

Freeport Borough, Armstrong County Pennsylvania
Ordinance # 402

An ordinance authorizing Freeport Borough to disband the police department and join with Gilpin Township in the creation of a regional police department for the purpose of providing police services throughout the participating municipalities

Whereas, Freeport Borough desires to disband its existing police department and to associate itself with Gilpin Township and to create a regional police department to be known as the Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the power to create such a regional police department is granted by the borough code, Second Class Township Code, and the constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Article IX, Section 5, et seq.; and

Whereas, the Freeport Borough Council finds that there is an urgent need for uniformity, continuity, and cost effectiveness in the enforcement of the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the ordinances of the borough; and

Whereas, Freeport Borough has determined that the provisions of police services across historical municipal lines will increase the Borough's ability to preserve and protect the public safety and welfare of all the residents of the borough; and

Whereas, cooperation among Gilpin Township and Freeport Borough is a proper exercise in discharge of their governmental powers, duties, and functions, and is further authorized by Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, Act of July 12, 1972 P.L 180 as amended.

Section One. Abolishment

The Freeport Borough Police Department shall be disbanded and abolished effective October 12, 2022, at 12:00 midnight.

Section Two. Intergovernmental Agreement Authorization

Freeport Borough shall join with the Gilpin Township Police Department in accordance with the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act in becoming participating municipalities in the Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department in accordance with the Articles of the Charter approved by Freeport Borough on August 24th 2022.

Section Three. Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department

The new police department shall be known as the Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department and shall be organized as an unincorporated association. Said Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department shall have perpetual existence, unless terminated sooner in accordance with the terms of the Charter or by and ordinance of the Township of Gilpin and the Borough of Freeport.

Section Four. Duties of Department Established

The Freeport Borough Council hereby expressly delegates to the Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department those powers and duties of a police department established pursuant the Borough Code. The Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department shall establish and operate a police department for the purpose of providing protection to persons and property within the corporate boundaries of Freeport Borough and Gilpin Township in Armstrong County, Pennsylvania. The purpose and objectives of the agreement shall be to provide broader and more comprehensive police protection and law enforcement services on a more economical basis within the municipal limits of both municipalities by the consolidation of said separate police department into a new joint police department to be known as Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department, which new consolidated police department shall provide police protective services throughout the municipal limits of both municipalities.

Section Five. Appropriations Authorized

The total cost of operating and maintaining the consolidated Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department is to be financed by annual budget appropriations made by each participating municipality toward such total cost in the manor and subject to the conditions as set forth in the charter agreement.

Section Six. Commission Established

The Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department shall be under the supervision and control of a joint board to be known as the Southern Armstrong Regional Police Commission, consisting of 2 elected officials from each municipality and one 1 alternate from each municipality. The organization structure of the consolidated police department shall be as provided in the Charter Agreement.

Section Seven. Property and Equipment

The Agreement shall provide that all existing property and equipment of each police department shall be contributed or transferred to the Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department. Thereafter all new purchases of property or equipment are to be made and disposed of as provided in the agreement.

Section Eight. Powers of Commission

The Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department Police Department Commission created pursuant this ordinance shall be empowered to enter into contracts for the purchase of property, equipment, materials and supplies, and shall be authorized to enter into contracts for policies of group insurance and employee benefits, including social security, for its employees, subject to the budgetary restrictions and other provisions contained in said agreement, and shall have all other powers and authority as provided in said agreement and not otherwise denies to it or withheld by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section Nine. Intergovernmental Cooperation

As required by the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, the following matter are specifically found and determined.

- A. The conditions of the agreement are as set forth in the Articles of the Agreement, approved on August 24, 2022 which is adopted for reference with the same effect as if it had been set out verbatim in these sections, a copy of which shall be filled with minutes of the meeting at which this ordinance was adopted.
- B. The duration of the initial terms of the agreement are outlined in the Charter Agreement and shall be adhered to.
- C. The purpose and objectives of the agreement, including the powers and scope of the authority delegated in the agreement, are set forth in the Articles of the Agreement approved on August 24, 2022.
- D. The manor and extent of financing is forth in the articles of the agreement approved on August 24, 2022.
- E. The Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department shall be under the general supervision of a joint board to be known as the Southern Armstrong Regional Police

Commission which will consist of members from each municipality as outlined in the agreement.

- F. Property, real or personal, shall be acquired, managed, licensed or disposed from time to time as the Southern Armstrong Regional Commission may determine to be necessary or appropriate to meet the purpose and objectives of the Regional Police Department; and
- G. The Southern Armstrong Regional Police Commission shall be empowered to enter into contracts for policies of group insurance and employees' benefits, including social security for its employees.


Section Ten. Repealer

Any and all prior Ordinances and Resolutions and/or any and all portions of prior Ordinances and Resolutions that are in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict. The remaining prior ordinances and resolutions and/or portions of prior ordinances and resolutions, not modified herein, shall remain the same.

Section Eleven. Effective Date

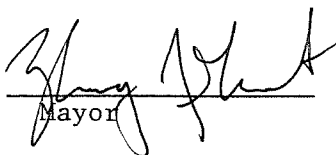
September 12, 2022

The effective date of this ordinance shall be immediately upon its adoption.



Carol Crytzer
Borough Secretary

Clint Warnick
Council President



Mayor