

FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES

MONDAY JUNE 1st, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: (V.P. Scalzo)

V.P. Scalzo 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:

V.P. Bernie Scalzo, Council members Michael Norella, Tracey Lazier, Eileen Lynch, Donna Gasper, Secretary/Treasurer Dennise Yankauskas, Secretary Cindy Stone, Mayor Cost, Solicitor McAndrew. Absent was President Obelenus, Councilman Zasik.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (V.P. Scalzo)

President Obelenus announced that there is a policy for public speaking to come up to the podium state your name, address and you have five minutes to speak. President Obelenus stated there will not be a decision on the ATV/UTV ordinance tonight but a committee will be made and further information to come in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (V.P. Scalzo)

Resident Glenn Mattos wanted to know about ATV and UTV’s being allowed on borough streets being discussed is confused, as it was discussed two years ago. Councilman Norella stated we have to pay for the advertiment in the paper and we will discuss what we need to put in the ordinance. V.P. Scalzo stated this is more of a presentation at the meeting. Councilwoman Gasper stated we need to open it up to the public for their input. Councilman Norella stated the laws states they are allowed to the road way to cross for gas and to get to other trails but there is a lot involved to this and many things need to be discussed at the meeting before the ordinance goes into effect.

Jim Zefran spoke about changing the zoning in the Vision Park area to residential that the GFCBI owns, which is just off Browndale. Steve Spanoe spoke about the ATV and UTV about following the rules, some will and some won’t. He stated maybe speed bumps could be put on Railroad Street because there are some kids on dirt bikes going 60 mph on the street. V.P. Scalzo stated maybe to get involved with the local ATV club and that could help with the what should be in the ordinance. James Auerbach spoke about the ATV and UTV’s and gave some advice of solutions for the ordinance, V.P. Scalzo stated that is the point of the upcoming public meeting because we have a lot to look at.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION: (V.P. Scalzo)

V.P. Scalzo asked for a motion to approve regular meeting minutes from May 6th, 2026. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call vote was all in favor.

V.P. Scalzo asked for a motion to approve May 2026 Treasurer Report. Councilwoman Gasper made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor.

John Kameen questioned the WEX gas cards why is the bill was so high, Secretary/Treasurer Yankauskas stated is was April and May bills, that the EMS had a problem with their cards and I had to pay it over the phone because their website was down. Once their website was fixed, then I could break the billing down so it hit the right accounts.

PUBLIC WORKS: (V.P. Scalzo)

The Public Works report for May 2026 was offered. V.P. Scalzo also stated recycling donations for the month of May was \$131.00. V.P. Scalzo mentioned the water problem on 171 North Main Street, he expailned the problem and Penn Dot stated it is the borough problem.

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The problem is being looked into and V.P. Scalzo will keep council updated. V.P. Scalzo mentioned the salt shed was repaired and it looks good.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella made a motion to approve the use of the third floor for the Library to have a speaker from Safari Farm Zoo & Sanctuary on Monday, July 27th, 2026 from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Councilwoman Lynch seconded the motion, roll call was all in favor.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: (Tracey Lazier)

Councilwoman Lazier mentioned that there are just waiting on the grants to come though and will update at a later date.

PARKS & RECREATION: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella stated that the June vendor market was cancelled but are still now accepting applications for the upcoming vendor markets for September at Kennedy Park. Applications can be found on the borough website or in the borough office. The park is open for the summer season. Councilman Norella stated the chicken bbq tickets are now on sale for August 2nd, 2026 @ \$15.00. Councilwoman Gasper mentioned that she was told that people would leave messages at the borough office for the market and no one returned the calls. Secretary Stone stated she returns all phone calls and even email them out when asked to, and you can go to their website and get them. You can get them from the borough or any parks and recreation volunteer and the Mayor.

Councilman Norella asked for a motion to approve Resolution #8-2026 for Greenways, Trails & Recreation Program Grant for \$201,405.00 with borough share of \$ 30,211.00 for a handicap dock and upgraded handicap restrooms. Councilwoman Gasper made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lazier, roll call was all in favor.

COMMUNITY SAFETY & HEALTH: (John Zasik)

No updates

CODE ENFORCEMENT: (Eileen Lynch)

Councilwoman Lynch read the code enforcement report for May 2026. Councilwoman Lazier mentioned the dumpster at 501 Main Street was moved to the side of the building. Mayor Cost asked what the owner was doing with it, and Councilwoman Lynch stated they are renovating it.

MAYOR'S REPORT: (Mayor Nick Cost)

Mayor Cost asked if anyone had questions about the Police report for the month of May. Mayor Cost mentioned again about the speeding on Main Street and stated violators will be ticketed. Mayor Cost also stated that Penn Dot will be chipping the roads and then the crosswalks will be painted. The crosswalks will be enforced and drivers have to stop, but if pedestrians are walking between cars, the cars are not required to stop by law. Pedestrians must use the crosswalks. Mayor Cost mentioned that cars not registered will be towed, also that someone broke in to the bulletin board that are in front of the borough building, that cameras will be checked. Councilwoman Lazier asked about what is overtaken a vehicle means and it was explained.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: (Solicitor McAndrew)

Solicitor McAndrew stated two lien letters were sent out in May and they didn't pay, so liens will be filed. The zoning ordinance is the bigger issue to add the ordinance about solar farms and data centers. She wanted to go over the proposed letter to this added change to the ordinance, council needs vote to have the change from industrial and residential. Solicitor

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McAndrew explained the sewer and trash billing ordinance, a copy was given to all council members to look over, we will go over the ordinance next meeting. Solicitor McAndrew mentioned the pay scale for the tax collector, that the council will sit down with the tax collector and discuss the percentage with her (right now it's 5% for taxes). Solicitor McAndrew will talk to the tax collector and finalize the ordinance so it can be advertised. Secretary Stone question about delinquency fees. There is more information to be collected, Solicitor McAndrew will look more into it. The public hearing advertisement was tabled to get more information. Solicitor McAndrew will send an email out the schedule a meeting.

CONTINUED BUSINESS: (Various Council Members)

V.P. Scalzo asked about the multimodal grant, Mayor Cost stated he wasn't sure when the next meeting was, that he called Senator Baker office and Representative Fritz and hopes to get the ball rolling.

There was more discussion on the ordinance for the ATV/UTV, Councilman Norella stated the public meeting is for. He stated that Penn Dot will do a study once the borough can get the correct information and the ordinance advertised the study will be done. Solicitor McAndrew will do a draft for the ordinance, Councilman Norella made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lazier, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: (V.P. Scalzo)

V.P. Scalzo mentioned the correspondence on the PPH ambulance association that it has nothing to do with us, but he would keep the borough updated.

V.P. Scalzo gave an update on the Memorial Day parade, that it was a great turn out and hopes it continues on. He also thanked everyone for the support and hard work put into it from everyone.

V.P. Scalzo asked for a motion to advertise for a Special meeting for allowing ATV/UTV's on streets east of Main Street, Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Gasper, roll call was all in favor.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Kameen asked about a cleanup on Route 171 and North Main Street the bank by Paul Smith's old office, Mayor Cost said he will contact Penn Dot to get it cleaned up. Katie Zefran wanted to bring to council attention about the property the Greater Forest City Industry that she received calls and they want it to stay that way so it can't be considered for the Data Centers. She also wanted to know what east going on with the island across from Elegante, Councilwoman Lynch stated the State is taking it out and we don't know why.

Daisey Swason asked about her escrow on her mortgage with the sewer and garbage going on the tax bill, Councilwoman Lynch explained how it would work. Solicitor McAndrew explained a little more and thinks is going to be an issue, but council will look into more. Solicitor McAndrew will contact the tax office with her questions and get back to us. Councilwoman Lynch will check with bank for the next meeting. Chelsea Waisanen voiced her opinion about the Data Center that is more than likely going to happen, and the centers are destroying the area and no one wants to live by the Data Centers and explained it is destroying people problems with their homes and it breaks her heart because this area is very nice to live.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

Next scheduled regular meeting will be July 6th, 2026 on the third floor of borough building at 6 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Norella made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch. V.P. Scalzo at 7:15 p.m.