letter from neighbor at 218 Juniata) from resident Maria Cortes at property address 218.5 Juniata Street. Total frontage for both properties equals 34'. ***Motion required.***
Agenda item was tabled and Council requested additional information from Public Works regarding property frontage. Item will be placed on the next agenda.
- Discuss parking situation on Juniata and Clearfield Streets. *Discussion.*
Motion to authorize the Borough Engineer to conduct a traffic and engineering study in the 100 and 200 blocks of Juniata and Clearfield Street by R. Gallich. Motion passed 5-0.

Parks & Recreation

- Letter of Intent received from Steve Takacs to become a committee member of Parks & Rec. ***Motion Required.***
Prior to the motion, Mr. Takacs, who was present, indicated that he would prefer to be a volunteer instead of a committee member.
Motion to authorize Mr. Takacs as a Parks and Rec Board volunteer by M. Elliott, 2nd by C. Derr. Motion passed 5-0.
- Request from Parks & Rec Committee Member Stephanie Velez to increase the Borough contribution by \$2,800.00 for 2026. Between the carnival and donations, in prior years P&R received approx. \$7,200.00 and the expenses were \$7,200.00. In 2024 and 2025, the Fire Department received a portion of the Carnival proceeds. The Borough's current contribution towards Parks and Rec is approximately \$3,000.00. Request will be provided to the finance committee for budget discussions. *Informational*

Police Department

- Police Department Monthly Report for August (distributed at meeting). *Informational.*
Due to an ongoing network outage, the report will be provided at the next meeting.

Mayor, Manager & Council President

Miscellaneous

Open Meeting Adjourn: 8:05

Executive Session: litigation, property acquisition & personnel matters

Executive Session Start: 8:07

Executive Session Agenda:
Executive Session Adjourn: 8:22

Open Meeting Start: 8:22

Open Meeting Adjourn: 8:23. Motion to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0.