

FOREST CITY BOROUGH MINUTES

MONDAY AUGUST 4th, 2025

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:

Present: President Obelenus, V.P. Bernie Scalzo, Michael Norella, Eileen Lynch, Amy Bean, Rebecca Scoggins, Secretary/Treasurer Dennise Yankauskas, Secretary Cindy Stone, Mayor Glinton. Absent was Solicitor McAndrew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

PUBLIC COMMENT: (President Obelenus)

No comments

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION: (President Obelenus)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve regular meeting minutes from July 7th, 2025. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve the July 2025 treasurer report. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call vote was all in favor.

President Obelenus stated we heard back from PA State Historic Preservation Office and the historic marker for Samuel Lionel Rothafel cannot be repaired. A new one will be installed by the end of the year and possibly hung on Zazzera’s Market.

President Obelenus stated 2026 draft budget are out to council members to look over.

PUBLIC WORKS: (V.P. Scalzo)

The Public Works report for July 2025 was offered by V.P. Scalzo, he also stated recycling donations for the month of July was \$323 and that the donations are what keeps the program going.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella stated that the borough was waiting for Schlinder to return and will have an update for next month’s meeting.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: (Amy Bean)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve \$12,500 payment to Woodland Design. Councilwoman Bean made the motion, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call all in favor.

Ms. Zefran stated that paying these invoices it would provide data for seeking bids for the Park. She also asked if there could be a public meeting with members of the community with no date set yet. She stated the second sculpture will be installed and thanked NEP Telephone company for installing the pole for the lights and camera.

PARKS & RECREATION: (Michael Norella)

Councilman Norella commented on the Town Trail, fireworks, the band and chicken bbq. All events were a hit and he thank everyone that was involved.

COMMUNITY SAFETY & HEALTH: (President Obelenus)

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No Updates

CODE ENFORCEMENT (Eileen Lynch)

Councilwoman Lynch read the code enforcement report for July 2025.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to advertise RENTAL ORDINANCE 25-527-Rental Ordinance. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Scoggins, roll call was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve Joe Unis to do rental inspection STARTING January 1, 2026. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Scoggins, roll call was all in favor.

Councilwoman Lynch stated existing ordinances have been ignored over the years, and landlords will have to provide notifications when property is vacated. CEO Unis will work with NEIC to make sure units are safe and inhabitable.

MAYOR'S REPORT: (Mayor Christopher Ginton)

Mayor Ginton asked if there are any questions or concerns on the July 2025 Police report.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve Glen Mattos to part-time Sergeant. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call was 5-1, motion carried.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve the purchase of 2 Glock 17MOS GEN5 Guns at a total cost of \$962.00. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Scoggins, roll was all in favor.

The Mayor announced the Steam Town Marathon is set for October 12th, 2025, and if anyone wishing to volunteer to contact the Forest City Police department.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: (Solicitor McAndrew)

No Updates

CONTINUED BUSINESS: (Various Council Members)

President Obelenus asked for a motion to advertise the 2025/2026 Main Street snow removal. Councilwoman Bean made the motion, seconded by Councilman Norella, roll call was in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to accept Casella's bid as the low bidder for the Garbage/Recycling Collection carrier for a Five-year (2026-2030) contract at a cost of \$1,006,958.00. Councilman Norella made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve Resolution #17-2025 Garbage Fees to increase to \$24.75 for 5 years beginning January 1st, 2026 – December 31st, 2030. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Scoggins, roll call was all in favor.

President Obelenus asked for a motion to review quotes for Coal Miners Memorial. Councilman Norella made the motion to accept the quote from Darren Smith as low bid, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, roll call was all in favor.

President Obelenus stated the East sidewalks of the 500 and 600 blocks are moving forward. President Obelenus been involved with Microsoft Teams meeting which is funding resources, Penn Dot in order to complete this project.

NEW BUSINESS: (President Obelenus)

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President Obelenus asked for a motion to approve the 3rd Quarter donation to the library. Councilwoman Lynch made the motion, seconded by V.P. Scalzo, roll call was all in favor. This donation helps with children programs at the library.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:

Stephanie Sojka-Reisch commented on the Church sale that some section of the Zoning/Planning rules calls for 24 parking spaces for that size of a living complex. Councilman Norella that the proposal be presented to three entities which are Planning Commission, Zoning/Hearing board and Council to gain approval. The public will have a chance to comment on the proposal. The project's lawyer asked to postpone the August 6th meeting and rescheduled for September 16th, 2025.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (President Obelenus)

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be, Tuesday, September 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 7:20 p.m.