

AGENDA FREEBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

August 18, 2026

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – July 21, 2026

PUBLIC CONCERNS (Time limit 3 minutes per issue)

Building Permit Request – 307 E New Market St lean-to for boat storage attached to existing shed, 4 feet from property line. Variance not granted by Cemetery Board. [Revised building permit request.](#) **Needs approval.**

Building Permit Request – 103 East Church Street, Additional onto existing garage. **Needs approval.**

FREEBURG FIRE COMPANY REPORT –

MAYOR'S CONCERNS – Richard “Bud” Bickhart

Solar Farm Ordinance – Penn Township’s proposed ordinance (sent to O&P Committee for review)

COMMUNITY CENTER COORDINATOR REPORT – Trent Hoffman

July 2026 Rental Income Report

Roof Repairs due to Storm Damage – [Update: insurance adjuster has reviewed damages](#)

REPORT FROM BOROUGH MAINTENANCE – Rob Heddens, John Stuck

Re-opened East Front St. bridge to one-lane traffic

Storm drainage onto 1 E Church Street project scheduled

Pothole patching project

Willow Street sign needs to be reinstalled

Weed control on curb/street

REPORT FROM WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) – Josh Owens and Wanda Kantz

July 2026 Monthly Report from OPS (OPS services began 10/27/25)

Local Share Account (LSA) Grant Request for Sewer Lining

- 2024 LSA Grant submitted for Market Street lining, project cost \$464,308.65. Received 100% of grant request, project to begin late Summer/Fall 2026.

2025 Appropriations Project – Received award for \$750,000 Match amount waived

- **Engineering Services Proposal (not covered by state funding) – \$37,000.00** Approved 7/21/2026

Sewer Connection Violations – Working on resolving these issues

REPORT FROM MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – Thomas Gingrich

Solar Field Discussion – Community Information Meeting held July 30, 6 pm. [Water Supply Protection framework document prepared by HRG for proposal to Brookfield Renewable/Urban Grid.](#) **Needs approval.**

Water Leaks – All detected leaks have been repaired.

2025 Local Share Account (LSA) Grant Request for Market Street Water Line Replacement

- LSA grant submitted for 2025. Grant reviewed and forwarded to next round of review.

2026 Local Share Account (LSA) – working on project planning

2026 Appropriations Request – Waiting on award announcement

- Submitted to Glen “GT” Thompson, John Fetterman, and Dave McCormick’s office.
- Glen “GT” Thompson selected our project as one of 20 forwarded to Senate Appropriations committee.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE – Catherine Dent (Chair), Angela Weaver, Thomas Gingrich

Outstanding Bills to Be Paid, August 2026 – **Needs approval**

Liquid Fuels Payments to be Approved

- R. K. Webster Invoice – East Front St Bridge Engineering - **\$815.00** **Needs approval**
- Mid-State Paving – 2026 Willow Street Paving – **\$21,565.90** **Needs approval**
(Approved bid amount \$25,640.00, billed amount \$21,565.90 = savings of \$4,074.10)
- Mid-State Paving – Willow Street Bridge (spall repair) - **\$5,200.00** **Needs approval**

Committee Meeting – Held on Aug 18, 2026 at 2 pm

Insurance Quote – Presentation of ins. coverage quote by Tyler Hertzog, Purdy Ins Agency.

2027 Budget review – Committee working on 2027 budget draft

2027 Minimum Municipal Obligation Worksheet (MMO) – **Needs approval**

Employee Training Opportunities –

Wanda Kantz, DCED Scholar training, Chart of Accounts; August 25, 9 to 10:30 am

Sierra Zeigler – New Tools to Address Blight; August 18, noon

Head Laborer Vacancy – [Position advertised, committee working on interviews](#)

PUBLIC FACILITIES, SERVICES & SAFETY – Regina Moyer (chair), Angela Weaver, Tom Gingrich

Solar Field Sub-Contractors Issues – Drawing water at Fire Co. Dry Hydrant & driving trucks on Borough Streets. [Discussion](#)

Willow Street Paving Project – Project completed

Willow Street Bridge Spall Repair - Completed

DCED Multi-Modal Transportation Fund – Project for this grant round is paving Willow St from Route 35 to Front St, Front St from Willow to S Whitetop Rd, S Whitetop Rd to Rte 35. Application submitted July 30, 2026.

2026 County Aid Project – 2026 Project is to patch potholes, \$550.00, project submitted.

East Front Street Bridge Replacement Project – Received DCED Multimodal Grant for \$164,700.00 based on R.K. Webster engineered design for Precast Concrete Box Culvert Bridge (engineered design cost \$39,900.00). All grant documents have been received. Engineer's project update presented and bridge opened for one-lane traffic only. [Update from Randall \(Tom\)](#)

West Front Street Bridge Replacement Project – Quote for engineered design from Stahl Sheaffer, engineer Ben Showers, \$14,000.00, was tabled 10/22/2025. Looking into other options for bridge replacement. Penn DOT suggested re-topping bridge at an estimated cost of \$40,000.00, but this is not recommended in the inspection report and also doesn't include abutments. Engineered plan needed to apply for grants for bridge replacement. [Mark Raup from LIVIC to attend September 15, 2026 meeting.](#)

TIP Program – All other bridges added to Penn DOT TIP program for funding assistance.

Regionalized Police Force – Borough Representative to attend meeting

ORDINANCES & PLANNING – Tabbetha Vanhorn-Price (Chair), Erica Stephenson, John Wiegler

Committee Meeting – August 13, 2026

Borough Master Projects Plan – 10-Year Master Projects Plan being developed to assist in grant planning and to keep future borough council on task – [Discussion](#)

Borough Ordinances Review/Update – Reviewing several ordinances.

- **Controlling Animals Ordinance** – [Review and approve for advertisement](#)
- **Quality of Life Ordinance** – [Review](#)
- **Ticketing Ordinance for Municipal Code Violations** – [Discussion](#)

Public Participation Rules – [Discussion](#). [Resolution needs approval.](#)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – Erica Stephenson (Chair), Tabbetha VanHorn Price

Committee Meeting – August 13, 2026 at 10 am

Comcast Franchising Agreement – Franchise Agreement being reviewed.

Freeburg Commons Planning – Received DCNR grant match of \$23,700.00. Borough match (50%) is \$23,700.00. Sierra Zeigler working on checklist.

CORRESPONDENCE

NEW BUSINESS

Insurance Renewal – [Received 30-day notice from EMC Insurance](#)

Sewer Plant Safety Measures – [Gates should be kept locked to prevent trespassing/accidents](#)

2026 LSA Statewide Grant Application – discuss possible projects

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, SOLICITOR, EMPLOYEE CONCERNS

NEXT BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING – September 15, 2026 at 7PM

APPROVAL OF ADJOURNMENT