

MINUTES
FORD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
Location: Latin American Club
March 14, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Fenyes called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and advised the audience that the meeting for Monday, March 14, 2016 will be audio taped by Ford City Borough and Lisa Bittner. It will be audio & videotaped by Family Life Media. Vicki Schaub, Sarah Hepfl – Leader-Times, Jonathan Weaver - Kittanning Paper and WTYM are also audio taping.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Fenyes lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Kathy Bartuccio, Beth Bowser, Carol Fenyes, Marc Mantini, Ray Klukan and Tyson Klukan were present. Mayor Cogley was absent because of work obligations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council President Fenyes stated, at 6:32 p.m., there will be an Executive Session. Meeting reconvened at 6:40 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Solicitor Vigilante, Borough Manager Eden Ratliff, Borough Secretary Lisa Bittner, Tom Ondrusek, Jeff Stennett, Dean Hutchison, Amy Moody, Gary Stivason, Jerry Miklos, Bill Oleksak, Jamie Thompson, Richard Wakefield, Vicki Schaub, JoAnn Scopel, Sandy Hutchison, Jonathan Weaver – Kittanning Paper, David Croyle – Family Life Media, Interim Police Chief Jonathan Freel, Officer Amy Dice, JoAnna Mantini, Sarah Hepfl – Leader Times were also present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an Executive Session held on Tuesday, February 15, 2016 at 5:20 p.m. to discuss matters of personnel.

There was an Executive Session held on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. to discuss matters of personnel.

There was an Executive Session held on Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 5:37 p.m. to discuss matters of personnel.

There was an Executive Session held on Monday, March 14 2016 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss matters of personnel.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

At this time, citizens may address Council on any issue appearing on today's agenda. Only residents and taxpayers of the Borough of Ford City will be permitted to address Council. Comments on non-agenda items will be taken at the end of tonight's meeting. Speakers will be permitted to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before Council who may speak for a maximum of 6 minutes. Citizens are asked to clearly state and spell their

name and provide their address for the record and keep comments brief and to the point.

Vicki Schaub asked if everyone listened to the minutes? Council President answered no. Schaub asked council to reconsider the trash schedule. Schaub had previously suggested scheduling a week in the fall for trash removal. Schaub asked what needs done to the street sweeper? Schaub stated there were no bills from the Solicitor on the bill list. Also, there were no bills last month from the Solicitor. Solicitor Vigilante explained he is behind in his billing. T. Klukan explained the hopper needs repaired. [Repair estimate is agenda item #8.] Schaub asked if Penndot has been contacted about sweeping 5th Avenue. Borough Manager stated Penndot has been contacted. Penndot is not admitting they swept 5th Avenue last year. Penndot has no plans to sweep this year.

Jerry Miklos asked who was the subject of discussion in the three executive sessions listed on the agenda, who attended each executive session, why was the time reduced from 5 minutes to 3 minutes to allow for citizen comments, why do you have restrictions on public comments, how can elected officials approve minutes without reading them or listening to the audio and comparing them to the written copy, why are the Treasurer's Reports behind, is council considering a fraud audit, if it is not being considered why not, why is this council advertising for part time officer and not taking any action, the previous council provided applications for part-time officers, why are you not taking any action [hiring part-time officers], how many candidates were there, who was selected for interviews, who was in attendance at the interviews, did everyone attend all interviews, Miklos thanked Interim Police Chief Freel for his service at no additional pay. Council President stated the three (3) minute time limit has been reached. Fenyas explained the time was reduced to three (3) minutes because Roberts Rules suggests that is the time allotted and then there is a two (2) minute rebuttal. It would have to be voted on to allow additional time. The executive session were for personnel. The minutes have been read by members of Council. There was a question about the December 2015 Treasurer's Report and it has been corrected. A fraud audit will not be done. The advertisement for part-time police is being done because we don't have the applications from prior council. The two (2) minute rebuttal period has been reached. Fenyas explained every application that was received from prior council for the police chief position was reviewed. We selected some for interview. The interview process was held and everyone from council was there for most of the day. There were a couple of exceptions for attendance at a fire call [R. Klukan & T. Klukan] and attendance at a funeral viewing [Mantini]. R. Klukan added that this council wanted to fill the position of police chief before hiring additional part-time officers.

REPORTS

MINUTES

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the November 24, 2014 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the February 16, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed. Bartuccio stated she did not think enough people read the minutes.

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the June 8, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

Bowser made a motion to approve draft #1 of the July 13, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

Bowser made a motion to approve draft #1 of the August 10, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the September 28, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the November 9, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed. Bartuccio stated there were mistakes in some of the minutes. Fenyes asked if Bartuccio forwarded them to the Secretary? Bartuccio answered no, she was going to put all the mistakes together. Fenyes states you are just telling us now? Fenyes asked do you know which ones they were? Bartuccio answers she is just writing them down. Bartuccio stated she will get back to her [secretary].

Mantini made a motion to approve draft #1 of the November 23, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by T. Klukan. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

Bowser made a motion to approve draft #1 of the December 3, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by T. Klukan. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the December 14, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the December 30, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Bowser. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the February 8, 2016 meeting minutes. Seconded by Bowser. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

Bowser made a motion to approve draft #1 of the February 15, 2016 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

T. Klukan made a motion to approve draft #1 of the February 22, 2016 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Mantini made a motion to accept the Pennsylvania State Police Report for January 2016. Seconded by Bowser. Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0 (Attachment)

Mantini made a motion to accept the Police Reports [FCPD & PSP] for February 2016. Seconded by Bartuccio. Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0 (Attachments)

WATER COMMITTEE

Bowser made a motion to accept the Water Reports from CWM Environmental for February 2016 all samples passed the PA Department of Environmental Protection standards for safe drinking water for total coliform and E. Coli. Seconded by Bartuccio. Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0 (Attachments)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bartuccio made a motion to approve the bill list in the amount of \$47,107.70 as recommended by the Finance Committee. Seconded by T. Klukan. Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0 (Attachment)

Bowser made a motion to ratify the regularly recurring insurance and utilities bill list in the amount of \$16,577.18 as approved by the Borough Manager. Seconded by Bartuccio. (Attachment)
Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0

Bowser made a motion to ratify the regularly recurring insurance and utilities bill list in the amount of \$13,045.07 as approved by the Borough Manager. Seconded by Bartuccio. (Attachment)
Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0

Bartuccio made a motion to ratify the regularly recurring insurance and utilities bill list in the amount of \$18,266.73 as approved by the Borough Manager. Seconded by Bowser. (Attachment)
Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0

Bartuccio made a motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report for December 2015. Seconded by R. Klukan.
Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0 (Attachment)

Bartuccio made motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report for January 2016. Seconded by Bowser.
Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0 (Attachment)

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT

Bowser made a motion to approve the Borough Manager Report for February 2016. Seconded by T. Klukan.
Motion Carried. Unanimous 6-0 (Attachment)

OLD BUSINESS

2016 TAX ORDINANCE

Bowser made a motion to authorize the Council President to sign the advertised 2016 Tax Ordinance with a tax rate of 17.40 mils as recommended by the Finance Committee and reviewed by Solicitor Vigilante.
Seconded by T. Klukan. Motion Carried. 5-1 Bartuccio is opposed. (Attachment)

NEW BUSINESS

TRASH DAYS-2016

T. Klukan made a motion to hold and advertise the trash days to take place from June 13th to June 17th for the 1st Ward and June 20th to June 24th for the 2nd Ward. Seconded by R. Klukan.
Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

STREET SWEEPING-2016

R. Klukan made a motion to authorize street sweeping to begin on Thursday April 7th at 11:00pm and to advertise the attached schedule. Seconded by Bowser. (Attachment)
Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

PLAYGROUND SUPERVISORS

Bowser made a motion to advertise for interested applicants to apply for the position of Playground Supervisor. Seconded by Bartuccio. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

STREET SWEEPER

Bowser made a motion to authorize the expenditure of \$6,071.00 to Golden Equipment for repairs to the street sweeper. Seconded by T. Klukan. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous (Attached)

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Bartuccio made a motion to appoint Carole Bowser to the Parks and Recreation Committee with a term ending December 31, 2021. Seconded by Bowser [Beth Bowser states this is no relation]
Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

ARMSTRONG COUNTY BOROUGH ASSOCIATION MEETING

T. Klukan made a motion to authorize Council, Mayor, Borough Manager, and Borough Secretary to attend the Armstrong County Association of Boroughs meeting held on March 31, 2016. Seconded by Bowser.
Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS

Bowser made a motion to advertise for applications for the position of part time police officers. Seconded by Bartuccio. Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

BOROUGH MANAGER

R. Klukan made a motion to approve a retroactive pay increase of 10%, to Eden Ratliff Borough Manager, effective October 13, 2015, and further to eliminate the current position of Borough Manager as of the end of the day April 1, 2016. Seconded by Mantini. Motion Carried. 4-2

Roll Call vote was also taken.

Bowser		Nay
Fenyas	Yea	
R. Klukan	Yea	
T. Klukan	Yea	
Mantini	Yea	
Bartuccio		Nay
VOTE TALLY	4	2

POLICE CHIEF

Bowser made a motion to approve hiring a Police Chief, Roger Wright, effective March 28, 2016, on the following terms: \$40,000.00 annual salary; 2 weeks paid vacation per year; 6 days PTO per year; 3 days bereavement leave; \$500.00 uniform allowance; paid holidays of New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day; salary review to be conducted after 6 months and annually thereafter on anniversary date of hire. Seconded by Bartuccio.
Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING

Monday March 28, 2016 at 6:30pm in the Latin American Club.

3-14-2016 - Minutes
Approved 4-11-2016
NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Monday April 11, 2016 at 6:30pm in the Latin American Club.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

At this time, citizens may address Council on any issue. Only residents and taxpayers of the Borough of Ford City will be permitted to address Council. Speakers will be permitted to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before Council who may speak for a maximum of 6 minutes. Citizens are asked to clearly state and spell their name and provide their address for the record and keep comments brief and to the point.

Lou Vergari posed a question to the Borough Manager. Which Penndot office was contacted, Kittanning or Indiana? Borough Manager explained one (1) of the Secretaries has made contact with Penndot. Penndot denied ever sweeping 5th Avenue. Penndot will continue to be contacted about sweeping 5th Avenue.

JoAnn Scopel asked if she would be able to come to the office to review the minutes that have been approved? Council President answered yes.

Jerry Miklos asked with regard to the Borough Manager, did anyone consult DCED or the new consulting firm [Novak] to find out if there is any impact on the Early Intervention Program? If not, why? How will the functions of the Borough Manager be handled? Did anyone look for grants for the new police car? Should money continue to be spent on the repair of the street sweeper? Is grant money available for the street sweeper? Why are citizens required to submit a RTK form for meeting minutes? T. Klukan explained Council is going in a different direction, the EIP will be looked at and it is a tough decision to let someone go. T. Klukan believes an appropriate manager can be found. Council President explained grants will be looked at for the additional equipment that is needed. Fenyes explained we were told the street sweeper would last an additional two (2) years. Miklos stated his question was were grants for a police car looked for before the purchase was made. Council President answered no. Bowser added the existing police fleet was inadequate. Bowser explained looking for a grant was not possible, there was no time. Bowser stated we, council, had to work to make sure our citizens were safe and secure, there was no time to delay. [The 2007 Police Car was out of service and too costly for repair. The 2010 Crown Victoria [blue in color] is the only operable police vehicle at the time of the purchase of the new 2015 Ford Taurus.]

ADJOURNMENT

Council President called for a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Ray Klukan spoke loudly to Citizen Vicki Schaub. Yelling ensued. Comments were made by R. Klukan, T. Klukan, Jerry Miklos, Jamie Thompson and V. Schaub.

Mantini made a motion at 7:29 p.m. to adjourn. Seconded by R. Klukan.
Motion Carried. 6-0 Unanimous

Carol Fenyes
Council President

Lisa Bittner
Borough Secretary