

**FOREST CITY BOROUGH
MINUTES
MONDAY – MAY 11, 2020 6:00 P.M.**

Due to COVID-19 our regular meeting for April 6, 2020 was cancelled. Our next regular meeting scheduled for May 4th was postponed to this date May 11, 2020. This meeting was on the third floor of the Borough Building in Pentecost Hall and our next meeting scheduled for June 1, 2020 will also be on the third floor so that adequate “distancing” can be achieved. Masks are required until Susquehanna County is released from this requirement by order of the Governor.

CALL TO ORDER: President Nicholas Cost called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all to join him in the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Roll Call: Present: Council Members Nick Cost, Chris DeGonzague, Bernie Scalzo, Tracey Lazier, Mayor Chris Glinton, and Secretary/Treas. Sharon Vannan. Absent: Joann Matarese, Amy Bean, and Robert Lesjack. Solicitor to be appointed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one offered any comment on Agenda items.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATION: (Joann Matarese)

In Councilwoman Matarese’s absence, Ms. Vannan asked for a motion to Approve Minutes for March 2, 2020. Councilwoman Lazier offered the motion and Councilman DeGonzague seconded the motion. All responded “aye”, minutes approved. Councilman DeGonzague offered a motion to approve the March 2020 Treasurer’s Report. Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion. A roll call vote – four in favor, none opposed. Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to accept the April, 2020 Treasurer’s Report. Councilman DeGonzague seconded the motion. Roll Call – four in favor, none opposed. The 2019 Audit & Financial Statements were distributed. An invoice for the final payment for \$4,000 was included.

PUBLIC WORKS: (Nicholas Cost)

Public Works Report for March/April 2020 was distributed, no comments or questions offered.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/SAFETY: (Christopher DeGonzague)

Councilman DeGonzague made a motion to approve the purchase of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and other needed safety items for the borough office, public works crew & police department for approximately \$1,000. Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion. Roll call vote – four in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

MAYOR’S REPORT: (Mayor)

Mayor Glinton provided the March & April 2020 Police Report and Vandling’s invoice for April & May, 2020 patrols at \$2,000 per month. Part-time Officer Lauren Fizz submitted her resignation. Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to accept it, Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion. All responded “Aye” and the motion carried.

Mayor Glinton recommended two candidates for part-time police officer positions. Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to hire Joseph Covinunk at \$14.50 per hour. Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion – roll call vote – four in favor, none opposed.

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Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to hire James Marinovich at \$14 per hour. Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion. Roll call vote – four in favor, none opposed.

Mayor Glinton asked council to approve hiring Stanley Zory to the Police Clerk position created at the March meeting. Councilwoman Lazier offered a motion to approve Mr. Zory for 10 hours per pay period at \$12 per hour as budgeted for 2020. Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion. Roll call vote – four in favor, none opposed.

Mayor Glinton asked council to consider adding a third shift to the police department for 24-hour coverage. President Cost replied that numbers will have to be looked at and that this expense had not been included in the budget. Mayor Glinton added that complaints about quads and an increase in calls require this change. “These problems are on the increase and extra coverage is needed.”

Mayor Glinton recognized Parks & Recreation for work at the park, swings are painted – “Great Job”. President Cost remarked, “The parks are open for hiking, fishing & relaxing, but the restrooms, pavilion, playground equipment are not available.”

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Ordinance #519 – “No parking on South Street from Main Street - East to Railroad Street” was advertised and up for adoption. Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to adopt Ordinance #519. Councilman DeGonzague seconded the motion. Roll call vote – four in favor, none opposed, the Ordinance was adopted. Warnings will be issued initially, but this ordinance will be enforced officially on June 1, 2020.

President Cost recommended the appointment of Marissa McAndrew, Esq. of Briechle Law to serve as the Borough’s Solicitor. Two letters of interest were received, the other from Jeffrey Levine, Esq. Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to appoint Marissa McAndrew as Borough Solicitor. Councilman DeGonzague seconded the motion. Roll call vote – four in favor, none opposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Cost sought out three bids for repairs to the Pavilion at Kennedy Park. He received one response from Mikloiche Construction for \$6000. Councilwoman Lazier offered a motion to accept the bid. Councilman DeGonzague seconded the motion. Roll call vote – four in favor, none opposed. President Cost will contact Mr. Mikloiche to begin the work.

President Cost presented Resolution #3_2020 Non-uniform Pension Amendment & Resolution #4_2020 Uniform Pension as required every six years by IRS regulations. No changes were made to either plan. Councilman Scalzo offered a motion to adopt Res.#3_2020, seconded by Councilwoman Lazier. All voted yes in a roll call vote – four ayes – none opposed.

Councilman Scalzo offered a motion to adopt Res.#4_2020, seconded by Councilwoman Lazier. All voted yes in a roll call vote – four ayes – none opposed.

At the request of the GFCBA & Rails Trails, Resolution #5_2020 – Web application ID: 2002144 was adopted by Council pledging a \$500 contribution toward the matching funds needed to proceed with the grant application. Lynn Conrad & Deb McNamara (Rails Trails) have offered their assistance in applying for this grant. Councilman Scalzo offered a motion to approve the \$500 match. Councilwoman Lazier seconded the motion. Roll Call vote taken – four in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: (Council President)

A recommendation from PEMA and a letter issued by the Governor approved the appointment of Councilman Christopher DeGonzague to serve as Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough. Councilwoman Lazier offered a motion to appoint Councilman

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DeGonzague to the position. Councilman Scalzo seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the appointment was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Cost reported that the stained-glass window over the entrance to the library was recently broken, was taken down and is being repaired by Fr. Albert.

Councilwoman Lazier asked if more lights could be added at Kennedy Park. President Cost replied, “This is another thing that’s already being worked on, additional lights and a new pole closer to the pond are being installed.”

Resident Paul Kalaskinski, Lackawanna Street, complained about quads making U-turns in his driveway and the noise. Councilwoman Lazier added that she has had several complaints from Railroad Street residents. Chief Rowan added, “there are 11 miles of trails for which riders can purchase a pass. These vehicles are not allowed on the road, nor in Vision Park. However, they can cross a street to get gas. Mr. Kameen added that the Greater Forest City Industries owns Vision Park which has been closed, but the borough owns Commerce Boulevard that runs through the development. These recreational vehicles are not allowed in on Commerce Blvd. or in Vision Park.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next scheduled meeting – **Monday, June 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in Pentecost Hall, third floor of the borough building.** In line with the Governor’s orders, social distancing and face masks will be required.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Scalzo made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Lazier seconded the motion. All responded “Aye” in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.