

MINUTES
FORD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
LOCATION – FORD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
FEBRUARY 2, 2009

CALL TO ORDER Council President John Lux called the meeting to order around 6:05 p.m. He advised the audience that the meeting will be audio and video taped. Is there anyone in the audience audio or video taping the meeting? There was no response.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Council President Lux lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

ANNOUNCEMENTS Council President John Lux read a list of prepared announcements. (Attached)

ROLL CALL Terry Tokarek, Ray Klukan, Ron Dillard, John Lux, Tim Malec, Tom Shaffer and Mayor Mantini were present.

ATTENDANCE Solicitor Wolfe and David Nichols - NSEI were also present.

MINUTES There were none presented.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Darla Bernot explained Saturday, February 14, 2009 will be Chocolate Day at the Public Library and on Thursday, February 19, 2009 a presentation will be made concerning the Right to Know Laws.

Grace Charney spoke about the Library Funding Cuts and the need to know what are the intentions of the Council.

Malec made a motion to reappoint Kathy Bartuccio and appoint Stan Westburg. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

Malec stated council voted to pay the Library stipend every month and asked will the library get credit for the 2008 stipend paid in 2009? Charney answered no.

Shaffer explained \$38,000 dollars is already paid to the Library through the Library Tax. Shaffer suggested placing a referendum on the ballot and let the people decide how much money the Library should receive.

Charney stated the Borough has the obligation to fund the Library. The referendum does not excuse the Council obligation.

Charney explained the Library Staff wages. The Librarian receives \$16,500.00 per year for 35 hours per week. An assistant works 14 hours per week and is not from Ford City. Another worker works 28 hours per week at minimum wage and one works (9) nine hours per week at minimum wage.

Charney stated all equity should be equal across the board, the Library is being singled out. The Library has not been paid its money.

Shaffer explained there have been cuts all around and the Library is not the only service being cut. There are cuts across the board, we need to be fiscally responsible.

Dillard questions the time frame to obtain a referendum.

Charney stated 60 days prior to election for a referendum and 3% of the registered voters who voted in the last election must sign a petition to get the referendum on the ballot.

Solicitor Wolfe disagreed and explained the Library does not need the 3% of the registered voters. Once the referendum has passed you can increase without having to go back and put another referendum.

Malec made a motion to open up the 2009 budget and resubmit the budget and put the library back in the budget. Seconded by Terry Tokarek.

Dillard	Yes	Klukan	No
Tokarek	Yes	Lux	No
Malec	Yes	Shaffer	No

The votes are tied and Mayor Mantini breaks the tie with a No vote.

Dillard made a motion to open the 2009 budget to find if there are additional monies available to fund the library.
Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

Shaffer made a motion to place a referendum on the ballot to increase the library's funding for 1 mil in 2010. Seconded by Klukan.
Motion Carried. 5-1 Tokarek votes No

Malec made a motion to put on the referendum that the Library be funded by the General Fund of the Ford City Borough.

Dillard made a motion to table the above motion.
Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 5-1 Malec votes No

POLICE REPORT

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Mayor Mantini read the Police Report.

Klukan made a motion to accept the Police Report for January 2009.
Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dillard stated the Water Reports are available in the Borough Office.

Dillard made a motion to accept the water report.
Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$84,509.84 as approved by the Finance Committee.
Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

ENGINEER REPORT

Dave Nichols presented the Engineer Report for February 2009 and spoke about the application for the treatment plant grant.

Shaffer made a motion to accept the Engineer Report for February 2009.
Seconded by Malec. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

Shaffer made a motion to submit an application to match the grant money through a PennVest Loan.
Seconded by Malec. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

BID OPENING Malec made a motion to accept the bid of \$758.00 by James Sokol for the 2001 Chevy Impala.
Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

FORD STREET PROJECT

Shaffer made a motion to approve the final payment in the amount of \$114,062.00 to Tony Baiano Construction less any expenses.
Seconded by Ray Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

LENAPE PTO REQUEST

Shaffer made a motion to grant permission to Lenape PTO to use the Technology Park for parking purposes on Saturday, March 7, 2009.
Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

OLEKSAK REQUEST

Shaffer made a motion to grant permission for a curb cut to William Oleksak along 3rd Avenue.
Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

GAZEBO REQUEST

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inform the Street Dept. and Police Dept.
Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

REAL ESTATE EXONERATIONS

Shaffer made a motion to exonerate Bridgette Opalka - Ford City Tax Collector from collecting the Real Estate Taxes for 2008.
Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

PURCHASE ORDERS TO APPROVE

Shaffer made a motion to approve Purchase Orders in the total of \$1,207.90. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

ASSESSMENT APPEAL - FREEDOM APARTMENT & MILWOOD ARMS

Solicitor Wolfe explains he needs additional information and should the necessary information for the March 2, 2009 meeting.

SUMMER GRASS CUTTING

Shaffer suggested out sourcing the summer grass cutting.

PART-TIME POLICE

Shaffer made a motion to advertise for part-time police officers.
Seconded by Malec. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

DEMOLITION BUILDING #228

Shaffer made a motion to advertise for proposals to demolish/rehabilitate Building #228 and include a dividing wall.
Seconded by Tokarek. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no Citizen Comments at this time.

SOLICITOR COMMENTS

Solicitor Wolfe had no comments at this time.

MAYOR COMMENTS

Thanked the Ford City Ambulance Service for providing the necessary repairs to the Storm Sewers in the Borough Parking Lot, thanked the Council and Solicitor for the work they did on the Eljer property, God Bless all government officials, Pray for soldiers and Ford City Officers who are serving their country, Congratulations to the Rooney Family and the Pittsburgh Steelers, and begged Council to adopt a Landlord-Tenant Bill

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Tokarek thanked Grace Charney for her presentation.

Klukan and Shaffer had no comments at this time.

Dillard thanked everyone who showed up tonight for the meeting, there are still Street lighting issues, vast improvements in lighting will soon be seen, and thanked Allegheny Power.

Malec thanked Ron, and stated he agrees and thank you from the Lions.

Lux thanked Allegheny Power and stated the Borough will be brighter by the end of the year.

ADJOURNMENT Shaffer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.
Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous.

John M. Lux, Sr.
Council President

Patty Hornyak
Asst. Secretary

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