

FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES

MONDAY MAY 5th, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus called the meeting to order at 6:02 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, Eileen Lynch, Amy Bean, Sarah Woody, Secretary/Treasurer Dennise Yankauskas, Secretary Cindy Stone, Mayor Glinton. Absent was Solicitor McAndrew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

A work session was held on April 29th, 2025 in reference to the 2025-2026 Main Street snow removal & Zoning permits. An executive session was also held after the work session.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (President Obelenus)

Carla Stackhouse commented on the one-way direction on Erie and Grand Streets, she would like it revisited to return back to the original two-way. President Obelenus stated that council received one letter of interest for the vacancy on council from Jaime Walker. He asked Jaime to stand and tell council a little about himself. Councilman Norella questioned the article that Jaime put in the Forest City News to what he meant by it. Councilwoman Woody questioned Jaime on what will be the first thing he would accomplish if his letter of interest was selected. Councilwoman Lynch explained that some council members are new and they are slowly working together not to have arguments at meeting and to working together to accomplish projects.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to accept the letter of interest from Jaime Walker, V.P. Scalzo made the motion, no second, motion failed to pass and Jamie Walker was asked to stay after the meeting to talk to council.

President Obelenus asked for a motion on resolution #13-2025 to remove Christopher DeGonzague from all bank accounts held at Honesdale National Bank. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion on resolution #14-2025 to remove Christopher DeGonzague from all bank accounts held at First National Bank. V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion on resolution #15-2025 Forest City’s Inclusion in the Pennsylvania Arts and Communities Creative Communities Initiative, Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve regular meeting minutes from April 7th, 2025. 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 work session minutes held on April 29th, 2025. 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 April’s treasurer report. V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Woody, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus announced the approval of the road closure for the Memorial Day Program on May 26th, 2025. He also stated Letters of Financial Interest are due today.

PUBLIC WORKS: (V.P. Scalzo)

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The Public Works report for April 2025 was offered. V.P. Scalzo also stated recycling donations for the month of April was \$220, that the donations are what keeps the program going. V.P. Scalzo stated that JHA was here to explain the drainage on Susquehanna Street. V.P. Scalzo made a motion to accept the additional work from JHA of \$15,050, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call vote was all in favor. JHA will send in a field survey team as well to allow them to locate underground location service, the change is being made to run a drainage pipe behind resident's property rather than in front. Councilwoman Bean asked why of Public Works can't do the work, V.P. Scalzo stated you need contractor's so the piping and fill is all the same so the problem does not continue. The Hudson Street problem was also brought up, there was too many people talking. A meeting is being scheduled with JHA to have them engineer new storm to be added on Hudson and Maxey Street and given to Penn Dot for approval.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: (Sarah Woody)

Councilwoman Woody stated there was three elevator's bids. Schindler elevator proposal came in the lowest at \$24,289. President Obelenus stated that Schindler stated that since the elevator is up on the second floor he does not believe the cylinder is leaking, he doesn't believe it's the motors because he can turn them freely. Schindler asked for 50% down, Councilwoman Woody made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: (Amy Bean)

Councilwoman Bean stated no updates, that the Action Team cancelled their meeting.

PARKS & RECREATION: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella stated the Easter egg hunt was a big success. Councilman Norella also asked John Kameen to put in the paper that the park is not open yet for swimming because the water has not been tested yet, he mentions of a young child was at the park swimming with no adult in site. Councilman Norella also said there is some confusion for Halloween, Parks & Recreation will have their event up the park, if the GFCBA wants to have theirs on Main Street they need to have insurance that if someone gets hurt the Borough will not cover it. Parks & Recreation is asking for more patrols to be done.

COMMUNITY SAFETY & HEALTH: (President Obelenus)

No Updates

CODE ENFORCEMENT (Eileen Lynch)

Councilwoman Lynch read the code enforcement report for April 2025. Ordinance # 526 "Quality of Life Ordinance", was tabled. Councilwoman Lynch also stated the inspection report for 501 Main Street was given to the owners and lawyers.

MAYOR'S REPORT: (Mayor Christopher Ginton)

Mayor Ginton asked if there are any questions or concerns on the April 2025 Police report. Mayor updated on the Drug take back (38 pounds). The Mayor asked for a motion to purchase a 42" monitor for the police station, Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Woody, roll call vote was all in favor. The Mayor asked for a motion for the increase in pay for part-time police officers, Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: (Solicitor McAndrew)

No updates

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CONTINUED BUSINESS: (Various Council Members)

President Obelenus stated on the Snow removal for 2025-2026, as what a sidewalk consists of. Also looking at bidding it out again, that we have a couple of ideas.

President Obelenus opened the 5 paving bids, with Wayco coming in the lowest at \$49,424.38. President Obelenus asked for committee to reviews bids.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to advertise amended Ordinance #522 Parking and Traffic change to reflect Erie Street as a one way from south at Railroad Street to North Grand Ave. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve road closure request from GFCBA on August 2nd, 2025 from 4 – 10 p.m. for Light Parade. V.P. Scalzo made the motion, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to appoint Lou Norella, Matt Wilczewski and Darren Smith to the UCC/IMPC Appeals Board. Councilwoman Woody made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Mayor thanked business for donating for the flags of the graduates for 2025. Joe Woody thanked the council for working together. Carla Stackhouse also thanked the council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be, Monday June 2nd, 2025 on Railroad Street Fire Hall at 6 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

V.P. Scalzo made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, all in favor, none opposed. President Obelenus adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.