

**MINUTES**  
**FORD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**LOCATION – FORD CITY BOROUGH BUILDING**  
**OCTOBER 20, 2008**

- CALL TO ORDER** Council President John Lux called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- AUDIO TAPED** Council President Lux informed everyone the meeting is being audio and video taped. Lux asked if others were audio or video taping the meeting? There was not a response to the question.
- ROLL CALL** Ron Dillard, John Lux, Ray Klukan, Tom Shaffer, and Mayor Mantini were present. Terry Tokarek and Tim Malec were absent. Malec was absent because of work.
- ATTENDANCE** Frank Alan Wolfe - Borough Solicitor, Greg Dinko - Zoning Board Member, Mitch Fryer, Peggy Bennett, Michael Johnston - MCTA, Dan Cornman - Councilman Manorville Borough, Howard Jack - Manor Twp. Supervisor and Fred Dzugan - BCO were also present
- ANNOUNCEMENTS** Council President Lux read a list of prepared announcements. (Attachment)
- CITIZEN COMMENTS**  
No comments at this time.
- MCTA**  
Michael Johnston explained the contract between Ford City Borough and MCTA expired 6-30-08. MCTA has provided transportation service since 7-01-08. Their board would like to resolve the situation.
- Council President Lux stated East Franklin Township should be asked to “Kick In”.
- Johnston stated the riders receive a service. They are working to resolve issue with East Franklin.
- Shaffer asked if MCTA is requesting a new agreement? Shaffer stated other municipality should contribute too..
- Michael Johnston explained the fare box revenue is not recognized as local match it is considered State Act 44 money.
- Shaffer makes a motion to not renew contract.
- Michael Johnston stated Ford City Borough was one of the original founders. Ford City is part of the charter and may withdraw from authority.
- Dan Cornman - Manorville Borough asked Mr. Johnston what were the recommendations made by the Secretary of Transportation?
- There was no response to this question.
- Mayor Mantini stated some people use buses lets begin a dialog?

Vice-Pres. Ron Dillard stated there are still some unknowns will all municipalities, lets sit down with everyone, have input from everyone and have Mike [Johnston} coordinate the meeting.

Council President John Lux reads a letter from MCTA dated 9-24-08.  
(Attachment)

Howard Jack stated the cost to Manor Township is over \$7000.

Dillard stated each municipality must contribute equally. A meeting needs to happen to get answers about all municipalities. Dillard asked when did East Franklin drop out?

Dillard & Jack question if high rises come under HUD? There was no response.

Shaffer asked does Cadogan Twp. have service? Johnston answered no.

Shaffer stated all elected officials should attend this meeting.

Jack asked who will show up?

Shaffer stated all municipalities should be invited.

#### FORD STREET

##### MAINTENANCE - DE-ICING

Councilman Shaffer questions if council needs to bid de-icing material for Ford Street? Dillard explained he spoke with Pete Milito about what to use on Ford Street.

##### OLD STREET LIGHTS

Councilman Dillard questions where the brackets and poles are that were removed from Ford Street. Shaffer answered they are now stored at the Allegheny Power Briar Hill area. Dillard stated the Borough should keep the brackets and we should ask Allegheny Power to remove brackets.

##### GARBAGE CANS

Shaffer stated garbage cans are needed for Ford Street and asked permission to purchase four (4).

Dillard made a motion to authorize purchase of 4 garbage(tobacco) cans.  
Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

#### BOROUGH GARAGE

Dillard made a motion to authorize Senate Engineering to prepare a written report and a remediation schedule for the Borough Garage.  
Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

#### THIRD PARTY INSPECTOR

Shaffer made a motion to advertise for third party certified codes review vendors and to submit proposals with UCC services that they provide and prices for each.

Minutes

10-20-2008

Special Meeting

approved 1-5-2009

Fred Dzugan stated the Borough would be giving up 100% of the revenue generated from Building Permits.

Shaffer stated Dzugan will still issue permits.

Shaffer stated the Borough is not in compliance now with the rules for plan review.

Dzugan suggested using Dept. Of Labor & Industry or just one agency for all plan reviews.

Frank Wolfe explained there is administration, plan review and inspections that must be completed for every project.

Dzugan explained when once a permit is issued it includes the permit and inspections.

Wolfe explained there would not be any duplication of fees.

Ron Dillard explained 100% of money comes back to borough.

Wolfe explained the Borough fees could be adjusted.

Dillard stated he does not want any additional cost added to the property owner.

Shaffer explained the plan reviewer charges the property owner directly.

Mayor Mantini asked how do other municipalities handle this situation?  
Wolfe answered they may use as many plan review agencies as necessary.

Shaffer read his motion a second time. Motion to advertise for third party certified codes review vendors and to submit proposals with UCC services that they provide and prices for each.

Dzugan stated he is preparing material to be distributed to customers coming to the Borough Office regarding building permits.

Shaffer stated they should first speak with Building Codes Officer Dzugan.

Dillard stated larger "Zoned Community Signs" should be posted .

Motion seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

LABOR & INDUSTRY Shaffer explains an e-mail received from Jon Balson.- Dept. L & I (Attachment)

A variance can be granted by Board of Appeals.

Shaffer made a motion to forward e-mail to Board of Appeals and ask them to reconsider their ruling on the variance request.

Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

#### ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS FOR BUSINESS DISTRICT

Minutes  
10-20-2008

Dillard explains the Zoning Tables include permitted uses, conditional uses and accessory uses. Previously changes were made to these tables and were never adopted.

Special Meeting  
approved 1-5-2009

Dillard would like Solicitor Wolfe, Planning and Zoning to review these tables.

Dzugan suggested amending the set backs too.

Dillard stated the height should be 45'

ATTENDANCE

Dzukan left the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

FORD CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Shaffer made a motion to grant permission to Ford City High School, to use the Heritage & Technology Park parking lot, to park vehicles, as an overflow for cars and buses, attending their district conference on Wednesday, October 22, 2008. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0 (Attachment)

ELJER

Shaffer explains the roof on the building owned by Denny Tiche [ 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and O'Connor Street] has a roof problem. If the Eljer Building is torn down the Borough must rebuild the Tiche common wall. The size is approximately 40' by how ever high? Shaffer believes scrapping the building will pay for whatever cost is to tear down.

A discussion took place about what Tiche wants the wall to rebuilt with? Frank Wolfe stated he is only entitled to the wall being water tight.

Shaffer made a motion to authorize Council President Lux, upon Solicitor Wolfe preparing a satisfactory agreement with Mr. Tiche, to sign the Sales Agreement in the amount of \$1 with Eljer for building #228 and other properties. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0 (Attachment)

Greg Dinko agreed to contact Mr. Tiche about the wall.

\$150 ORDINANCE

Shaffer made a motion to advertise an ordinance imposing an \$150.00 Business Privilege Tax. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0 (Attachment)

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Shaffer made a motion to appoint William F. Braun and Randall L. Morris to Ford City Board of Appeals. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

Shaffer made a motion to appoint Mr. Dougherty to Ford City Development Corporation. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

John Lux asked why is Borough still appointing.?

Greg Dinko [member of the Ford City Development Corp.] explained the bylaws for the Development Corp. are complete.

Mayor Mantini asked if the new corporation providing information to Borough?

Dinko stated they want an open dialog with the Borough and will submit a report each month.

LERTA  
Minutes

10-20-2008

Special Meeting

approved 1-5-2009

Frank Wolfe explained there is already a commercial LERTA in certain areas of the Borough. This LERTA will amend the already existing commercial area and began a residential LERTA.

Shaffer made a motion to forward letters to Armstrong County and Armstrong School District requesting residential and commercial LERTA for the entire Borough limits. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

#### HOLIDAY DECORATION - ELECTRIC

Dillard made a motion to have the street decoration lighting bill connected in the Borough's name and to authorize Councilman Shaffer & Solicitor Wolfe to facilitate an agreement between the Ford City Business & Professional Association for use of the electric service during Special Events.  
Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

#### PCC 2008-2009

Shaffer made a motion to ratify requesting Armstrong County Planning Commission to administer the PCC Grant for the year 2008 to 2009.  
Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

#### BILLS TO APPROVE

Dillard made a motion to pay White's Paving the amount of \$6,000.00.  
Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Shaffer made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:59 p.m. to discuss personnel. p.m. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous 4-0

Klukan made a motion to exit executive session and re-enter regular session at 8:46 p.m. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. Unanimous 4-0

#### HRA ADMINISTRATION

Shaffer made a motion to accept the Highmark Plan HDHP 100/80 Deductible \$2600/\$5200 beginning January 1, 2009.  
Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0 (Attachment)

The Borough Secretary is instructed to send memos to all employees covered by this insurance notifying them of a meeting to be held on 10-30-2008 @ 1:00 p.m. to explained the insurance coverage.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS

Greg Dinko requested permission to dig a hole to do training at the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Playground area [along the hillside] to hold a trench training seminar. It will take approximately 16 hours , 8 lecture and 8 on site outside.

Mayor Mantini asked if this could be done in conjunction with a recruiting program?

Ray Klukan asked if the Borough employees should attend too?

Dinko explained Pennsylvania is a non-OSHA state and anything over 5' deep a trench box should be used as protection from a cave in.

Dillard stated is should be mandatory for the street and water employees to attend.

#### SOLICITOR COMMENTS

Minutes

Solicitor Wolfe had no comments at this time. .

#### MAYOR COMMENTS

Special Meeting

Mayor Mantini thanked council for their work on the Health Insurance savings.

approved 1-5-2009  
COUNCIL COMMENTS

Dillard had no comments at this time.

Klukan explained the door at the Foundry does not close and children are playing inside the building making it a safety hazard. Shaffer stated the door will be repaired tomorrow.

Dillard stated he was approached by four (4) youngsters. They asked where can they ride skateboards? Dillard would like to do a study to provide area for them to ride. Dillard asked if there would be any liability for a designated skate area?, Dillard suggested asking Parks & Rec to do a study.

Shaffer stated the building is a mess inside and needs cleaned up. The light posts started being installed today. We should see lighting by Friday. Shaffer thanked Dillard and stated he appreciated everyone's work.

Lux thanked everyone and we are going in the right direction.

ADJOURNMENT

Klukan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. Unanimous. 4-0

Council President  
John M. Lux

Borough Secretary  
Lisa A. Bittner

Minutes  
10-20-2008  
Special Meeting  
approved 1-5-2009