

MINUTES
FORD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
LOCATION – FORD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
OCTOBER 6, 2008

- CALL TO ORDER** Council President John Lux called the meeting to order at 6:05 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.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Council President Lux lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ROLL CALL** Ray Klukan, Ron Dillard, John Lux, Tim Malec, Tom Shaffer and Mayor Mantini were present. Terry Tokarek was absent.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS** Council President Lux read a list of prepared announcements.
- ATTENDANCE** Solicitor Frank Wolfe, David Nichols - Nichols & Slagle Engineering, Chris Zionkowski, Tom Ondrusek, Bill Oleksak, Craig Costanzo and Fred Dzugan were also present.
- MINUTES** Shaffer made a motion to accept the minutes from 5-5-2008. Seconded by Klukan.
- Malec questions what is included in “lengthy discussion” about the garbage collector labor rates. Solicitor Wolfe stated it is councils decision what amount to include in the minutes.
- Shaffer made a motion to table the minutes of 5-5-2008 until they are redone. Seconded by Malec. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous
- Shaffer made a motion to accept the minutes from 4-7-2008. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous
- Malec made a motion to accept the minutes from 6-16-2008. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous
- Malec made a motion to accept the minutes from 8-4-2008. Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous
- Shaffer made a motion to accept the minutes from 8-15-2008. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 4-0 Malec abstains, he was at work.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

MINUTES None.

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Approved 12-8-08

POLICE REPORT Mayor Mantini read the Police Report for September 2008. (Attachment)

Malec made a motion to accept the Police Report for September 2008.
Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dillard read the water report and talked about the \$400 million referendum on the ballot for the next election. (Attachment)

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

Shaffer read the Treasurer's Report for August 2008 and discussed the bill list total. (Attachment)

Shaffer invited all council members to a Construction Meeting to be held on Friday, October 10 at 10 a.m.

Shaffer made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for August 2008 and pay the bills in the amount of \$139,085.50 as money becomes available as approved by the Finance Committee.

Malec questions October Library \$1833.33, Rileighs invoices and Holbein invoices in the amount of \$12,905.50. Malec asked why an outside contractor is doing the water repairs?

Dillard answered they completed several water breaks, not enough manpower, lack of proper equipment and machinery is the reasoning..

Malec questions if some of the jobs could have been done in house?

Dillard states no due to limited personnel.

Shaffer explained that the tree removal at Fort Run was an emergency.

Motion is seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

Shaffer made a motion to remit the amount of \$50,981.27 received as the State Pension Allocation to First Commonwealth Trust for the Police Pension Plan and to remit the balance due to Police Pension Plan \$11,391.73 by 12-31-2008. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

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ENGINEER REPORT

Malec made a motion to accept the Engineer Report for October 2008. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous (Attachment)

Dillard asks the Borough Engineer about the possibility of placing a canopy cover over the water treatment plant. Nichols answered he needs direction from council. Nichols recommended a permanent solution and pursue funding from Pennvest to complete the project.

A short discussion took place concerning the sediment removal.

Nichols stated he will formalize a plan for what is needed.

Dillard stated the Borough should go with permanent structure and let DEP know the Borough is working on a plan.

OLD BUSINESS

RIGHT OF WAY - COSTANZO

Malec questions if there should be dates on the request and if it should include a designated crossing area. Dillard asks about a staging area site.

Craig Costanzo answers on the hill there is an "old trolley line." Dillard expects damage to trail and requests Craig's insurance and bond information.

Solicitor Wolfe will contact Costanzo.

Shaffer made a motion to grant the right of way pending completion of signed agreement. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

CHEMICAL BIDS -- OPENING

Shaffer made a motion to table the Chemical Bids for review and recommendation by the Borough Engineer David Nichols of N.S.E.I.

Dillard asks the Borough Engineer to make sure there are no hidden clauses and to compare them to last year's bids.

Seconded by Malec. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

BULK DE-ICING SALT BID -- OPENING

Malec made a motion to accept the bid from Morton Salt for the Bulk De-Icing Salt for the year 2009. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

SMALL PROJECTS LOAN

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Shaffer made a motion to transfer the balance of \$75,000 to the General Fund for the purpose of paying Ford Street Project invoices. Shaffer explains Liquid Fuels. Dillard asks if monies will be separated out into each fund? Shaffer responds yes. Dillard requests everything be broken

down and gone over with a fine tooth comb. Seconded by Klukan.
Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

FORD STREET RAILING

Shaffer explains railing height changes and exact measurements. Shaffer stated a quote from Specialty Building Systems in the amount of \$5556.72. The railing will be 42" high. Shaffer wants to explore the possibility of the Borough employees installing the railing.

Shaffer made a motion to purchase the railing from Specialty Building Systems pending the amount of freight charges to be added and removing any taxes. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

WHITE PAVING

Shaffer made a motion to ratify White's Paving accepting the quote dated 10/1/2008 in the amount of \$3,400.00 for repairs necessary to 4th Avenue as a result of the Ford Street Project.

Dillard went on the record as stating that the area was damaged by construction when S & T Bank was torn down and a new building was constructed. What will business kick in to offset bill?

Dillard states that any damage done to Borough street must get some buy in from the business owner. The Borough should go back and recoup cost.

Shaffer states that Borough is responsible for the curb. Malec states we can break this cost out.

Mayor Mantini states that the street was deplorable when the bank was torn down and this could get Borough into a lawsuit.

Solicitor Wolfe asks if the work is already done? Council responded yes.

Shaffer made a motion to ratify White's Paving accepting the quote dated 10/1/2008 in the amount of \$3,400.00 for repairs necessary to 4th Avenue. Seconded by Malec. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

Dillard made a motion that damage by construction or repair be the responsibility of the property owner and the restitution be provided by this owner for the damages done to 4th Avenue during construction.

A discussion took place about the events that happened three (3) years ago.

Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

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BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE

Councilman Dillard explained the new ordinance which was prepared by Solicitor Wolfe. Questions should be forwarded to the Borough Office.

Shaffer stated this is not a new tax, just the amount was changed to \$150. Businesses will no longer have to show their tax returns.

Council must determine who will collect this tax in the future.

Dillard states that this ordinance will produce better equalization across the board.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD OF APPEALS

Shaffer made a motion to accept the resignation of Owen F. Slagle from the Board of Appeals. Seconded by Klukan.

Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

GAZEBO REQUEST Dillard made a motion to grant permission to Ron Rodkey to reserve the Gazebo on Friday, October 17, 2008 from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. and inform the Police Dept. and Street Dept. Seconded by Shaffer.

Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

BOARD OF HEALTH

Shaffer made a motion to advertise an ordinance increasing the inspection fees. Seconded by Klukan. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

PCC GRANT 2009-2010

Malec made a motion to accept the proposal of Donna Kornasiewicz to prepare the PCC Grant for 2009-2010 at a cost of \$500.00. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

HERITAGE DAYS Malec made a motion to approve the use of the Borough Park for Heritage Days for Tuesday, June 30 2009 thru Sunday, July 5, 2009 and they begin using the park on Friday, June 26, 2009 to allow vendors to set up.

Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Shaffer made a motion to approve the request of the Business Professional Association to hold the annual Light Up Night on Saturday, November 22, 2008. Seconded by Malec. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

EMERGENCY OCCUPANCY PERMIT

Dillard made a motion to issue emergency occupancy permits to the businesses displaced by the fire on 4th & 9th. Seconded by Shaffer.

Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

GUS FREROTTE SIGN

Item not discussed at meeting.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION

Dillard motion to ratify the Star Christmas Decorations being used at the Ford City Football Field. Seconded by Shaffer.

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Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

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SPECIAL MEETING Dillard made a motion to advertise a Special Meeting to be held on Monday, October 20, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the Ford Street Project. Seconded by Klukan.. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - OPEN COMMENTS AT THIS TIME

Al Garay- Community Service

Concerned about safety equipment provided to workers. Willing to donate gloves and glasses to Park & Recreation Committee. Dillard commented that the Community Service Coordinator was spoken to about using proper safety equipment and that the Borough Foreman has purchased safety equipment and was instructed to purchase anything additional that was necessary..

Al Garay - Boulder Park

Concerned about Vandalism, Littering, and Metal Detectors

Asked if Police Patrols can be stepped up? Also stated he would like the debris located in the corner cleaned up. Garay also expressed concern about people using metal detectors and digging up the ground at Boulder Park.

Al Garay - Compliance Officer

Questions position being only part time and asked why not hire codes officer full time?

Dillard comments that the officer will be hired to fill gaps because the current codes officer only works 20 hours/week. This position is needed to enhance the current position.

Al Garay - Weight Limit on Ford Street but not on 5th Avenue?

Need to protect Ford City from the coal trucks vibrations and speeding. Garay submitted a coal sample and picture for council.

Shaffer told him that 99% of the trucks were not speeding. Mayor Mantini told him to call the coal company the names appear on the side of the trucks.

Tom Ondrusek - Ford City Hose Company

Would like council to grant permission to the fire department to sell alcohol at the Ford Street Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Saturday, October 18, 2008. An area would be a closed off (roped off and tented) with security and they would be responsible for clean up. The area would be located on 3rd Avenue at 9th to 10th Street (closing the alley too).

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Mayor Mantini questions the lateness of the approach to council? Just found out. Mayor also asks if they will provide a proof of permit? Yes Shaffer questions the what time will the tent be used and Ondrusek responds 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Ondrusek informs council that metal detectors were approved by past councils if the ground was put back.

Shaffer made a motion to grant Ford City Hose Company permission to sell beer on Saturday, October 18, 2008 from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with the proper permits, fence, security, and one day special occasion insurance. Seconded by Dillard. Motion Carried. 3-0 Unanimous

Klukan and Lux abstain from vote due to positions in fire department.

John Lux discusses the Mid Count Transit Authority letter and scheduling of meeting. Shaffer asks if they have approached East Franklin for funding? Dillard asked if all of council would be allowed to attend this meeting? Solicitor Wolfe would prefer not all council attend.

A Special Meeting of Borough Council will be scheduled for Monday, October 20, 2008.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Shaffer withdraws motion to adjourn the meeting to enter an Executive Session at the Borough Building to discuss personnel.

SOLICITOR COMMENTS

Solicitor Wolfe stated it has taken eight year and finally Ford Street is completed in eight months. They did a good job and it looks nice. Also, Wolfe commended the Fire Dept. for a good job during the fire on 10-3-2008.

MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Mantini thanked the Ford City Fire Department and all individuals who helped including the businesses, Fire Chief Wojcik, Ray Klukan, and John Lux. Condolences to people who lost in fire. The Ford City Eagles are accepting donations for victims of the fire. Mayor Mantini thanked Jennifer Bellas, Tony Baiano Construction, and Tom Shaffer for their efforts in completing Ford Street. Also, Mantini thanked Officers Peffer and Zalaponi - military service.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

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Klukan thanked Tom Ondrusek, Chris Zionkowski and Dr. Bill for their work in organizing the Fire Dept. Open House and the Fire Department is still recruiting.

REGULAR COUNCIL Dillard had no comments at this time.

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Malec stated the Ford Street Project has been under way since 2000. Malec thanked the Gas Company, the DEP and all the people it took to do Ford Street.

Shaffer expressed his appreciation for the Ford City Fire Dept.

Lux thanked all the Fire Departments from four (4) different counties that responded to the fire on 10-3-2008. Lux also thanked the businesses.

ADJOURNMENT

Klukan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Seconded by Shaffer. Motion Carried. 5-0 Unanimous

John Lux
Council President

Lisa Bittner
Borough Secretary

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