

FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES
MONDAY APRIL 6th, 2026

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:

President Obelenus, 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. Councilman Zasik was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus thanked everyone for their patience will the elevator issue though out the year.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (President Obelenus)

No comments

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve regular meeting minutes from March 2nd, 2026. V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lazier, roll call vote was all in favor.

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

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve resolution #6 for bank signature change for all accounts held at Honesdale National Bank adding Councilwoman Gasper. Councilwoman Lazier made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve resolution #7 for bank signature change for all accounts held at First National Bank adding Councilwoman Gasper. V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lazier, roll was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion the change council meeting to 7 p.m. from 6 p.m. Councilwoman Lazier made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll was 4 – 2, meeting will stay at 6 p. m.

President Obelenus reminded all council members, Mayor and Solicitor that financial Interest must be completed and handed into the office by May 4th, 2026.

PUBLIC WORKS: (V.P. Scalzo)

The Public Works report for March 2026 was offered. V.P. Scalzo also stated recycling donations for the month of March was \$240.00. V.P. Scalzo thanked Prince boys for the use of the backhoe while the boroughs out for service. V.P. Scalzo spoke about the salt shed that a beam was busted over the winter, council will discuss a decision in the future whether to replace it or build a new one. V.P. Scalzo made a motion to advertise yard waste pick-up for Tuesday April 21st and Thursday April 23rd, 2026. Councilwoman Gasper seconded the motion, roll was all in favor.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella stated that the elevator is up and running.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to approve the Outdoor Town Action Team to apply for the Endless Mountain Heritage Regions 2026 Partnership Grant in the amount of

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\$4000: 50% will come from the EMHR and 50 % for the Valley in Motion grant match. The borough will be reimbursed for any up-front expenses. Councilman Norella seconded the motion, roll call was all in favor. President Obelenus stated it was mentioned at the Valley in Motion meeting that they have about 13 building in town to have different murals painted on with the owner premise. The theme is the history of Forest City. Valley in Motion will hold another meeting in April (date TBD).

PARKS & RECREATION: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella stated that the borough is now accepting applications for the upcoming vendor markets for June and 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.

COMMUNITY SAFETY & HEALTH: (John Zasik)

No updates

CODE ENFORCEMENT (Eileen Lynch)

Councilwoman Lynch read the code enforcement report for March 2026.

MAYOR'S REPORT: (Mayor Nick Cost)

Mayor Cost asked if there were any questions or concerns on the March 2026 Police report. Mayor Cost stated the Drug take back will be held on April 25th, 2026 at the Forest City Borough Building, second floor from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mayor Cost asked for Council to make a motion on the resignation part-time patrolman Vaughn Black. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Gasper, roll call was all in favor. Mayor Cost stated he had several business owners come to him and ask if the borough can come up with a parking pass for their business so they are not running in and out to put money in the meters. More details to come in the future. Mayor Cost would like to purchase rope and life vest for the Police cars. Council approved. Mayor Cost would like council to look into the Data Ordinance as some residents raised a concern to him. Mayor Cost also had complaints about the water company not fixing the road after they complete their work on South and Hudson, a call was put in and they will fix it. The Mayor Cost had KBA up for the next step for the sidewalks, the Mayor will attend the next meeting with the state.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: (Solicitor McAndrew)

Solicitor McAndrew stated that all of liens letters went out, and explained the process. There was one paid in full and couple in payment plans. Solicitor McAndrew stated there is a foreclosure out and hopefully we will get paid by the end of the month. Solicitor McAndrew asked council when a property is condemned what is the process for sewer billing, should bills not be sent or what is the process. Secretary Stone said an EDU challenge should be filled out. President Obelenus said we should stop all sewer and garbage bills. This is a very complicated issue that's needs to look into more. More reports in the future on this.

CONTINUED BUSINESS: (Various Council Members)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve Ordinance #529 Pave Cut, V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call was all in favor

Councilman Norella talked about the elderly in town for the sewer and garbage rebate and asked how many residents would qualify. Council is still looking into how to do this and will research with more details to come.

President Obelenus said the Mayor was given an update on the 400 and 500 block Penn Dot Multimodal Grant and he will update on next council meeting. V.P. Scalzo updated us on the Local Share Grant for the three storm water projects, the design is done. The borough is a good candidate for to be approved for the grant.

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NEW BUSINESS: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus stated that the 2026 PSAB 14th Annual Conference in Hershey May 31st thru June 3rd if anyone is interested to contact the office. Motion to advertise Ordinance #530 Regulating Smoke/Vape shops was tabled. The Solicitor said we can kill all three Ordinance in one shot, referencing data center, solar farms and smoke shops. We are hoping for July this will be done.

There was some mixed feeling on limiting smoke shops because of bringing business into the town. Too many people started talking all at once and minutes for this section could not be heard. Solicitor McAndrew is amending the smoke/vapor Ordinance to be decided on at next month's meeting. President Obelenus, Councilwoman Lynch, and Councilman Norella attended a meeting to consider consolidating to a regional ambulance with surrounding Townships/Boroughs. President Obelenus read the letter that was sent explaining who, what and how it will work. A resident from the attendance said just be careful what you wish for. There was some discussion about pros and cons. Further information is to come.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:

Amy Bean asked about the time for the Drug take back and also about the major problem with residents running in between cars to cross the street to Zazzera's Supermarket. The Mayor stated they need to use the crosswalks and will ask the police to enforce this law. Our public works will be painting the walks soon and the borough will be purchasing crosswalk signs to hang in this area. Barb Mihelc said "we need to train people to use the crosswalks" because people are "J" walking. Resident Amy Bean also mention that there is an ordinance in place from past administration about Data Centers, that council needs to look at that. Carrie Kelleher asked about the sewer and garbage tax bill on next year's real estate taxes and expressed she is concerned for the low-income resident. It was explained to her because she was late to the meeting what council is has in the works with a rebate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

Next scheduled regular meeting will be May 4th, 2026 back at the third-floor borough building at 6 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

V.P. Scalzo made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Norella. President Obelenus adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.