

**MINUTES**  
**FORD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**LOCATION – FORD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**JUNE 14, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER** Council President John Lux called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and advised the audience that the meeting for Monday, June 14, 2010 will be audio and video taped by Family Life TV.

Lux questioned if anyone was audio or video taping the meeting. There was no response.

Lux asked everyone to please turn cell phones off and if phones must be answered to please step out of the meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council President John Lux lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

John Lux read the prepared announcements. (Attachment)

**ROLL CALL**

Ron Dillard, Lou Vergari, John Lux, Ray Klukan, Paul Harmon, Rob Mohney, and Mayor Mantini were present.

**ATTENDANCE**

Solicitor Frank Wolfe, David Nichols - Borough Engineer, Tom Ondrusek, Gene Banks, Jerry Miklos, Terry Tokarek, Dave Knepshield, Dee Simmons, and Ted Breuer were also present.

**MINUTES**

Klukan made a motion to approve the minutes for 5-10-2010. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Vergari made a motion to approve the minutes for 5-24-2010 with correction to roll call adding, Klukan arrived at 6:20 p.m. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Dillard made a motion to approve the minutes for 5-27-2010. Seconded by Harmon. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

**POLICE REPORT**

Mantini read the Police Report for May 2010. (Attachment)

Klukan made a motion to accept the Police Report for May 2010. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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Harmon read the Water Report. (Attachment)

Vergari made a motion to accept the Water Report. Seconded by Klukan.

Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Water Reports are available in the Borough Office.

Harmon read the Treasurer's Reports for April & May. (Attachments)  
Vergari made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports for April 2010 and May 2010 and pay the bills in the amount of \$31,297.33 as approved by the Finance Committee. Seconded by Mohney.  
Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

#### PURCHASE ORDERS TO APPROVE

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Bull Dog Office #9315 Shredder | \$719.20         |
| S & S Worldwide #9320 Crafts   | \$390.10         |
| Bauer Block                    | \$350.00 approx. |

Total of Purchase Orders = \$1459.30

Dillard made a motion to approve the (3) three purchase orders. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Discussion about purchase order approval \$200.00 limit. Dillard feels should be increased to \$450.00. If order is \$450.00 or over, must be approved by councilman aware of job specifications and outcome. Notify Finance Chairman when purchase order exceeds the limit.

Mantini states there have been problems in the past with spending going over \$200.00. Asks if anyone knew job was going to begin today.

Lux states council knew it would be starting.

Mantini feels with the spending problems in the past, it is only fair to the public for borough to set a limit.

Dillard states six councilman can approve and make a judgement what is needed to be spent and feels \$450 is not extravagant.

Klukan made a motion to increase purchase orders to \$450.00 and inform Chairman of Finance Committee. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

#### ENGINEER REPORT

Nichols read the Engineer's Report and recommends A. Folino Construction for paving project. Paving project will be paid with Liquid Fuels monies.

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Vergari questions engineer if checked unit prices and when project will begin.

Nichols answers prices are comparable and project will start after

submission of bond and preconstruction meeting.

PAVING 2010

Mohney made a motion to award the paving contract to A. Folino Construction. Seconded by Harmon. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

BOROUGH BOILER REPLACEMENT

Borough Engineer read bids. Six contractors paid for specifications, three submitted bids.

Vergari asks engineer how many zones are in the borough building.

Nichols replies 12 zones in building currently.

Nichols explains process of project to council.

Vergari questions what will happen if asbestos is found.

Nichols states that if any is found borough must get quotes for removal, deal as outside emergency.

Mohney made a motion for the engineer and solicitor to evaluate the bids and report back to council with their findings. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Nichols reports the Manor Township engineer has been on vacation but will contact Nichols when he has reviewed water rates. The rates are as discussed in special meeting.

Dillard asks audience if they understand the options of selling, going into partnership with Manor, etc.

Vicki Schaub states that audience wants to know what the cheapest route would be.

Terry Tokarek questions whether an informational meeting can be held.

Dillard states yes and feels it is an important decision that needs taxpayer input.

Mohney made a motion to accept the Engineer's Report for June 2010.. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous. (Attachment)

OLD BUSINESS

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PAVING 2010 Discussed in Engineer's Report.

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TRASH DAYS

Vergari made a motion to use Vogel Disposal Service for the 2010 Trash

Days for an amount of \$425.00 per box and a \$50.00 delivery fee for the first delivery of each box. Reads trash schedule.

Tokarek questions if there has been any reports from the Sewage Authority.

Lux answers no.

Tokarek states that was one of the things the prior authority was criticized for.

Mantini states that it was one of the complaints and that it wouldn't hurt informing the public, a 2 or 3 sentence report is sufficient.

Dave Knepshield questions where dumpsters will be placed for trash days.

Klukan answers 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue by borough garage like last year.

Knepshield questions if there is a possibility of moving the dumpsters to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, feels it is dangerous.

Vicki Schaub explains that a borough employee assists with drop off and there are really no safety issues.

Dillard states safety issues have been addressed and there have never been any incidences.

Mantini would like citizens that have comments to speak into the microphone. Mantini states that, to alleviate Knepshield's fears, the past 2 years have been well organized trash days.

Vergari made a motion to use Vogel Disposal Service for the 2010 Trash Days for an amount of \$425.00 per box and a \$50.00 delivery fee for the first delivery of each box. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

## NEW BUSINESS

## PLANNING COMMISSION

Klukan made a motion to accept the resignation of Tom Shaffer from the Planning Commission. Seconded by Dillard.  
Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

MAHER DUESSEL Dillard made a motion, based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, to authorize the Council President to sign the agreement with Maher Duessel to provide year-end audits for years 2010, 2011 and 2012. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 5-1 Vergari voted no. (Attachment).

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#### CAR WASH

Dillard made a motion to ratify the permission for the Ford City Girl's Basketball Team to hold a car wash on Monday, June 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and inform the Street Dept. and Police Dept. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

#### GAZEBO

Klukan made a motion to grant permission to the New Life Center to use the Borough Park on Saturday, August 28 and Sunday, August 29 for their annual Back to School Event and inform the Street Department and the Police Department. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Klukan made a motion to grant permission to the Ford City Football Booster to use the Borough Park on Friday, August 20, 2010 for their annual Football Kickoff event from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and the Street Department and the Police Department. Seconded by Vergari. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> AVENUE PLAYGROUND

Klukan made a motion to ratify permission granted to Brianne Craig for use of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Playground on Saturday, June 5 from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and inform the Street Department and the Police Department. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Klukan made a motion to grant permission to Capt. Dave Rhodes - Salvation Army to use 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Playground on June 14, 28, July 12, 26, and August 9 and inform the Street Department and the Police Department. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE ROAD CLOSURE

##### TABLED

Motion to close the 500 Block & 600 Block of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue on Saturday, July 3, for the Parade until 10:00 p.m. and inform the Fire Department, Street Department and the Police Department.

#### PART-TIME POLICE

Harmon made a motion to hire Roger Wright, Glenn Young, and Jacob Ingram as part-time officers pending their physicals and drug tests. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

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Mantini mentioned that Glenn Young will be on KDKA radio on June 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 a.m.

Schaub questioned how many full time and part time police officers are currently on the force.

Mantini answered 12 part time and 3 full time.

Schaub inquired about hours worked by officers on a monthly basis

Mantini states that the full time officers work their shifts and the rest of the shifts are filled in by part time officers.

Schaub also wants to know why ford city police blotter is not in the newspaper. Last year at October meeting public was told police blotter would appear in paper, since then was in paper one time. Feel people have the right to know what is going on in their own community. Used Rudosky incident as example.

Harmon informed citizens that part time officers are needed because of over time, 12 part time officers work other places.

Floryan Klimkowicz remembers when there were 3 cops in Ford City.

Discussion takes place about previous police force.

Dave Knepshield questions mayor as to how blotter is reported and who is responsible for putting it in the paper. He also asks what the borough's stance is on reporting to paper.

Mantini took responsibility and stated that it should be in daily.

Knepshield asks Mitch Fryer how the process has worked in the past.

Mitch Fryer states that officers had called in the past when an incident occurred.

Mohney tells citizens this will be taken under advisement. He agrees with citizens and states that council will address and report back next meeting.

Knepshield informs council that it is their job to determine labor force and comments that crimes are different today than in the past.

Council members and audience agree.

SUMMER LABOR Harmon made a motion to hire Amanda McCarthy and Jacob Stennett for summer labor and Brian Transue as alternate. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 5-0 Lux abstains due to relation to Amanda.

GAS WELLS Harmon made a motion to authorize Solicitor Wolfe to begin working with Dale Properties to explore the possibilities of drilling on the former PPG Property, Landfill Property, and the Softball Fields. Seconded by Klukan.  
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Jerry Miklos inquires about Dale Properties.

Harmon states they are located in Dallas, Texas.

Miklos asks Harmon how he came upon Dale Properties.

Harmon states they contacted borough council.

Miklos asks if any other companies were explored.

Harmon answers yes and states four others were looked at.

Schaub inquires to which companies did not want involved.

Harmon states some companies are not working in the area. For example:  
PAVA Gas & Oil, Ranger

Someone in audience questions if looked in to BLX.

Harmon never heard of company.

Miklos questions if any drilling will be done in areas near our wells.

Harmon states that is a concern.

Schaub asks if it is guaranteed that water will not be affected.

Mohney comments that council is just looking for information and that the company contacted the council. Will not enter into an agreement without having a public meeting.

Lux states that council will have a public meeting. Lux comments that council was actually approached over two years ago.

Dillard states that it has been an ongoing process, council has looked for alternatives to keep taxes low. This is not new, council has been doing this for a while.

Mohney questions who owns the mineral rights.

Miklos questions who on council has expertise on this topic.

Harmon & Lux will be going to a seminar, plus Frank Wolfe.

Miklos asks about technical aspects, knows Frank Wolfe is an attorney.

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Wolfe states he has done 50 gas leases, these drilling discussions go back to when Renee Zacour & John Rudosky were council members. Met with PPG when shallow drilling was proposed, must get permission from PPG and at that time PPG was resistant. What makes Marcellus different is there is no drilling rig, goes under cap. Need to go back to PPG, they are

interested in public good. This should not impact surface at all and companies, like PPG, have the expertise to deal with the technical aspects that Miklos brought up.

Miklos states they have a vested interest as well.

Wolfe states that thought needs to go into working on details, will all come back to public again, concerns need to be taken into consideration. Wolfe states council just wants him to do some leg work preliminary to an agreement.

Miklos states he would have far less concern if brownfield site was not included at this time until more information is gathered.

Dave Croyle states that you must go to microphone to speak.

Harmon made a motion to authorize Solicitor Wolfe to begin working with Dale Properties to explore the possibilities of drilling on the former PPG Property, Landfill Property, and the Softball Fields. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Lux states borough council will hold public meetings on this. Will look in to Miklos' brownfield concern.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS

**Darla Bernot** - Crime Watch reads letter.

Harmon questions when crime watch meetings are held.

Bernot answers last Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at Ford Memorial Church.

Dillard questions Bernot whether or not she has been getting local help.

Bernot states that they want the support of council. People are reluctant to help

Lux asks how Kittanning does it.

Mohney will contact Kittanning to investigate how their crime watch operates.

**Bob Ramer** - 1517 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue

States railing along wall was taken down in December 2008 and questions if anyone can tell him when it will be put back up.

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Harmon comments was on last meetings agenda.

Dillard comments that it was put on hold to get three quotes.

Ramer is worried about the liability if something happens.

Dillard explains it was going to be fixed but he was the one who asked for additional quotes. It has been over a month and haven't gotten any more quotes. To expedite we have an individual who will fix it.

Ramer questions if it will be new railing or repair of one taken down.

Dillard states repair.

Mohney made a motion to approve LD Bittner to repair the railing. Seconded by Dillard. (Same motion as previous meeting) Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

**Marlene Szymanski-** Questions how much has been collected from the landlord-tenant ordinance. Wants to know what borough is going to do with the money. Would like to know who paid and who didn't pay.

Harmon answers April \$800 & May \$790.

Szymanski wanted to know if there was any extra charge if not paid in January.

Harmon told her letters had been sent out to people who owe and that he was looking into a collection agency.

Szymanski questioned the mayor about the status of the drain pipe robbery. Szymanski has called the police 4 times and her call was never returned. Hands bill to mayor.

She would like police to patrol after 2 a.m. on weekends, states that is when there is a lot of noise and trouble.

**Dave Knepshield** was asked by the Oleksak's to help with the parks & rec committee. The committee would like clarification of what funds can be used for in budget.

Dillard states the budget for parks & rec is to be used within Parks & Rec. Playgrounds, ballfields, trail.

Knepshield asks if an application can be made to council for any use of funds.

Dillard answers sure.

Knepshield asks what the \$3000 for shade tree is used for.

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Dillard states it is to be used for tree maintenance.

Knepshield asked if it is the job of Parks & Rec committee to be involved

in that process.

Dillard states absolutely.

Knepshield states looking into about 4 grants at present time. Met with DCNR and can't go forward until \$150,000 trail grant is closed out. Klingensmith Health Care provided \$30,000 grant and Klingensmiths provided \$2500. DEP has grant available for recycling trailer.

Lux states that borough is working on closing out DCNR grant.

Knepshield commends work of Garden Club and reads list of projects currently in progress. Reads list of future projects and states have gotten enough matching funds for any beautification project in the borough.

Lux asks about water at Softball Fields.

Knepshield answers that he has been discussing projects for field with Sgt. Brice. A project like that would have to go through the borough.

Lists recommendations for playgrounds made by committees.

Dillard states it is fine if items can be replaced. Playground equipment is expensive, would like to see Klingensmith's Healthcare put name on playground and follow through with it.

Knepshield states would be happy to look into and questions council if there is a mission statement for Parks & Rec written in the borough code. Knepshield informs council that Playground Rules have been posted.

Lux asks if additional signs are needed.

Knepshield doesn't think so.

Dillard asks Knepshield if there is a safe zone sign posted.

Knepshield - no.

Dillard explains situation.

Knepshield states that if borough is allowed to post signs, they will be more than happy to do it. Survey people who use playgrounds.

Dillard feels is a great time to do that now since summer program has started, speak to parents and supervisors.

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Knepshield asks if lights would be available to light flags at tunnel project.

Dillard & Lux state that lights on flagpoles would be no problem.

Klukan questions if Knepshield has had any trouble from Lion's Club.

Knepshield states that there are lots of projects plan just don't know if have permission. Goal is beautification and recreation.

Mantini thanks Knepshield.

Mohney states he attended a Parks & Rec meeting. There was a discussion about planting memorial trees.

Knepshield states it is being looked into.

Knepshield continues to talk about projects. Mail Pouch sign needs preserved.

Knepshield mentions ongoing work with Larry Gray and PCC.

Softball players concerned about piling of limestone.

Dillard states that originally piling was an agreement, could store limestone if spread some at fields.

Knepshield thinks it is other materials such as ground up asphalt.

Mohney states that anybody that does anything over there should have permission.

Lux only know of limestone.

Mohney states council will take care of it.

Knepshield states committee is looking for ideas.  
Also want to replace all garbage cans in town for uniformity.  
Knepshield will buy 4 or 5 more.

Mantini asks Knepshield to speak with Rob Mohney.

Knepshield asks what to do with old cans and would like to know if there is a list of approved trees that can be planted.

Vergari will check with Tim about what type of trees to plant.

**Ted Breuer** asks council to please help fix library parking lot, remove tree, and cut grass. PPG installed new windows. Gutters need cleaned out.  
Would appreciated if borough workers did the final touch.

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**Linda Rhodes** - Citizen that has lived here for almost two years. Really likes area and likes how everyone is involved. Questions why bathrooms are locked at playgrounds.

Mantini states they are locked due to vandalism that has occurred in past. Restrooms are maintained by borough workers and have been found damaged and filthy. Mayor asks citizens to please call 911 if see anything.

Mohney adds that restrooms are open for the summer program during the hours the playground supervisors are there.

Dillard states that restrooms should be open if permission is granted to use the parks.

Rhodes questions if the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. & 3<sup>rd</sup> Street could be changed to a handicap corner.

Dillard states that the area/corner needs fixed, is on the schedule but down quite a bit.

Rhodes last request to council is to maintain the hillside by the trail.

Dillard states is being cut next week.

Knepshield feels Garden Club could have a long-term solution. Could plant low vegetation that does not need cut.

**Jerry Miklos** states there was no Board of Health meeting this month and was wondering what the excuse of month was.

Lux states the Marcinek's were out of town

Miklos reads section 141.08 of the borough code. The BOH shall meet, asks solicitor if shall and must are interchangeable, at least once each month...

Wolfe answers yes, that shall and must mean the same.

Miklos states that all know there have been very few meetings held in last 9 to 10 months, which is a violation to the borough code. He then asks Lux how he is getting input that was so desperately needed. Miklos refers to letter.

Lux states he will not entertain, bring up every meeting, already talked to Colleen to find out what information is needed.

Miklos asks how many people are on the board of health.

Lux answers three.

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Miklos reads section 141.02 of the borough code...Council shall appoint 5 individuals, at least one a reputable physician. Miklos asks council how they are complying with this.

Lux states that he is in the process of determining what training is necessary. Lux won't appoint any more members until finds out information.

Miklos questions why council has not advertised for Board of Health.

Lux knows someone who is interested but would like to hold off until all information about training is known.

Miklos questions why add was not put out and that Ford City probably has 20 to 30 health care professionals. Questions Lux as to who is the resident physician on the board of health.

Lux states Terry Moore.

Miklos states in three years Terry Moore never attended a meeting, plus he is not a resident of Ford City. There are doctors who live in town now.

Miklos questioned Paul if the board of health members are being paid.

Paul states he will have to look into it.

Miklos states that council is using taxpayers' money to pay people who do not show up for meetings and who are not qualified to do inspections.

Lux asks Miklos if he was qualified to inspect.

Miklos states yes, he was qualified.

Lux asks Miklos how he was qualified.

Miklos states by virtue of his education.

Lux states that the people on the board right now are grand-fathered and will receive training.

Miklos questions Lux where he got the grand-fathered part.

Lux states the same man from the state that Miklos has spoken with.

Miklos questions if he spoke to him personally.

Lux answers no.

Miklos asks who talked to him.

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Lux answers the borough secretary.

Miklos asks Bittner if there is anything about grand-fathering.

Bittner answers no.

Miklos questions again if taxpayer dollars are being used to pay people who do not show up for meetings and who do not meet the qualifications of the state. Miklos states he will keep coming to meetings until he gets answers.

Dillard comments that Miklos has shown up ever since he was removed from the Board of Health.

Miklos states he will continue to show up.

Dillard and Miklos have words.

Miklos questions if the Board of Health are employees.

Dillard states if getting paid is an employee.

Miklos refers to letter that said membership, questions if membership equates to employee.

Dillard states only BOH gets paid.

Miklos questions solicitor if employee, should be fired for not showing up.

Wolfe states that he doesn't know the answer, these are independent people, just because money is received doesn't mean they are employees.

Miklos thanks solicitor.

Dillard states Miklos was fired for not doing his job. States Miklos makes this a dog & pony show.

Miklos has no interest in getting back on Board of Health. States council has failed miserably.

Discussion about past between Dillard and Miklos.

Dillard request that Miklos sit down or be removed.

#### SOLICITOR COMMENTS

No comments at this time.

#### MAYOR COMMENTS

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Takes blame for lack of police report in the paper. Congratulations to Ford City High School Class of 2010 and to all graduating classes in Armstrong County. Thanks to the garden club and Dave Knepshield for work they have done for the beautification of Ford City. High grass will be issued citations. Thanks to the Lion's Club for the nice memorial service. Commend the police department, fire 5-26-2010 Atherton and Brice, read

letter from Chief County Detective Paul Rearick. Also, thanked officer Zaliponi, Fire Departments and Ambulances that arrived on scene that night.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Dillard addressed folks who live on the 200 & 300 block of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Explained how the borough does not have the equipment to cut the hillside. Council will work to correct situation by hiring an outside service.

Floryan Klimkowicz asks if streets and alleys will be fixed.

Dillard reminds him it was voted on earlier in the meeting. Ford City doesn't have a preventative maintenance program. A tremendous amount of money went to Ford Street, crowns were broken on bricks, poor judgement of previous council.

Klimkowicz questions if it is against the law to park on the curb.

Dillard answers yes.

Dillard states that as a community we have failed. Saxonburg is a beautiful place and they take pride.

Vergari - Not everywhere in Ford City has failed, Library didn't fail, friends of the library, paid for improvements by donations. Thanks to Anita moving books and shelving. High School Musical Jr. - money goes to Library 6-17, 18, 19.

Klukan- No comment at this time.

Harmon states how nice library looks inside and outside.

ADJOURNMENT Harmon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0

John M. Lux  
Council President

Lisa Bittner  
Borough Secretary

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