

**MINUTES  
FORD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
LOCATION - FORD CITY HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
JANUARY 23, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER Council President John Lux called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

AUDIO TAPED Council President Lux informed everyone the meeting is being audio taped and asked if anyone in the audience is audio or video taping the meeting? There was no response from anyone.

ROLL CALL Terry Tokarek, Tim Malec, Ron Dillard, Ray Klukan, Tom Shaffer, and John Lux. Mayor Mantini was absent for roll call, but arrived at some point during the meeting.

ATTENDANCE Solicitor Wolfe, Jim Solak, Tom Hrabosky and Ted Ziemenski were also present.

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

MEETING PURPOSE Council President Lux read a prepared statement which informed everyone the purpose of this meeting was not for any action by council but a venue for citizens and committee members of Heritage Days to meet.

COUNCIL MEMBERS Each council member stood and introduced themselves to the audience.

MEETING PURPOSE Councilman Shaffer stated the purpose of this evenings meeting is to discuss Heritage Days in an organized manner and turned the floor over to Jim Solak.- Heritage Days Member.

HERITAGE DAYS Jim Solak stated there are a few members of the Heritage Days Committee present and they are willing to listed to anything anyone would like to comment on. Mr. Solak thanked everyone for coming and commended them for taking the time to attend this meeting.

Paul Klukan asked who is currently on the committee? Homer and Ruth Pendleton, Joe Frick, Greg Dinko, Tom Hrabosky, Ted Ziemenski and himself answered Mr. Solak.

A short discussion took place concerning how long is the committee able to function with such a small amount of people.

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Paul Klukan asked if there were any bylaws? Solak answered they have been unable to obtain a copy of the bylaws.

Mayor Mantini stated information should be provided because Heritage Days used Borough Trash Collection and Borough Police.

An unknown lady asked why wasn't Heritage Days paying for garbage? Mayor Mantini stated he could not provide an answer.

Kim Bish explained it just came about with the past few councils.

A short discussion took place concerning Borough Services being used by large events being conducted in town.

Jim Solak asked for a interested meeting attendees to raise their hands if they would be interested in being on the Heritage Days Committee. Many raised their hands.

Jim Solak stated the Borough Park is reserved from July 1 until July 6 for Heritage Days.

Jim Solak stated the committee must have a quorum to meet and then new members may be voted upon,

Carl Bromley asked if Borough Council would consider creating a new non-profit to oversee Heritage Days?

A short discussion took place concerning this question.

Solicitor Frank Wolfe explained permission was already given to Ford City Area Heritage Days [FCAHD] for use of the Borough Park and monies may have already been spent since the permission was already granted. Wolfe explained FCAHD is a private non-profit entity.

Tom Hrabosky stated he does not know how far in debt the committee is and is unable to obtain any records.

Angie Smith stated a meeting should be scheduled with the committee and all interested citizens who want on the committee.

Solicitor Wolfe stated it is up to the committee people to able and willing to attend a meeting to move forward. Call a meeting and those who show up move forward with the necessary business.

Michael Markilinski explained Heritage Days owes one company \$7000 and advised the current committee to find out what financial shape FCAHD is in.

Tom Shaffer asked the Heritage Days committee if they are willing to hold a meeting and add new people?

An unidentified lady explained Jean Palermo was instrumental in creating FCAHD. She stated it is a good thing for the community and keep it going.

Jim Solak stated probably six (6) people on the committee are here at the meeting.

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Councilman Ron Dillard asked Jim Solak if a meeting could be called and what is the maximum number of committee members allowed on the committee? Jim Solak answered a meeting could be called and at one time there were 30 committee members.

Tom Hrabosky stated nobody at this meeting has any of the original paperwork.

Rob Mohny - Ford City Area Youth Football, explained they have had a food booth for 14 years. Mohny stated the food booths have always been non-profit and the entertainment needs improved. Mohny stated that Sundays should go back to being Polka Day.

Brenda Mauthe stated something needs done with Heritage Days it used to be a great week to plan class reunions.

Michael Markilinski reminded everyone the entertainment, fireworks and the parade are items that must be covered by outside fund-raising. These items are free to the public. Markilinski explained the vendors for the craft boots and food booths are charged a fee.

Carl Bromley stated he volunteered for the committee and has never been placed on the committee. Bromley again suggested setting up a new non-profit and stated he wants to be part of the solution.

Councilman Tim Malec stated he has heard a lot of great ideas. But, when it comes time to volunteer where is everyone? Malec stated there are not strings attached to use the Borough Park. Malec stated these are quality of life issues parade and fireworks.. The Borough does pay for street sweeping, garbage removal and extra police presence. Malec stated the food booths need a five (5) day event to make any profit.

Angie Smith asked Solicitor Wolfe why council can't ask to see the FCAHD books? Solicitor Wolfe explained the Borough has no right because FCAHD is a private entity.

Betty Thevenin asked if the meeting of FCAHD will be open to the public? Jim Solak answered yes.

Bobbi Jo Furlong stated she is a craft-a-holic and the craft vendors need improvement and there should be something for the children to do. Furlong stated the ethnic side of Heritage Days needs to be returned.

The Lutheran Church Pastor stated the community is about the people and this something has to be done about Heritage Days.

Jim Solak suggested keeping the current committee and adding new members.

Tim Malec stated the structure is in place and suggested canceling the fireworks.

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A short discussion took place about scheduling a meeting. A Heritage Days meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 in the upstairs of Borough Building.

Tom Hrabosky explained every year there is supposed to be an election of officers.

Jim Solak accepted letter of suggestion from the audience and accepted letters of interest in becoming a committee member.

Paul Klukan asked if there was enough time to pull Heritage Days together for this year? Everyone agreed that Heritage Days should happen and not skip a year.

An unidentified lady stated she was a craft vendor for many years at Heritage Days. One year it was extremely necessary for her to leave the festival early. She never received another application.

A short discussion took place concerning the Heritage Days meeting to be held on 1-30-2008. This meeting will be just for any current committee member. Another Heritage Days meeting will also be scheduled and the new members will be able to attend that meeting.

Tom Shaffer explained Heritage Days was discussed at the Ford City Business & Professional Assoc. is willing to offer limited assistance to Heritage Day.

#### SOLICITOR COMMENTS

Solicitor Wolfe had no comments at this time.

#### MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Mantini had no comments at this time.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

John Lux, Ron Dillard, Terry Tokarek, Tim Malec, and Tom Shaffer had no comments at this time.

Ray Klukan stated he will ask to use the upstairs of the Borough Building when meetings are necessary.

[No action was taken by council at this meeting.]

#### ADJOURNMENT

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Tokarek made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous Meeting Adjourned.

John M. Lux, Sr.  
Council President

Lisa Bittner  
Borough Secretary