

AGENDA FREEBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

December 16, 2025

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – November 18, 2025

APPROVAL OF THE OUTSTANDING BILLS TO BE PAID – December 2025

PUBLIC CONCERNS (Time Limit 5 minutes Per Issue)

REPORT FROM FREEBURG FIRE CO.

Freeburg Fire Company Report

REPORT FROM OWENS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (OPS) – Operations Services began October 27, 2025

November 2025 Monthly Report –

Approval of Owen Professional Services (OPS) Contract = Needs to be approved.

CAP Response - Corrective Action Plan was submitted to DEP on December 1, 2022

LSA Grant Request for Sewer Lining –

- **2024** Local Share Account Grant was submitted for Market Street lining, project cost \$1,200,000. Requested \$1,000,000 from grant
- **2025** Local Share Account Grant was re-submitted for Market Street lining, project cost \$1,200,000. Requested \$1,000,000 from grant

Appropriations Requests – Appropriations requests submitted to Representative Glenn “GT” Thompson and Senator John Fetterman’s offices have been forwarded to the next round of consideration.

PA Small Water & Sewer Grant Application – Submitted grant request for \$499,941.00

Sewer Connection Violations – Working on resolving those issues

Manhole Noise at 405 East Market Street – Discussed previously, not a simple repair due to location.

- Quote received from Dave Gutelius, Inc. for repair, \$5,400.00, Review and possible approval
- Requesting additional quotes
- Project on hold until at least Spring 2026

Sewer Line Replacement at 304 East New Market Street – Borough sewer lateral from curb to main collapsed.

REPORT FROM MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY –

2025 LSA Grant Request for Market Street Water Line Replacement – Grant submitted (\$ 1 million), Re-submitting same project by Nov 30, 2025.

PA Small Water & Sewer Grant Application #3 – Submitted grant application for water line replacement on North South Street. Project estimated at \$425,000.00

2026 LSA Grant Request for Market Street Water Line Replacement –

- LSA grant was submitted for 2025. Waiting for any review comments

BOROUGH MAINTENANCE REPORT –

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE– *Catherine Dent, Chair; Angela Weaver, Tabbetha Vanhorn-Price*

Ordinance 2026-1 – Needs to be Approve, Millage increase for 2026 from 11.0 mils to 12.0 mils

2026 Budget – Advertised budgets for review, **Budget to be approved at Jan 5, 2025 Re-Organization meeting.**

2026 Employee wages review – See attached report from 2024 & 2025 wages surveys

Second Borough Credit Card – Credit card for Assistant Secretary, Sierra Zeigler. Discussion topic

Meetings with SEDA COG, DCED, Penn DOT, Local Government Representatives

ORDINANCES & PLANNING – *Tabbatha Vanhorn-Price, Chair; Erica Stephenson, John Wiegler*

Freeburg Borough Property Maintenance Report – November 2025

- **Abandoned Houses**

- **1 West Front Street**
- **9 West Market Street** – has been referred to CK COG

CK-COG Report – November 2025

Stray Cats Committee – The Stray Cat Committee has been working on trapping and spay/neutering appointments of the stray cats, Bruce and Sandy have been paying for additional vet care for the cats out of their pocket, donations for additional expenses can be given to Bruce and Sandy Blades. Spay/neutering now costs \$25.00/cat, plus travel expenses and meds.

*****Funding for this project has been cut for the spay/neuter of cats, additional funding is needed from borough for this project to continue. *****

Borough Ordinances on Website – Sierra Zeigler is working on this project

Ordinance Review – Sierra Zeigler has been reading through old meeting minutes for ordinance info.

Hometown Hero Banners – Starting another round of Hometown Hero banner orders due Jan 30, 2026.

Borough Master Plan – The borough office suggests that a borough master plan (10-year plan) be developed to assist in grant planning for funding and to keep the future borough council on task for borough issues. Council members and change every two years.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – *Erica Stephenson, Chair; Catherine Dent, Weston Hoffman*

Internet Service for Community Center – Wanda Kantz has contacted Penn Teradata regarding services.

Community Spirit/Decorating Acknowledgment – in addition to focusing on properties that are in disrepair, perhaps we could have a quarterly spotlight on properties that are looking good.

Staff Introductions on Website – Would staff (and members of the council and the authority) be interested in being featured on the website so that the community can get to know us.

State of Freeburg Borough Letter for the upcoming Newsletter – Discussion Topic

National Register of Historic Places – Discussion Topic.

PUBLIC FACILITIES, SERVICES & SAFETY – *Weston Hoffman, Chair; Angela Weaver, Regina Moyer*

December 2025 Rental Income Report –

New Basketball Goal for Gym – *Estimated cost \$15,000* **Total donation received \$5,670.00**

Received \$5,000 from Battram Family Foundation Grant for this project.

Applied for a grant for a \$5,000 Walmart grant. Received \$500.00 grant.

Donations received - \$170.00

DCNR Grant Applications – Grant application has been submitted for the Freeburg Commons Planning.

East Front Street Bridge Replacement Project –

- R K Webster Working Project Design- \$39,900.00, Approved.
- Approved a Precast Concrete Box Culvert Bridge option – Est. cost \$164,700.00
- DCED Multimodal Grant request submitted and is being reviewed.

West Front Street Bridge –

- Quote for engineered design from Stahl Sheaffer, \$14,000.00, tabled 10/22/2025
- Engineered plan is needed for grant applications.
- Looking into other options for bridge replacement

TIP request letter – All other bridges have been requested to be added to Penn DOT TIP program for funding assistance.

Storm Drains– Borough Staff is working on some repairs for these issues

- Storm Water drainage along Front & South Street – Borough Staff and Engineer working on cost estimated for project.

Baseball Field Drainage Issues – repairs to be made during upcoming dry weather. See estimated cost from OPS, LLC. \$23,700.00

Handicap Ramp at Office Entrance – Discussions tabled at this time.

- Cost estimated at \$43,000 from Stahl Sheaffer,
- Quote for engineered plan from Stahl Sheaffer, needed for grant application. Tabled 10/22/2025
- 3 reported falls in the last two years, effecting our insurance coverage rates
- Council requested quote for material from Borough Laborer, Rob Heddens

2025 County Aid Project – Project completed, new street signs for Church Street, completion report saw sent to PennDOT.

Damage to East Front Street Bridge – Damaged by DH&L ambulance – October 21, 2025

- Reported to EMC Ins, Borough Ins.
- Reported to Kratzer’s ins. agency, DH&L Ambulance ins.
- Bridge Closed, Cost- \$689.59, bills submitted to DH&L Insurance Carrier
- William Orr & Sons inspected bridge for guide rail repairs and major repairs need to made to the bridge before new guide rails can be installed.

CORRESPONDENCE –

NEW BUSINESS

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA & AMENDMENT TO AGENDA FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration, if needed, of a motion for additional agenda item(s) that need to meet one of the following criteria: emergency business, matters arising within the past 24 hours, minor business raised during the meeting, or agenda changes approved by majority vote (with expressed reasons for the amendment item being stated for the minutes and the same to be posted the next business day).

COUNCIL, MAYOR, SOLICITOR, EMPLOYEE CONCERNS

NEXT BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – January 5, 2026 at 7 pm Re-Organization Meeting.

APPROVAL OF ADJOURNMENT