

**FOREST CITY BOROUGH
MINUTES
MONDAY MARCH 3rd, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: (President DeGonzague, presiding).

President DeGonzague called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. He welcomed everyone. He then asked everyone to join in the “Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: President DeGonzague, V.P. Bernie Scalzo, Michael Norella, Jason Obelenus Eileen Lynch, Amy Bean, Sarah Woody, Secretary/Treasurer Dennise Yankauskas, Sewer Secretary Cindy Stone, Solicitor Marissa McAndrew. Absent was Mayor Glinton.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President DeGonzague)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION: (Jason Obelenus)

Councilman Obelenus made a motion to accept the Minutes from February 3rd, 2025 seconded by V.P. Scalzo, all responded “Aye”, none opposed.

Councilman Obelenus made a motion to accept the work session Minutes from February 24th, 2025 seconded by V.P. Scalzo, all responded “Aye”, none opposed.

Councilman Obelenus made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for February 2025, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch. The roll call vote was all in favor, none opposed.

Councilman Obelenus announced the refund from Geisinger of \$3,375.36 for annual surplus for 2024.

Councilman Obelenus made a motion to terminate G.H. Harris as the Borough’s delinquent sewer and garbage fees, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call vote was all in favor.

Councilman Obelenus announced Letter’s of Financial Interest are to be completed and handed in to Secretary/Treasurer by May 1st, 2025 for the 2024 year.

Councilman Obelenus touched on “positive pay” from the Honesdale National Bank effective March 10th, 2025 protection of fraud. Council can contact the bank with any questions.

PUBLIC WORKS: (Bernard Scalzo)

The Public Works report for February 2025 was offered. V.P. Scalzo read the following into record: mostly plowing and cindering, put do not enter signs up on South & Delaware Street, replaced pump shaft seal on plow pick-up truck, received 22 tons of salt & anti-skid, fixed toilet in men’s bathroom of borough building. Recycling donations for February \$107. Met with JHA about storm drain problems on Susquehanna, Upper North Main, and Main Street, they explained what was happening and what they are going to do to try and fix it. Hoping project will start in the Spring.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: (Sarah Woody)

Councilwoman Woody made a motion to hire Kara Erdmann for the borough janitorial position @ \$25/hour for 3 to 4 hour’s quarterly, seconded by Councilman Norella. The roll call vote was all in favor, none opposed.

Councilwoman Woody made a motion to approve the library to use the third floor for their monthly meeting on March 24th, 2025, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch. The roll call vote was all in favor, none opposed.

FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES MONDAY MARCH 3rd, 2025

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: (Amy Bean)

No updates

PARKS & RECREATION: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella announced the Soup Cook Off is March 22nd, 2025 and the park would appreciate any and all donations for the Easter egg hunt April 12th, 2025. The park would also like everyone registered by April 1st, 2025.

Councilman Norella made a motion to approve a \$300 donation from the borough to Kennedy Park, seconded by Councilman Obelenus. The roll call vote was all in favor, none opposed.

President DeGonzague stated that after the GFCBA, Historical Society and Parks meeting that Council members Mike Norella and Eileen Lynch will be liaisons for the event.

COMMUNITY SAFETY & HEALTH: (President DeGonzague)

No Updates

CODE ENFORCEMENT (Eileen Lynch)

Councilwoman Lynch read the code enforcement report for February 2025. Councilwoman Lynch stated that the code enforcement officer suggested a work session for the Quality of Life Ordinance so everyone can attend. A work session is scheduled for March 10th, 2025 at 6:00 pm. V.P. Scalzo is all for the meeting but wanted everyone to take a ride though Fell Township where this ordinance came from, there are some places are beat up and junk everywhere, that our town looks pretty good compared to some places in Simpson. Just be aware of it.

Council members decided on a lock for the Code Enforcement door and not to purchase a camera.

MAYOR'S REPORT: (Mayor Christopher Ginton)

Police Chief Foley who is filling in for the Mayor was called out on a call. President DeGonzague went over Mayor's February 2025 Police report. There were no questions. President DeGonzague also stated the Mayor Ginton is running in the primary and will return for next month meeting.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: (Solicitor McAndrew)

Solicitor McAndrew sent out 93 letters. Calls from residents are coming in to work to pay down their sewer bill. Did receive some payments without a payment plan. Solicitor McAndrew stated we are moving in the right direction. Filed 8 liens on properties that might sell so we receive the payment owed to the borough. Solicitor McAndrew asked that resident's make arrangement to clean up their account or will file a lien on their property.

Solicitor McAndrew sent an email to G.H. Harris to terminate services. She stated that they are disappointed the time frame was limited but understood. Collection letter will go out for 2 months past due and \$500 behind.

Solicitor McAndrew stated she did reach out to Attorney Karpovich in reference to the "Phone Conference with Supervisor Bean" was misunderstanding in communication and we should just move forward.

CONTINUED BUSINESS: (President DeGonzague)

President DeGonzague asked about the payroll service update, and was stated it would cost the Borough more money, that just let Secretary/Treasurer continue with payroll.

**FOREST CITY BOROUGH
MINUTES
MONDAY MARCH 3rd, 2025**

President DeGonzague stated water issues were discussed at work session with JHA. The Main Street truck issue can't do anything with because it is a state road.

President DeGonzague received a bid from Penn Dot for paving of North, Upper North, Fell and Caryl Streets. Council asked what was in liquid fuels account. The bid was high and was stated paving needs to be prioritized. Secretary/Treasurer stated we received this year's monies from liquids but also remember streets lights are paid out of that every month, that you can also look at using Impact Fees. Council will get bids for Fell, North, and Caryl Streets, motion made by Councilman Obelenus, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call vote was all in favor, none opposed. Advertise in the Forest City News, Scranton Times and Councilman Norella will get a list.

Councilman Obelenus stated we received the permit for the East Side sidewalks and will meet with KBA on March 10th, 2025, about Multimodal Grant for the next steps in the project.

Councilman Obelenus stated a meeting in May 2025 with business owners for next year snow removal.

NEW BUSINESS: (President DeGonzague)

Councilman Norella made a motion to terminate cash payments for sewer and garbage effective April 1st, 2025, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor, none opposed.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tracey Lazier spoke about a letter she received about her sewer/garbage bill. She stated her bill is paid in full and spoke with Solicitor McAndrew, Secretary Stone and G.H. Harris who also stated it was.

Kathy Singer spoke about the snow plowing on Delaware Street that something different needs to be done. V.P. Scalzo will speak to Public Works to fixed the problem.

Carrie Kelleher spoke about the snow removal that she may have a solution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President DeGonzague)

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be, Monday April 7th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Obelenus made the motion to adjourn, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, all in favor, none opposed. President DeGonzague adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.