

FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES

MONDAY OCTOBER 6th, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone. He then asked everyone to join in the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

ROLL CALL:

Present: President Obelenus, V.P. Bernie Scalzo, Michael Norella, Rebecca Scoggins, Eileen Lynch, Amy Bean, Secretary/Treasurer Dennise Yankauskas, Secretary Cindy Stone, Mayor Glinton, Solicitor McAndrew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

A special hearing was held on September 16th, 2025 for the conditional use application.
An executive session was held on September 16th, 2025 for personal issue.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (President Obelenus)

No comments

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve regular meeting minutes from September 2nd, 2025. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve September 2025 treasurer report. V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve advertising of the 2026 Budget workshop meeting on September 20th, 2025. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call was all in favor.

President Obelenus stated the 2026 MMO worksheets were submitted to the state, and the 2025 Municipal Pension Allotment Act 205 was paid to PMRS for \$17,262.22. President Obelenus also stated the PA Auditor General issued the 2025 State Aid Allocation for Volunteer Fire Relief Association for \$8,719.98 and processed the payment to the F.C. Fire Department and filed form 706B on DCED Municipal Statistics site.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to advertise to change the November 3rd meeting to November 6th due to the Election. V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Scoggins, roll call all in favor.

President Obelenus announced the road closure for Halloween on Main Street was approved.

PUBLIC WORKS: (V.P. Scalzo)

The Public Works report for September 2025 was offered. V.P. Scalzo also stated recycling donations for the month of September was \$295 and donations are what keeps the program going.

V.P. Scalzo made a motion to approve the purchase of cinders from Brian Prince at a cost of \$2375.00 delivered, was lowest bid and recommended by the P.W. department. Seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll was all in favor.

V.P. Scalzo made a motion to purchase 4 back-hoe tires from STTC Service Tires for \$1,938.40. Seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call was all in favor.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: (Michael Norella)

The elevator sealed bid was opened and was tabled until the budget workshop meeting on October 20th, 2025, council would like to review/discuss their proposal. Councilman Norella updated us on the Coal Miner’s Memorial. Public Works will power wash and seal it.

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COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: (Amy Bean)

Action team is looking for volunteers and picked a date for Jason Wood to come do a presentation on the Pocket Park on November 10th, 2025 at FCES building at 6 p. m. Councilwoman Scoggins added that Valley in Motion is looking to do mini murals. Katie Zefran added that the mini murals will be 6 x 6 and will talk with the 6 building owners in January and grant monies will be used. The Action Team will have a sculpture reveal on November 1st, 2025 at 2 p. m. The Center Street sidewalks from Phase 1 was completed and Phase 2 went out for bids. Katie Zefran also mentioned that The Action Team needs about \$800,000 to finish the Pocket Park along with what they have now. The Action Team is applying for grants, one in November and one in the spring with DCNR.

PARKS & RECREATION: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella mentioned the Disc Golf Course is all cleaned and thanked the two volunteers. The park is closed for the winter and the last event for the year is trunk or treat October 25th, 2025.

COMMUNITY SAFETY & HEALTH: (President Obelenus)

No Updates

CODE ENFORCEMENT (Eileen Lynch)

Councilwoman Lynch read the code enforcement report for September 2025.

Councilman Norella made a motion to approve ordinance #528-2025 Curfew Ordinance, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call was made, all in favor.

MAYOR'S REPORT: (Mayor Christopher Ginton)

Mayor Ginton asked if there are any questions or concerns on the September 2025 Police report. The Mayor stated the New Police Vehicle is here and patrolling. The Mayor announced the drug take back for October 25th, 2025 from 10 – 2 at the FCES building. He also announced again volunteers are still needed for the Steam Town Marathon on October 12th, 2025 to contact the Police department.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: (Solicitor McAndrew)

Solicitor McAndrew mentioned the special hearing meeting for the conditional use for 612 Hudson Street and stated if council does not act on it, it will automatically be approved without any conditions. Council received a straight forward recommendation from the Planning Committee to approve it without any conditions. There was some discussion on the conditional use, Councilman Norella made a motion to approve the conditional use at 612 Hudson Street, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call was all in favor.

Council discussed the Zoning Ordinance. Solicitor McAndrew will review resolution #18-2025 Amending Zoning Ordinance Fees to be voted on in November.

CONTINUED BUSINESS: (Various Council Members)

Councilman Norella stated the New Incentives for New Business on Main Street has failed. President Obelenus received a letter from a taxpayer had thought his business will close but it is not. They mentioned about raising funds and making loans. Katie Zefran stated there are grants out there for new businesses.

President Obelenus updated everyone on the paving project, it has started. President Obelenus brought the tabled item from September to increase Joe Unis Jr. hours from 30 to 60 every two weeks and add Special Project Manager. Council went back and forth on the new title for Joe Unis Jr. about was actually discussed, some had mixed feelings. Councilman Norella stated the reason for this title is that we don't have time to do things, so increase his

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hours to meet with contractors. Councilwoman Scoggins made the motion, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call was 5 – 1, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve an ad to hire an engineering firm to draw maps and compile bids specs for the PENNDOT MMT Grant and who is familiar with PENNDOTS ECMS website. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call was made, all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to purchase candy at a cost of \$300 to be split between Kenny Park and Halloween on Main Street. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call was made, all in favor.

The borough is looking for input from residents about including the sewer and garbage bill into real estate taxes. A meeting will be held at a later date.

President Obelenus mentioned that Zazzera's put new sidewalks instead of waiting for 2027 for the borough. President Obelenus asking for a motion for a decorative street light for the east side of the 600 block and 2 led bulbs replacements for lights for \$9,491.50. V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Scoggins, vote was 3 in favor and 3 against with the Mayor breaking the tie to purchase the light.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:

Katie Zefran commented on Joe Unis Jr. on what a great job he is doing. One resident had some concerns on the light, council explained it more in detail to him. Kathy Singer asked about the judgment on Delaware Street and council explained in more detail what it meant. Jim Zefran asked President Obelenus to explain about how to budget to help Clifton Township with ambulances from Forest City. Jim there will be more to come in the future.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be, Thursday, November 6th, 2025, due to the election on Tuesday, November 4th, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilwoman Lynch made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Councilman Norella, all in favor, none opposed. President Obelenus adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.