

MINUTES
FORD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
LOCATION – FORD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
JANUARY 10, 2011

MEETING SIGN IN SHEET

Council Vice-President Klukan stated everyone addressing council, must sign in on the meeting sign in sheet. All speakers must step to the microphone to speak. Begin with stating your name and address for the record.

Residents shall not speak for longer than five (5) minutes. The total time allotted for public participation shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes unless otherwise waived by a majority of the quorum.

CALL TO ORDER Council Vice-President Ray Klukan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and advised the audience that the meeting would be audio and video taped by Family Life TV and broadcast on WTYM radio station.

Klukan asked if there was anyone in the audience audio or video taping the meeting. There was no response.

ROLL CALL Rob Mohney, Paul Harmon, Ray Klukan, Lou Vergari, Ron Dillard, and Mayor Mantini were present. John Lux arrives at 6:19 p.m.

ATTENDANCE Solicitor Frank Wolfe, David Nichols - Borough Engineer, Sandy Hutchison, Jerry Miklos, Tom Ondrusek, Chris Zionkowski, Steve Arblaster, Dee Shaeffer, Jeff Stennett, Scott Gaiser, and Tom Hrabosky were also present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darla Bernot made announcements for The Ford City Public Library.

MINUTES Vergari made a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting held on 12-13-2010. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

POLICE REPORT Mayor Marc Mantini read the Police Report. (Attachment)

Mantini thanks Sgt. Atherton for timely Police Reports in the newspapers. Valley News Dispatch has also thanked the police department.

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Mohney made a motion to accept the Police Report for December 2010. Seconded by Harmon. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

COMMITTEE REPORTS

approved 2-14-2011
Harmon read the Water Reports and reported that all samples were good. (Attachment)

Mohney made a motion to accept the Water Reports. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

Harmon read the Treasurer's Report and bill list. (Attachments)

Mohney made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for November 2010 and pay the bills in the amount of \$75,610.56 approved by the Finance Committee. Seconded by Vergari. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

ENGINEER REPORT

Nichols reports that the boiler insulation removal is finished and that JB Mechanical is in the process of finishing the installation of the boiler.

Dillard made a motion to pay JB Mechanical \$24,252 for work completed. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

Nichols would like council to let him know if there are any questions on the water grant that was presented. Need questions and concerns by tomorrow.

Mohney made a motion to accept the Engineer's Report. Seconded by Harmon. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous (Attachment)

OLD BUSINESS

MAYOR VETO - TAX ORDINANCE FOR 2011

Solicitor Frank Wolfe explains that a 2/3 vote of all council is needed to overturn the mayor's veto.

Mantini asks council if they have stayed within the budget.

Harmon states that it is difficult to say if council stayed within the budget.

Mantini challenges the press to look into the minutes to investigate the sewers on 3rd Avenue. Also concerned with delinquent water bills and collection of delinquent bills.

Harmon informs the mayor the Finance Committee meets every Wednesday.

John Lux arrives at 6:19 p.m. and sits in audience.

minutes

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Dillard informs Mayor Mantini that he is reading report incorrectly. Corrects figure that is actually owed on delinquent bills. Mayor reads as over \$200,000 but Dillard states correct figure is under \$70,000.

Dillard feels this council has taken positive actions and has been looking into outside contractors to collect delinquent bills. Feels that the debt that cannot be collected should be removed from the books.

Mohney states that the landlord tenant ordinance holds landlords responsible for tenants unpaid water bills. States people will be sent to the magistrate.

John Lux comments that some delinquent bills have already been collected. Bills have been paid up when landlords come into office.

Dillard states that whenever the borough updates the water ordinance it is advertised in the paper.

Vergari feels it is a good idea to send borough rules to the landlords.

Dillard believes that he has witnessed office informing landlords / new tenants of the rules.

Klukan reads borough code to overturn the mayor's veto and asks secretary for role call vote.

Vergari - Yes
Dillard - Yes
Harmon - Yes

Mohney - Yes
Klukan - Yes
Lux - Yes

Mohney made a motion. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

Veto overturned.

SNOW REMOVAL - 2011

Klukan reads snow removal advertisement.

Dillard made a motion to approve advertisement as read. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

TAX ANTICIPATION LOAN

Harmon made a motion to increase the amount of the Tax Anticipation Loan for 2011 from \$75,000 to \$100,000. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 4-1 Vergari votes no.

Miklos questions why council is doing this.

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Dillard states that council does not want to be short on money.

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Miklos questions where there is a short fall.

Dillard feels council should not be using public utility funds to process

payroll. Feels this is robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Miklos feels Dillard did not answer where the short fall is in the budget.

Lux states that council would just like an extra cushion.

NEW BUSINESS

BOROUGH ASSOCIATION

Dillard made a motion to authorize any Council Member, Mayor Mantini and the Borough Secretary to attend the Borough Association meeting to be held on Thursday, January 27, 2011 at a cost of \$20.00 per person. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

NEPOTISM POLICY Dillard explains the need for a nepotism policy. Mentions he has sent a draft out and if any changes are made by the solicitor, a second draft will be sent out. Decided that this will be taken care of at the meeting on January 25, 2011.

Miklos questions why a nepotism policy is needed.

Dillard answers to establish fairness at Ford City Borough.

Miklos states that he feels Dillard was hired due to buddy system.

Dillard states that he went through four (4) interviews and that Miklos was the only one who voted no.

Miklos also brings up that Dillard was not entitled to vacation pay but took anyway.

STIVY'S ELECTRIC Vergari would like more than one quote.

Mohney made a motion to authorize Stivy's Electric to replace two existing lights on the Borough Building at a cost of \$795.00 and authorize the Council Vice-President to sign the proposal. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 4-1 Vergari votes no.

Miklos questions why there is only one bid.

Dillard explains at this price point, no other bids are needed.

CENTRAL TAX

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Vergari made a motion to authorize the Council Vice-President to sign the Appointment Resolution with Central Tax Bureau for the collection of Earned Income Tax. Seconded by Harmon. Motion Carried 5-0 Unanimous

RESIGNATION

Klukan reads Dr. William Oleksak's resignation letter.

Dillard made a motion to accept the resignation of William Oleksak from the Parks & Recreation Committee and the Shade Tree Committee. Seconded by Vergari. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

TREASURER POSITION

Klukan reads resignation letter of Maryann Romancheck.

Dillard applauds Romancheck for her longevity.

Vergari made a motion to accept the resignation of Maryann Romancheck as Ford City Borough Treasurer. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

Dillard would like to be ready to advertise at next meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – OPEN COMMENTS AT THIS TIME

Floryan Klimkowicz voices his concern over raised taxes.

Marlene Szymanski voices her concern about snow covering sidewalks who should this be reported to?

Mantini informs Szymanski to call the police.

Delores Shaeffer voices concerns about gas wells and status of a lease.

Klukan informs her that they have no new information since the last meeting.

Shaeffer questions if the next public meeting will be better advertised.

Council informs Shaeffer that it was advertised, just poorly attended.

Miklos questions all council members about cost cutting measures. Miklos commends the Mayor for his veto.

No council member proposed any cost cutting measures. Majority of council feels that the borough is running on a bare bones budget.

Two former citizens of Ford City express their concerns about drilling in the community.

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Council listens to their concerns and is unsure when the next meeting to discuss gas well drilling will be scheduled.

SOLICITOR COMMENTS

Wolfe has reviewed the Pierce Specs and feels it is ready for a vote. (Attachment)

Mohney made a motion authorize Council President Lux to sign the purchase agreement with Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. for the purchase of one (1) Pierce Velocity Pumper in the amount of \$467,523.00. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

MAYOR COMMENTS

Mantini recognizes the job done by Maryann Romancheck. He also thanks Vergari and his family for volunteer work, and highlights holidays in January.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mohney & Harmon have no comments at this time.

Vergari expresses that more information is needed about the drilling.

Dillard wishes all a Happy New Year and expresses that there needs to be more discussion about drilling. Feels council has lots of decisions to be made in 2011.

Klukan thanks Maryann Romancheck.

ADJOURNMENT

Vergari made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Seconded by Mohney. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

Ray W. Klukan
Vice-President Council

Lisa Bittner
Borough Secretary

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