

**FOREST CITY BOROUGH  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019**

---

**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. Also present: Mayor Chris Ginton, Solicitor Smith and Secr/Treas. Sharon Vannan.

**GUEST PRESENTATION:** Susquehanna County Substance Use Recovery Initiative (SURI). Barbara Durkin - the Director of the Lackawanna/Susquehanna County Office of Drug and Alcohol Programs and Traci Decker - TreHab Clinical Supervisor offered a presentation on services available through her agency. Pamphlets and materials were distributed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment offered at this time.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ADMINISTRATION:** (Joann Matarese)

Councilwoman Matarese made a motion to approve minutes from August 5, 2019 meeting. Councilman DeGonzague seconded the motion; all voted aye, motion carried.

Councilwoman Matarese motioned to accept the August 2019 Treasurer's Report. Councilwoman Bean seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all voted yes, none opposed.

MMO worksheets were distributed as required – 2020 Pension Non-uniform contribution is \$8,143, Uniform contribution is zero.

The Budget vs. Actual for YTD worksheet was distributed for review. Draft budget will be presented at October meeting.

Councilwoman Matarese reported that the Borough's Unemployment Compensation rate for 2020 would again remain unchanged at 0.0285.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** (Bernie Scalzo)

V.P. Scalzo provided the Public Works Report for August 2019 as reported by Bob Tedesco, noting the cost of repairs to the handle on the pickup was \$243.50. Scrap metal netted \$154. August recycling donations are \$167. Councilman Scalzo also reported that garbage is being dumped up at the Borough garage. President Cost said, "If it continues, the garage will be shut down to the public. Discussion followed about installing cameras and Councilman Scalzo will get more information & prices.

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

Councilman Lesjack asked about having Joe Kluck do lettering for the front door. President Cost asked him to get prices. Councilman Lesjack reported that he has not been able to get anyone to bid on the roof. It was suggested that he call Grimm and look for other roofing companies.

Councilman Lesjack objected to renting the third floor until it is totally completed. He wants to remodel the bathrooms and the kitchen area. In the meantime, he is opposed to renting it out. Councilwoman Bean voiced her objection to this, adding that the borough could be making money on it now, since the borough had put so much money into it already. Councilwoman Bean suggested that the application be updated and the fee set at \$200 with a \$50 refund if the renters clean up and remove all garbage. Nothing was decided.

**FOREST CITY BOROUGH  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019**

---

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

Councilwoman Bean reported that the specs for the Basketball Court are not ready. Siting drainage issues, KBA recommended pavement. Councilwoman Bean made a motion to advertise for bids pending receipt of the Specs. Councilman DeGonzague seconded the motion. All were in favor. A request for bids will be advertised pending receipt of the specs from KBA.

The chicken BBQ was a huge success that netted \$1,148. “Thanks to all the volunteers, it was the best chicken ever”.

The horseshoe pits are playable & grills are installed. Thank you to D.G.’s Bar, Adams Body Shop, Pleasant Mt. Welding, Mikloiche Timber/Construction and all the other volunteers, Andy Wagner, Brett Pelick, Brett Pekarski, Nick Cost and Dave Pelick. Thank you to Kristian Short for pressure washing the bathrooms. Andy Wagner, Jim Richards, Nick Cost & Dave Pelick are painting the bathrooms. Thank you to all.

Several concerns about activities at the park were reported. Cameras were suggested but would require Wi-Fi. Someone asked if the Little League would share their password. However, it was noted that the League would probably not want to do that since it would access their cameras as well. That’s why it is password protected. Added police patrols may be a good idea and Mayor Glinton would discuss this with his police department.

Councilwoman Bean made a motion to approve an additional \$500 for the purchase of paper & food products for the Purse Bingo. Tracey Lazier seconded the motion. All voted yes in a roll call. None opposed.

The next Parks & Rec meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 5, 2019 at the Emergency Services building to prepare for the purse bingo on 9/8/19.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** (President Cost)

The August Code Enforcement Report from Stephanie Reisch was distributed. CEO Reisch made a brief presentation on Ordinance #517 – Animal Control. Councilwoman Bean offered a motion to advertise the motion. Councilwoman Matarese seconded the motion. Six councilmember voted in favor, one (Councilman DeGonzague) was opposed. The Ordinance will be on the agenda for a vote at the October meeting.

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

Councilman DeGonzague reported that September is “National Preparedness Month” – This year’s theme is “Be Prepared, Not Scared!” Councilman DeGonzague reported that he spoke to Co. Comm. Warren who recommended going to the FEMA & PEMA sites. There is valuable material available – “30 day and 30 ways” to be prepared for disaster. Look into the ReadyPA.gov website.

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

Councilwoman Lazier reported that Paul Daugevello, Main St. Coord. is working on Halloween “Trunk or Treat” and looking for a location for the Haunted House. “Trunk or Treat” will be on Friday, October 25 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. on the 400 & 500 block of Main Street. The GFCBA is requesting a road closure for that date & time. Ms. Vannan will submit the application on behalf of the GFCBA & the Borough.

Council member Lazier added that there are still tickets available for the Purse Bingo and there may be some at the door, but please get them in advance.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:** (Mayor Christopher Glinton)

Mayor Glinton provided the August 2019 Police Report and Vandling’s invoice for Sept. 2019 patrols & August 2019 Calls. The Mayor noted that there had been 350 police calls. The mayor submitted a resignation from Rebecca Clark effective 8/1/2019. A motion was

**FOREST CITY BOROUGH  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019**

---

offered by Councilman Lesjack to accept the resignation. Seconded by Councilwoman Lazier, the resignation was accepted with all council members in favor of the motion.

Adam's Body submitted a bid for hail damage to the Chevy Impala. Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to schedule the repairs at a cost of \$2,383.50 (all but \$250 covered by insurance). Councilwoman Bean seconded the motion. All members voted yes in a roll call vote seven to zero.

Mayor Glinton asked council to approve \$150 to cover the cost of a seat cover for the car. Councilman Lesjack offered a motion to approve. Councilwoman Lazier seconded the motion. Roll call vote found seven in favor, none opposed.

Mayor Glinton asked council to approve an order for 500 police patches at a cost of \$693. Councilwoman Lazier made a motion to approve the purchase. Seconded by Councilman Lesjack, the motion carried seven to zero.

Councilwoman Bean expressed her concern about the lack of communication between the Mayor and Council. She was not happy to be asked about several things that the Mayor is working on, reported in the paper and council knew nothing about. She added, "In the future, please email council about the deals you're making and keep council in the loop."

Mayor Glinton offered a letter of complaint from Earl Obelenus about County Waste picking up at 5:30 a.m. Ms. Vannan would check the contract and contact them to ask they not collect before the time agreed to in the contract, believed to be 6:00 a.m.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** (Paul Smith)

Solicitor Smith had nothing to report.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

Prince Excavating submitted a bid to Council for repairs to the sinkhole in the 900 block of Susquehanna Street for \$3,995. Councilman DeGonzague suggested that the public works crew look to see if the storm drain is in public ROW or if any easements are needed from property owners. Solicitor Smith would do a letter or easement if needed. Councilwoman Bean made a motion to accept Prince's bid. Councilman DeGonzague seconded. All voted yes in a roll call, seven in favor, none opposed. President Cost will contact Prince to tell him to proceed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

President Cost reminded everyone that GFCBA Fall Mixer, hosted by Rail Trail Council, is on September 18 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the F.C. Industrial Park Trailhead. Please RSVP by 9/11/19.

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

President Cost opened the floor for comments:

Barbara Mihelc said, "Regarding the Susquehanna Street sinkhole, I hope this will resolve the problem." She also offered her assistance in finding out, but felt that this would all be in the ROW from Lackawanna Street.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (President Cost)

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

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

Councilwoman Bean offered a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Lazier seconded. All members responded "aye" and the meeting ended at 8:25 p.m.