

# FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES MONDAY APRIL 7th, 2025

---

**CALL TO ORDER:** V.P. Scalzo

V.P. Scalzo 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: 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, Mayor Glinton. Absent was President DeGonzague.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (V.P. Scalzo)

A work session was held on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 regarding agenda items and an executive session was held before the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting at 5:30 p.m. on personal items.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** (V.P. Scalzo)

A resignation letter from Christopher DeGonzague and also a misunderstanding about Councilwoman Bean. V.P. Scalzo stated that Councilwoman Bean will be staying with council until the end of her current term. V.P. Scalzo would like to entertain a motion to accept the resignation from Christopher DeGonzague. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilman Obelenus, roll call vote was all in favor.

V.P. Scalzo would like to hear nominee for President. Councilwoman Woody nominated Jason Obelenus. Councilman Obelenus was voted in as the new President of council, 5 to 1 with Councilwoman Bean stating she nominates Councilman Norella who declined.

John Kameen asked about the process of the change of the agenda. President Obelenus stated that the agenda was changed before the 24-hour rule. Carrie Kelleher asked why Christopher DeGonzague resigned and requested the resignation letter be read, President Obelenus stated if you’d like to see the resignation letter, put in a Right to Know request.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ADMINISTRATION:** (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus made a motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, all responded “Aye”, none opposed.

President Obelenus made a motion to accept the work session Minutes from March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 seconded by Councilwoman Woody, all responded “Aye”, none opposed.

President Obelenus made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for March 2025, seconded by V.P. Scalzo Lynch. The roll call vote was all in favor, none opposed.

President Obelenus announced the reminder of Letters of Financial Interest to be handed in by May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting to the Secretary/Treasurer.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** (V.P. Scalzo)

The Public Works report for March 2025 was offered. V.P. Scalzo also stated recycling donations for the month of March was \$259, that the donations are what keeps the program going. V.P. Scalzo made the motion to approve yard pick-up on April 22<sup>nd</sup> & April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025, seconded by President Obelenus, roll call vote was all in favor.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:** (Sarah Woody)

Councilwoman Woody updated everyone on the new housekeeper for the borough building, she started March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and will clean quarterly. Councilwoman Woody is requesting a work session to discuss the issue on the elevator about bids to fix it.

# FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES MONDAY APRIL 7th, 2025

---

Councilwoman Woody will contact the companies to inspect the pit area to see what issue is. The elevator was locked out by Department of Labor & Industry.

**COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** (Amy Bean)

Councilwoman Bean did not attend the Action Team Meeting. She asked that Councilman Norella and Councilwoman Lynch to answer. Katie Zefran stated the Pocket Park is on hold and waiting for additional money and extension. Katie asked the Secretary/Treasurer about invoices. Secretary/Treasurer Yankauskas stated she does have some invoices and someone from the Action Team needs to let her know if the work was done and for someone to also approve payment for all work done thus far. Katie said some of the bids came back lower which is good news. The paving was just looking like Erie Street to Railroad Street but it will now go all the way to Main Street. The second phase will be bid out next summer. The sculpture is also ready to be installed. Gus Fahey was at the meeting and we will receive a grant for \$25,000 a year for the next four years and will be split with Carbondale. Each will receive \$12,500.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella said the soup off was a big success but did bring a lot of people to the park. Soup was sold out in one hour. Easter egg hunt has 230 kids register. We received a lot of donations for the event. Councilman Norella made a motion to purchase new toys for the dog park, seconded by V.P. Scalzo; roll call vote was 4 nays, 2 yay. President Obelenus stated he voted against it because of germs. Joann Matrese stated she checked with the vet and the vet stated there was no harm in dogs sharing. Councilman Norella made a motion to approve water testing for Kennedy Park, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call vote was all in favor. Councilman Norella stated GFCBA asked that borough hang lights at Christmas and store them at no cost to the borough. GFCBA will purchase led lights for Christmas time. They also ask that the borough sponsor the event. GFCBA would also like to paint the borough window trim at no cost to the borough.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY & HEALTH:** (President Obelenus)

No Updates

**CODE ENFORCEMENT** (Eileen Lynch)

Councilwoman Lynch read the code enforcement report for March 2025. Councilwoman Lynch made a motion to advertise Ordinance # 526 "Quality of Life Ordinance", seconded by Councilwoman Woody, roll call vote was all in favor.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** (Mayor Christopher Ginton)

Mayor Ginton asked if there are any questions or concerns on the March 2025 Police report. Mayor Ginton asked for a motion to accept the resignation of Officer Esterline. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** (Solicitor McAndrew)

Solicitor McAndrew updated council and residents on sewer and garbage payments. She stated that some residents paid in full, others made payment arrangements, some residents failed to comply and we will continue to file liens. Solicitor McAndrew stated we are moving in the right direction. Solicitor McAndrew asked council for a motion to approve Resolution #11\_2025 allowing FCRSD to apply for a "Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant" at no cost to the borough. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Woody, roll call vote was all in favor.

# FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES MONDAY APRIL 7th, 2025

---

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS:** (Various Council Members)

President Obelenus stated they have discussed the water issue on Hudson Street at a work session. The water issue on Susquehanna Street we are waiting for the camera work to be done for line issues. The water locating company looking to put in new pipe.

President Obelenus stated the meeting with KBA on the Multimodal Grant on east side, KBA is contacting Penn Dot, State Rep Baker and Fritz on shorting the sidewalk and giving pavement to Penn Dot which turn it into a partial Penn Dot project, and we have not heard back from KBA. April from Penn Dot is handling meeting with the borough and former President DeGonzague was taking care of this, but now we will have to move to discuss at next month meeting. President Obelenus is trying to get all the grant straighten out for Main Street. He also stated that Penn Dot has a new program they are working with and that it was stated from the State because of the new program that our grants will not be affected.

President Obelenus ask to set a date with business owners in town about the snow removal for the upcoming winter season for 2025/26 year. The meeting was set up for April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6 p. m.

## **NEW BUSINESS:** (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus discuss interest rates for CD's and Money Market from different banks. A motion was made by Councilman Norella to open the agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor. The agenda was reopened. A motion from Councilman Norella was made, seconded by Councilwoman Woody to take \$750,000 from sewer checking account to invest in three different banks on CD's and Money Market's, roll call vote was 5-1 with Councilwoman Lynch abstaining.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to hire/appoint a Sewer Enforcement Officer, Councilman Norella made the motion appoint/hire Dave Lamereaux seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call vote was all in favor.

## **CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joanne Matrese mention at the dog park there is a sign about your pets to be vaccine, and congratulation to Jason on the position of the Council President. Katie Zefran said there will not be a sidewalk from Erie Street to Railroad, the grant will be replacing the Railroad Street sidewalk. Katherine Cruz, librarian, gave a report of the first quarter donation form the borough. Everything was a success and was asking for the second quarter donation and mentioned what was planned. Carla Stackhouse asked if the borough will think about changing Erie Street back to the way it was. Ms. Stackhouse also wanted to know if the paving grant for Erie Street is ongoing, and if in three years if it needs to be paved that there is back up funding. She still wants council to look at turning Erie Street back to the way it was. She also asks for new signs and more patrol. President Obelenus asked for a motion to advertise for new council member, Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call vote was all in favor.

Mayor Glinton asked council to consider naming a street in honor of J.J. Lomax.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (President Obelenus)

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be, Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 on Railroad Street Fire Hall at 6 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

V.P. Scalzo made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Councilman Norella, all in favor, none opposed. President Obelenus adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.