

**FOREST CITY BOROUGH  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** (President Nick Cost)

President Cost called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to join him in the “Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Council Members Bernie Scalzo, Chris DeGonzague, Joann Matarese, Nick Cost, Tracey Lazier, Amy Bean, Mayor Tammy Rogalski, Solicitor Paul Smith and Secretary/Treasurer Sharon Vannan. Councilman Lesjack was unable to attend.

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

President Cost announced the following committee appointments:

Amy Bean will replace Ed Pearsall on Parks & Recreation and Tracey Lazier will take over Community & Economic Development and work with Art McLain on Main Street revitalization.

- BUDGET, FINANCE & INSURANCE - Nick Cost, Bernard Scalzo & Joann Matarese;
- PERSONNEL COMMITTEE -Joann Matarese Bernie Scalzo & Amy Bean;
- SEWER/GARBAGE COMMITTEE - Chris DeGonzague, Joann Matarese & Tracey Lazier;
- SAFETY COMMITTEE - Chris DeGonzague, Joann Matarese, & Nick Cost;
- HEARING BOARD (Sewer, Garbage, Code Enforcement (NON-COUNCIL) - Rachel Habetler, Thomas McKenna, Anthony Dell Aquila, & Robert A. DeGonzague (alternate);
- PLANNING COMMITTEE (NON-COUNCIL) - Paul Dovin, Peggy Brager, & Andy Junior;
- ZONING COMMITTEE (NON-COUNCIL) - Bill Orasin, Sr., Bob Trusky, & Tom Fitzsimmons.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

President Cost opened the floor for public comment.

John Kameen representing the GFCl, began by asking Council to reconsider Ordinance #511 – No Parking on Commerce Blvd. in the Vision 2000 Park. Since there have been no issues, people should be allowed to park. When the area is developed and parking becomes a problem, then council could revisit the ordinance. Bob McGraw and Dan Prager both offered their support of Kameen’s request, stating that snowmobilers need the cul-de-sacs to turn around when towing sleds and cars parked along the road did not present any problems.

President Cost thanked them and said it is later on the agenda.

Mr. Kameen asked about the Executive Session listed on the agenda and Solicitor Smith said that he would provide information later in the meeting.

President Cost said, “If that’s all there is, we’ll move on to the Committee reports.”

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. ADMINISTRATION: (Joann Matarese)**

Councilwoman Matarese offered the Minutes from January 2018 for review & approval. Councilwoman Matarese offered a motion to accept the minutes. Councilwoman Lazier seconded the motion. All responded “Aye”.

Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report for January 2018. Council Member Matarese offered a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report and authorize disbursements of \$99,091.97. Total Receipts were \$71,205.65. Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion. The motion carried with a roll call vote. Six council members voted in favor, none opposed.

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Councilwoman Matarese reminded everyone to submit the 2017 “Statement of Financial” forms.

Councilwoman Matarese offered a motion to approve USDA Payment Request #60 for Leeward work on South Street that included mobilization, grubbing & clearing, for \$31,509. Councilwoman Bean seconded the motion. A roll-call vote taken, six in favor, none opposed, the motion carried.

Brian Kelly, CPA submitted a “Letter of Understanding” to prepare the 2017 Financial Audit for \$7,650, less than 2016 because a single audit will not be required for the Sewer Accounts. Councilwoman Matarese made a motion to accept his proposal and authorize President Cost to sign the LOU on behalf of the borough. Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion. A roll call vote found six members in favor, none opposed. Kelly’s proposal was accepted.

**B. PUBLIC WORKS: (Bernie Scalzo)**

Vice President Scalzo read the Public Works report for January 2018 into the record.

Tedesco reported the following:

- Saturday December Recycling donations collected - \$191.00;
- Saturday recycling donation collected for January - \$142.00;
- 1/24/18 – scrap metal taken to Archbald Wrecking - \$145.00;
- 1/24/18 – received 21 tons of CoStar Road Salt from Cargill;
- Vandling borough picked up 12-bucket loads of salt/cinder mix in Dec/Jan.

Councilman Scalzo reported that recycling on Saturday mornings at the Borough Garage would continue for now. It is beneficial to all, brings people into town and one trip to the recycling Center in Throop will continue as needed. The garage will be open on Saturday mornings that will give residents the ability to bring in scrap metal and yard waste. President Cost added, “That is for as long as donations continue and it’s worth it to keep it going.”

**C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: (Bob Lesjack)**

Councilman Lesjack was absent. He provided a written report that was distributed to council members outlining the following:

2<sup>nd</sup> floor bathrooms are complete, but not satisfactorily and Mr. Lesjack will follow up with the contractor upon his return. The sanding & refinishing of the Pentecost Hall floor is complete. Bob & Wally are painting and hanging the chandeliers; Area Agency on Agency reported a problem with the floor in the Senior Center. They are concerned about the safety issues created by the condition of the tiles. Mr. Lesjack requested a vote to make repairs, however, President Cost said, “Council cannot vote on this until Mr. Lesjack gets some bids.” Members agreed.

Councilwoman Bean asked if council felt that the chandeliers on the third floor were necessary? Other members suggested that she discuss this with Mr. Lesjack upon his return in March. Councilman DeGonzague asked, “Do we have to wait until Mr. Lesjack returns do get a price on the Senior Center floor?” President Cost, “He’ll be back in March and since the Senior Center floor will be coming out of the Building & Maintenance budget, Mr. Lesjack needs to be involved.”

**D. PARKS & RECREATION: (Amy Bean)**

Councilwoman Bean was appointed to Parks & Recreation and will prepare a report for the next meeting.

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**E. CODE ENFORCEMENT: (Christopher DeGonzague)**

Councilman DeGonzague prepared a report reporting violations and updates for January. Code Enforcement Officer Stephanie Reisch supplied a copy of her CEO Journal for January 2018 that updated several ongoing projects.

**F. COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Councilwoman Tracey Lazier was appointed to Community & Economic Development. President Cost asked Councilwoman Lazier to work with Art McLain. Mr. McLain reported that he had attended a recent dinner sponsored by the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce. The COC is reaching out to Honesdale to work together. He looked forward to working with Councilwoman Lazier. Mr. McLain extended his thanks to the Frank Nardone for his dedication to the community. Mr. McLain suggested that Council issue a welcome letter to the new owners of the Barking Cupcake Bakery. President Cost suggested he send a draft to Ms. Vannan who would help him with the letter.

**MAYOR ROGALSKI'S REPORT:**

Mayor Rogalski provided the January 2018 police report and the bill for the Vandling police patrols. The Annual Reports for the Police Department and F. C. Fire Department were distributed; they had been unavailable at the January meeting.

Mayor Rogalski requested approval for additional work on 2014 Chevy Impala – quotes from Kost \$661.50 and Hornbeck \$561.25 for Tie-rods and wheel bearings. Councilwoman Bean made a motion to approve the Hornbeck quote. Councilwoman Matarese seconded the motion. A roll call vote found six members in favor and none opposed, the motion carried.

Mayor Rogalski reported that the police made an agreement with FNB to park the police vehicles in the bank parking lot. This would free up Center Street, which would be changed to allow one official vehicle at the bottom and “handicap” parking on the rest of the street. She asked if the borough could purchase camera’s to cover the parking lot. She estimated they would be around \$400 with free video storage. Council asked Chief Johnson to get more information as well as a firm price. No decision at this time.

Chief Johnson reported that efforts to switch to Susquehanna County Comm. Center were not working out. It required Fire & Emergency to agree to the switch and they want to stay with Wayne County. Johnson said, “Apparently the borough had chosen not to go with Susquehanna County when they proposed a new numbering (address) system several years ago and this would have to happen to switch.” Council will review the Chief’s request but for now stay with Wayne County. Rachel Habetter commented that Wayne County had failed to call UGI during the last fire in town, and felt this should be addressed with the Comm. Center. President Cost replied, “Sometimes these things happen, but we will look into it.”

**SOLICITOR SMITH'S REPORT:**

Solicitor Smith reported that an Executive Session was held immediately prior to this meeting to discuss potential litigation and an ongoing criminal investigation.

Ordinance #511 – Parking ban on Commerce Blvd. was presented. President Cost asked Council to table Ordinance #511 for now based on public input earlier in the meeting. It will be revisited in the future if needed. Everyone agreed.

Solicitor Smith reported briefly on the Special Meeting held on January 10 with Vandling Borough and KBA Engineering. Municipalities will have to deal with the cost of what the state has mandated; right now there is no funding available. Despite reports that LRBSA is adding this to the Sewer bill, this is not happening and likely will not. The Borough will have to adopt a Stormwater Management Ordinance. Education and public participation is required

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as well as certain tasks that must be documented and reported to the DEP annually will be part of compliance. There will be more information in the future.

Resolution #3-2018 Consent for Right of Entry presented for Council's approval. Solicitor Smith explained that if it was to grant an extension to a previously adopted resolution that allows the Department of Environmental Protection to perform an abandoned mine project in the borough. Councilman Scalzo offered a motion to adopt Res. #3-2018. Seconded by Councilman DeGonzague, the motion carried with unanimous approval.

Council received a request from the Susquehanna County Treasurer's office to vote to accept any price negotiated by the bureau for three properties currently up for Repository Sale. They include a vacant lot on North Main Street, a property in the 600 block of Delaware Street and a property in the 700 block of Delaware Street. "This will help to speed up the process of finalizing a sale". Councilman DeGonzague made a motion to approve the request. Councilwoman Matarese seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously to approve any price the Bureau was able to negotiate for the sale of these properties.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Due to the recent resignation of our previous building inspectors, Code Inspections, Inc., Councilman DeGonzague and President Cost met with representatives from BIU and JHA. Council members received all supporting materials by email. President Cost said that he and Councilman DeGonzague were recommending BIU to provide the borough with building permit and rental inspection services. Councilman DeGonzague offered a motion to appoint BIU, Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc. to replace Code Inspections, Inc. with Lee Bautista from BIU as the new Building Inspection Officer (BCO). Councilwoman Bean seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the appointment. BIU will provide building permits and inspections effective this date.

A representative from Sprint emailed the borough to request consideration of the following – *"Sprint is interested in leasing ground space on the Boro property, at Kennedy Park for the purpose of constructing a wireless telecommunications facility. We would lease a 100'x 100' lease area for the 50'x50' compound, but could make it smaller if needed. It is our proposal to replace one of the light posts you have at the field with a new 120' pole with the sprint antennas at the top and your lights at the same height they are now. It will provide a high quality, low cost alternative to the current "cellular" telephone systems. Use - The Sprint system relies on a series of strategically placed communications towers to provide continuous two-way radio signals throughout a geographic area. Sprint 's signals are low powered, high frequency radio waves as licensed and authorized by the FCC. Rent - Sprint would pay rent for the space of \$800.00 per month, increased three percent (2%) annually, for a five (5) year period with four (5) five year options to renew the lease. This lease will need to be executed between Sprint and the owner of the property. Access - Once the installation of our equipment is complete, which usually takes approximately four weeks, this unmanned site will need to be serviced once every four to six weeks. In the case of an emergency or a functional failure, Sprint technicians would need to have access 24 hours a day seven days a week. All of Sprint's technicians are insured and bonded. Utilities - Power and telephone service are required for the installation. The type of service is standard and will be separately metered, if available. Frequencies - Sprint is licensed and regulated by the FCC for their radio frequencies. Interference - Sprint guarantees that it will not interfere with any current FCC approved uses, and*

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*asks for the same guarantee in return from all future tenants. Costs - As written in Sprint lease, they will bear all costs for improvements, construction, permitting, and other costs incurred to reasonably prepare the property as a telecommunications site. I look forward to hearing from you concerning this proposal. Sincerely, Carl Humenik, Humenik Acquisitions LLC 215-431-3610".* President Cost asked Councilwoman Bean to follow up on this. Councilman DeGonzague offered to assist her. They will have more information at the March meeting.

**CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:**

President Cost recognized Dan Prager who commented on the Sprint proposal. He said that his employment provided him with some knowledge about the towers. He remarked that the location of the tower is determined for a clear line for the direction of signals. These are low power emissions and the tower is equipped with panels to divert any radiation up and away from the ground. President Cost thanked him and said that council would be looking into it as mentioned earlier.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The PA State Association of Boroughs issued a statement and presented Council with a special-edition clock to thank the borough for being a valued member in the Association.

PA One Call System presented the borough with a custom-made wood engraved plaque to thank the borough for their participation and support of the One Call System.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilwoman Bean made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Lazier seconded the motion. All responded "aye". The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.