

**FOREST CITY BOROUGH  
MINUTES  
MONDAY – NOVEMBER 4, 2019**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** (President Nick Cost)

President Cost called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all to join him in the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: President Nick Cost, Joann Matarese, Chris DeGonzague, Tracey Lazier, V. Pres. Bernie Scalzo, Amy Bean and Robert Lesjack, Mayor Chris Ginton, Solicitor Smith and Secr/Treas. Sharon Vannan.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** (Solicitor Paul Smith)

Solicitor Smith announced that there was a short Executive Session at 6:30 prior to the regular meeting to inform council members about potential litigation issues in the bidding selection process.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment offered at this time.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ADMINISTRATION:** (Joann Matarese)

Councilwoman Matarese - motion to accept minutes from October 7 and Special Meeting held October 21, 2019. Both seconded by Councilman DeGonzague. All members responded aye. Councilwoman Matarese motioned to accept October 2019 Treasurer’s Report. Council Member Bean seconded the motion. Roll call vote – seven to zero, report accepted.

Councilwoman Matarese offered a motion to approve payment to Leeward for \$21,795.07, the balance owed for Kennedy Park pumps & electrical upgrades. Council member DeGonzague seconded the motion. Roll call vote is seven to zero, motion carries.

Councilwoman Matarese offered a motion to advertise the 2020 General Fund Budget. Council member Lazier seconded the motion; the roll call vote was seven to zero. Council member Matarese offered a motion to advertise the 2020 Sewer Budget, seconded by Council member Bean, all voted aye. Both budgets will be advertised in the Forest City News, available in the Borough office and on the Borough Website ([www.forestcityborough.com](http://www.forestcityborough.com)). Both will be considered for adoption at the December 2, 2019 meeting.

Resolution #7-2019 – 2020 Tax Levy was distributed for review. There is not tax increase for 2020. The Resolution will be presented for adoption at the December meeting with the budgets. The 2020 meeting schedule was distributed for consideration. Councilwoman Matarese made a motion to accept the 2020 meeting schedule and advertise, seconded by Council member Bean. All voted aye and the schedule is adopted & approved for publication.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** (Bernie Scalzo)

V.P. Scalzo shared the Public Works Report for October 2019 as reported by Bob Tedesco. Recycling donations for September - \$290, scrap metal brought in \$93.

Councilman Scalzo made a motion to cover repairs to the Recycling truck at Furdock’s for an alternator not to exceed \$475. Councilwoman Bean seconded it. All voted yes in a roll-call vote. Councilman Scalzo offered a motion for future repairs to the Recycling truck for an exhaust manifold not to exceed \$900. Councilwoman Lazier seconded it. All voted yes in a roll call vote.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:** (Robert Lesjack)

Councilman Lesjack reported that the roof repairs were completed. The GFCBA will be putting up the Christmas trees with the help of the FCR school kids. Forest City Borough will be putting up the wreaths. Donations for the light drive are at around \$60.

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**PARKS & RECREATION:** (Amy Bean)

Councilwoman Bean announced that Parks & Rec received a donation of \$100 from NEAAREA Telecom Pioneer Club, represented by Ms. Marlene Sample and extended her thanks to the group.

Councilwoman Bean made a motion to purchase a Hot Dog cooker at a cost of around \$200. Council member DeGonzague seconded the motion. All voted approval in a roll-call vote, seven to zero. Ms. Vannan will order through Amazon.

Councilwoman Bean made a motion to approve the use of up to \$300 for the upcoming holiday events for the purchase of food and craft materials. Councilwoman Lazier seconded it. Council voted seven to zero in favor of the motion.

Discussion about establishing a regular petty cash fund was tabled. Solicitor Smith said he would look into it.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** (President Nick Cost)

The October Code Enforcement Report from Stephanie Reisch was distributed.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/HEALTH & SAFETY:** (Chris DeGonzague)

Councilman DeGonzague offered a motion to continue the Borough's affiliation with the current BLS (F.C. Area Emergency Services – Basic Life) and ALS (Cottage Hose – Advanced Life) providers for the Wayne County Comm. Center and authorize President Nick Cost to sign a letter to Wayne County on behalf of the Borough. Council member Bean seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. The motion carried.

Councilman DeGonzague made a motion to advertise Ordinance #517, amending Ordinance #498 adding a stop sign at the corner of Higgins Street and Railroad at the Dog Park, creating a 3-way stop, sighting sight/distance issues and a blind corner. Councilwoman Lazier seconded the motion. All voted aye. Ms. Vannan will place the ad in the F.C. News.

Susq. Co. Emergency Management will hold an EMC training in Montrose on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Councilman DeGonzague will attend.

**COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** (Tracey Lazier)

Councilwoman Lazier reported that the Trunk or Treat was a success with over a 1000 people in attendance. A Main Street Holiday celebration will be held on 12/7/2019 with tree lighting at 5:30 p.m., a visit from Santa and several other activities planned. She thanked Main Street Coordinator, Paul Daugevello for his participation. A tree-lighting ceremony will be held on November 30 at Kennedy Park Gazebo. Mr. Daugevello reported that there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at the newest addition to the Main Street with more details to follow. Two new businesses are opening.

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

Mayor Ginton provided the October 2019 Police Report and Vandling's invoice for November 2019 patrols & October 2019 Calls.

Mayor Ginton recommended two part-time officers for hire, Trevor Dzanis, previously employed from May 2015 to January 2016 and new employee Jason Bell. Both would start at \$14.50 per hour. Council member DeGonzague offered a motion to hire Trevor Dzanis, seconded by Council member Matarese. A roll call vote found all in favor. Council member Lazier made a motion to hire Jason Bell, seconded by Council member Scalzo. All members voted yes in a roll call vote.

The Mayor asked Council to consider purchasing an extended warranty for the 2014 Chevy Impala police car, Silver \$2,539 or Platinum \$2,925. Councilwoman Lazier offered a motion to purchase the platinum warranty for \$2,925. Councilwoman Bean seconded the motion. Roll call vote – seven in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

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The Mayor thanked everyone for their participation at the Steamtown Marathon. He announced that 13.42 lbs. of liquids and 18.65 lbs. of pills were collected at the recent Drug Take-back held at the F.C. Emergency Services, and overseen by the police department.

Vaughn Black submitted his resignation. Councilman DeGonzague offered a motion to accept the resignation. Councilwoman Bean seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Mayor announced that Chief Rowan and Asst. Chief Foley want to attend a training on “Search & Seizure” in January at a cost of \$125 per man. Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to approve the cost. Councilwoman Bean seconded the motion. All voted yes in a roll-call vote. Chief Rowan would register them for the training.

Mayor Glinton asked if the police department could advertise for the part-time clerical position. President Cost recommended that they wait until after the first of the year and the adoption of the 2020 Budget.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** (Paul Smith)

Solicitor Smith had nothing to add at this time.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

Two bids were received and opened at the “Special Meeting” held on Monday, October 21, 2019. The Borough’s engineer and solicitor following a review of both bids recommended the lower bid of \$81,367 from Wayco. Councilwoman Bean offered a motion to accept Wayco’s bid with plans for installation in the spring of 2020. Councilman DeGonzague seconded the motion. It carried with a roll call vote, all in favor, none opposed.

President Cost announced a change in the appointments for the Code Enforcement Appeals Board. Gary Rutherford, Robert Lesjack and Paul Kulasinsky will serve on the board due to resignations from those previously appointed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Northern Tier 2019 Summit is Wednesday, November 20, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$10/person and covers the cost of lunch. Please call Nancy Kulick (570)265-1531 with RSVP by 11/8/2019.

JHA Company submitted a letter of interest to provide services. They offered a competitive fee schedule and No Annual Fees. President Cost will meet with them after the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS & QUESTIONS:** (President Cost)

President Cost opened the floor for comments:

There were no comments offered.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (President Cost)

The next regularly scheduled Council Meeting is Monday, December 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** (President Cost requests motion to adjourn)

Councilman DeGonzague offered a motion to adjourn. Councilman Scalzo seconded. All members responded “aye” and the meeting ended at 7:55 p.m.