

MINUTES
Ford City Borough Council
Regular Meeting
Location: Ford City Public Library
May 11, 2015

CALL TO ORDER Council President Bartuccio called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and advised the audience that the meeting for Monday, May 11, 2015 will be audio taped by Ford City Borough.

Is anyone audio or video taping the meeting? Jonathan Weaver – Kittanning Paper and Julie Martin – Leader-Times.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Bartuccio led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL Gene Banks, Kathy Bartuccio, Jerry Miklos, Vicki Schaub and Mayor Mantini were present. Josh Abernathy and Scott Gaiser were absent.

ATTENDANCE Solicitor Anthony Vigilante, Borough Manager Eden Ratliff, Borough Secretary Lisa Bittner

EXECUTIVE SESSION Bartuccio explained Council held an Executive Session on Monday May 11, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss matters of personnel.

MINUTES

Schaub made a motion to approve Draft #3 of the October 13, 2014 minutes which is the final draft. Seconded by Banks. Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Schaub made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for March 2015. Seconded by Miklos. (Attachment)

Schaub states this information is available to Council ahead of time. Schaub pre-reads everything. If it seems she makes first or second fast is because she has already reviewed it.

Banks asked about the \$450 entry made to the CU Ladies Aux. and \$49 made to Vicki Schaub. Could someone explain these?

Schaub explained the CU Club gave a \$450 donation for the Economic Committee to sponsor a Business Luncheon. The ad-hoc committee needed maps of Borough Properties and those cost \$49 and the Borough is in possession of the maps.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

Miklos made a motion to ratify payment in the amount of \$17,410.93 [dated 5-6-2015] as approved by the Borough Manager. Seconded by Schaub. Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous (Attachment)

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Schaub made a motion to ratify the payment of the second bill list in the amount of \$15,377.49 [dated 4-21-2015] as approved by the Borough Manager. Seconded by Miklos. (Attachment)
Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

Schaub made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$38,829.15 as approved by the Finance Committee. Seconded by Banks. (Attachment)

Miklos asked about the \$4900 from Gibson-Thomas. Borough Manager explains without having the invoice in front of him it is for the inspection services for the Milling & Paving 2014 Project.

Miklos asked if everyone felt it was a reasonable fee for that service?

Borough Manager states he does not know the specifics of the invoice. He would have to look at the invoice.

Schaub stated during the bill review process, if she did not feel it was reasonable she would not have signed off on it.

Borough Manager explains two members of the Finance Committee review the bills in order for it to be on the bill list.

Miklos asked Tyson [Klukan – Project Manager for the 2014 Paving Project] if he looked at

Klukan explains he did not. This is the first he heard of it. It was never communicated to me when the invoices came in from Gibson-Thomas.

Miklos stated he thought Klukan looked at that stuff. I thought one time we had discussed costs and you had said they were reasonable.

Klukan stated last year, nothing was communicated to me. Last year I had asked Eden [Borough Manager] if there was a rough number, and he never said.

Miklos said he thought Klukan said it was reasonable, we talked about costs.

Klukan explained we budgeted for it to come out of Liquid Fuels. There was money in Liquid Fuels.

Borough Manager questions if Klukan is meaning the cost of the project was reasonable, not necessarily what the invoice from Gibson-Thomas?

Klukan stated they are the actual engineers, I would say it is reasonable. They were the engineer for the project.

Miklos stated to Klukan, so you are saying it was reasonable?

Klukan answers correct.

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLS FOR A VOTE.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT

Borough Manager reads his report. (Attachment)

Schaub asks why isn't a copy of this report included in the meeting material?

Borough Manager will provide copies.

Schaub makes a motion to approve the Borough Manager report for April 2015. Seconded by Miklos.
Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

WATER REPORT

Banks states all [samples] have passed and are available at the Borough Office. (Attachment)

Banks made a motion to approve the Water Report for April 2015. Seconded by Schaub.
Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

POLICE REPORT

Banks made a motion to approve the Police Report for April 2015. Seconded by Schaub. (Attachments)

Borough Manager asks if the 1998 car [Crown Victoria actual year is 1988] was approved for repair?

Council President answered, yes it was.

Schaub stated it should be in the minutes.

Banks stated there was talk about a new police car, and asks where does a new car stand?

Miklos explained we [Police Committee] went to a great deal of effort to find the lowest possible cost for a police car and we found that to be a Chevy. The Police Dept. wanted a Ford. At this point it has been pretty much dropped.

Mayor explained over the years most Police Depts. do use Fords. At the time of the last police car, a 2007, most departments were using the Ford interceptor. Over the years the Fords seem to hold up much, much better.

Banks asked if you had a chance to get a new one, Chevy or Buick, wouldn't you push to get a new one and that piece of junk out there not even get fixed? Junk it, trade it in. What's the difference if it's a Chevy or a Ford?

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLS FOR A VOTE.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Miklos explains he recently spoke with Don Mains. Mr. Mains has agreed to assist our Council Economic Development Committee in an advisory capacity. Mains has an extensive resume and a very impressive work history. Served as U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development. He raised \$5,000,000,000 in total, and \$8,000,000 of that was brought into Ford City. He was instrumental

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in bringing that [8M] to Ford City, years ago when Council initiated an Economic Development effort. Unfortunately that effort was derailed. Our Council Economic Development Committee is hoping to get that effort back on track. Mains was asked by the Governor of Louisiana and the Mayor of New Orleans to help with their economic redevelopment efforts following hurricane Katrina. We are very happy that Mr. Mains is willing to volunteer some of his time in our Economic effort.

Banks added the Economic Committee, which I'm a member of, is starting a Farmer's Market, which will begin May 28 at the Clock Tower. Banks asked Julie [Leader-Times reporter] to print the correct information.

Borough Manager added the Farmer's Market will be held weekly on Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. until dusk. The location will be from 9th Street to the Municipal [parking] lot.

Miklos thanked Councilman Abernathy for coming up with this idea.

CITIZENS COMMENTS - AT THIS TIME AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Stacy Klukan asked about the bids she submitted for trimming trees.

Borough Manager explained this is not an agenda item and may be discussed at the end of the meeting when Council accepts Citizen Comments on non-agenda items.

Tyson Klukan stated the wage, \$14.26, for the part-time janitor seems kind of high, unless it is a union rate.

Borough Manager explained this pay rate is regulated by a Steelworkers Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Miklos added which we are currently in negotiations with.

Klukan asked if the Pennvest Loan is approved when will the construction start?

Miklos answered possibly this Summer.

Borough Manager added as it stands now project must be completed by August 2016.

Klukan asked if the time line would be communicated to the Citizens?

Borough Manager added the Citizens will be updated with everything that is going on.

Klukan asked if the Costars Program was looked at for the dump truck, possible something with a smaller dump bed?

Borough Manager we are looking at all options. We're requesting bids and more likely than not go with a used truck, Costars is generally a little bit more difficult in that respect. We are looking for the best price.

Klukan started to ask a question about the EDA.

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Borough Manager explained this is not an agenda item and may be discussed at the end of the meeting when Council accepts Citizen Comments on non-agenda items.

SUMMERFEST FIREWORKS

Schaub made a motion to authorize the Council President to sign the permit with Glory on High allowing them to shoot fireworks from the Brown Field on 2nd Avenue on July 5, 2015 for the Summerfest festivities pending Solicitor approval. Seconded by Miklos. (Attachment)

Schaub asked if Summerfest has submitted a request to close any Streets?

Borough Manager answered not at this time.

Schaub asked that three (3) permits be given to the people that reside on the corner.

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLS FOR A VOTE.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

SALT

Schaub made a motion to advertise for bulk deicing salt for October 2015 through March 2016. Seconded by Miklos.

Schaub explained when Citizens see the Borough Workers using bags of “salt” it is really Calcium.

Miklos added there is a lot of misinformation. Salt should have been ordered. There was an instruction that went out to have the salt ordered at the end of last year because we had a contract through the end of last year. Someone dropped the ball.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

BANK ACCOUNT – DCED - EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Miklos made a motion to ratify the opening of checking account at S&T Bank for the purpose of accepting the Early Intervention Program grant monies in the amount of \$62,230.00 from the Department of Community and Economic Development Local Government Services. Monies are to only to be spent on the Early Intervention program. Seconded by Banks. (Attachment)

Schaub asked how many signatures are going to be on this account?

Borough Manager answered three.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

Borough Manager explained for the grant we are required to open up a special account for the grant money to come in. That is kind of for auditing purposes. Any money that we receive, that will be a lump sum of \$62,230 from the DCED and that will go straight in that account. And that money will come out of that account to pay for the Early Intervention Program. That is the only thing that money can be spent on. So, it is just really a matter of keeping it clean and keeping the money in so the DCED can audit it after the fact.

Schaub asked when will they start.

Borough Manager stated they already have.

JANITOR

Borough Manager reads the motion.

Motion to hire _____ as the new part-time janitor at the rate of \$14.26 an hour effective May 15, 2015.

Miklos makes a motion to table. Seconded by Schaub.

Mayor stated over the years she [Delores “Tootie” Daquilante] has done an excellent job. The place is clean. There was a time when the position was not filled and it was an embarrassment to have the building not clean. Somebody has to be brought in to clean.

Banks stated he disagrees on prolonging this. In the early part of last she came to us and wanted out. Then she said she would stay until we found somebody. We interviewed two people this week. I would like to see us hire one of those people and let this lady go. Why make her stay longer?

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLS FOR A VOTE

Motion Carried. 3-1 Banks is opposed.

Borough Manager asked that the roll be called on the vote.

Banks – Opposed Schaub – Aye Miklos – Aye Bartuccio – Table

DCED – FLOOD MITIGATION GRANT

Miklos made a motion to authorize the Council President to sign the resolution authorization application to the Flood Mitigation Grant Program through the Department of Community and Economic Development for the amount of \$500,000. This grant money is intended to be for the rehabilitation of Borough Storm Water Pump Houses. Seconded by Banks.

Miklos stated this is something we desperately need. One of many things we need. We have old antiquated Pump Houses that are in dire need of total rehabilitation. I think over the years most people in Ford City have experienced some adverse effects from our Pump Station situation with flooding basements. We hope to get this grant to alleviate a lot of those issues.

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLS FOR A VOTE

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

PENNVEST LOAN – WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Schaub made a motion to accept the PENNVEST funding offer, for water treatment plant replacement, with a principal loan amount of \$3,196,800 with a 20-year payment term of 1% interest. Seconded by Miklos. (Attachment)

Miklos stated the record should be set straight. I think we will all be in agreement to taking this Pennvest Loan despite what you may have read in the newspapers that alluded to the fact that we are saying “thanks

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but no thanks”. No one on this Council has ever said “thanks but no thanks”. Just to clarify the situation what we did say is “thank you but we will continue looking for grant money”. Eden and I went to the Pennvest Board meeting in Harrisburg. I think there were a lot of people in town that were a little disappointed that we didn’t get some grant money. We were the only water project that was funded that didn’t get any grant money. We are accepting the Pennvest Loan. After the board meeting, Larry Gasparado, who is the head of the Western Region, came over to Eden and I and we had a lengthy discussion. He clearly indicated to us that we are free to continue looking for grant money or other loan money. If we find a better deal than Pennvest they will adjust their rate accordingly. So, if we are able to get a half million dollar grant, the loan would be adjusted by a half million and we would get the remainder in the Pennvest Loan. So, it would not make any sense for us to not explore that. I would think that the Taxpayers expect us to do that. So, please do not accept what you read as a “thanks but no thanks” because there is nothing further from the truth.

Schaub explained Pennvest stated the Ford City median household income was approx. \$39,000. Schaub stated she researched and made some phone calls to check and everything she is being told is \$28,160. Where they got their number, I don’t know. I think if the \$28,160 was used we might have gotten some grant money.

Banks asked about one of the articles reported the Borough Manager was instructed to send letters to the two Congressmen involved to ask about the formula used. Was that true or a false statement?

Miklos explained this is State.

Borough Manager explained the letters are still in draft form. There are people still working on creating those letters.

Banks asked what are those letters being created to do?

Borough Manager answered just to ask the question.

Banks asked who authorized those letters to go out?

Borough Manager answered that was a request that came out of the last work session.

Banks asked from whom?

Schaub stated it wasn’t her, she was in Mississippi.

Miklos asked who was here at the work session?

Borough Manager answers it was at the work session. Councilman Abernathy and Councilman Miklos asked for the letters. I think everyone at the work session was in agreement about the letter.

Miklos asked Banks if he did not want to send it out?

Banks answered he is just asking, I wasn’t at the work session either. I’m just asking where it came from.

Borough Manager stated it was Councilman Miklos and Councilman Abernathy had the idea of writing the letter.

Banks says case closed.

Miklos explains we were unclear on exactly.....

Banks said he [Borough Manager] answered and asked to just move on.

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLS FOR A VOTE

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

Miklos explained the Borough will be paying back the amount of \$176,423 for the next 20 years under this agreement. This will be the number if we don't use any other funding source.

METER VAULT INSTALLATION – FINAL PAY ESTIMATE NO. 5 - MORTIMER

Miklos made a motion to approve Pay Estimate No. 5 FINAL in the amount of \$1,000 for the meter vault installation project. Seconded by Banks. Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous (Attachment)

ADVERTISEMENT – DUMP TRUCK

Schaub made a motion to re-advertise for bids for a 4x4 dump truck no larger than 10 tons. Bids should be sent to Borough Manager at 1000 Fourth Avenue Ford City Pa 16226 and be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 29, 2015. Seconded by Miklos. Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE

Borough manager reads the motion.

Miklos made a motion to authorize the turning off of the Ford City Park lights on May 11, 2015 from 10:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for the Lion's Club Candle Light Service.

A discussion took place concerning the date.

Borough Manager re-reads the motion with the new date of May 24.

Miklos made a motion to authorize the turning off of the Ford City Park lights on May 24, 2015 from 10:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for the Lion's Club Candle Light Service. Seconded by Banks.

Motion Carried. 3-1 Schaub is opposed.

BOROUGH ASSOCIATION DINNER

Borough Manager reads the motion.

Motion to authorize the payment of \$100.00 to the Borough Association for its May 22, 2015 meeting.

A discussion took place concerning the date.

Borough Manager re-reads the motion with a new date of May 28.

Motion to authorize the payment of \$100.00 to the Borough Association for its May 28, 2015 meeting.

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Bartuccio asked how many is that?

Schaub would like to know who is attending.

Borough Manager asked those attending to raise their hands. Bartuccio, Miklos, Schaub, Banks, Mayor and Borough Manager raise their hands.

Mayor asked where is this?

Schaub answers Leechburg.

Banks made a motion to authorize the payment of \$100.00 to the Borough Association for its May 28, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Schaub.

Bartuccio stated she will pay for her own. [Mayor Mantini always pays for his own reservation.]

Borough Manager asked the Solicitor what to do next since the motion has a first and second.

Borough Solicitor answered an editorial change be made to the \$80.

Banks made that motion an editorial change from \$100 to \$80 for the Borough Assoc. dinner. Seconded by Schaub. Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

Banks made a motion to authorize the payment of \$80 to the Borough Association for its May 28, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Schaub. Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

DOCUMENT DESTRUCTION

Banks made a motion to authorize the destruction of the items on the list to destroy list dated 5/11/15 pending approval of the Borough Solicitor and Borough Accountant. (Attachment)
Seconded by Schaub.

Miklos asked if the Solicitor has looked at this list.

Solicitor Vigilante stated he will follow up with the Accountant.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

ADVERTISEMENT – CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Miklos made a motion to re-advertise to fill a vacancy on the Ford City Civil Service Commission. Applications are due to the Borough Manager by Friday May 29, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. at the Ford City Borough Office. Seconded by Schaub. Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

Mayor asked how many members are on there right now?

Borough Manager answers zero.

DEPT. LABOR & INDUSTRY – ON THE JOB TRAINING

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Schaub made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to submit an application to the Department of Labor and Industry Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the On The Job Training program. Seconded by Miklos.

Borough Manager explained this program is being offered in five (5) Counties. Armstrong County being one of them. Upon acceptance into the program, this will allow us to hire part-time workers. The program will pay 90% of their wages. The Borough will pay the remaining 10%. With the pay scale being set by a Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Borough will be paying \$.85/hour. This will allow for more work to get done at a rate that is very advantageous to the Tax Payers of Ford City.

Schaub stated it would be nice to get caught up on the Storm Drains cleaned out, get the grass caught up, there are a lot more Pot Holes that need finished.

Mayor stated there are insurance things here that we have to realize. Now will this be covered too?

Borough Manager stated they will be employees of the Borough, so they will be covered by our insurance.

Schaub added they will be covered by Workmans Comp. which is required by law.

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLED FOR A VOTE.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

ADVERTISEMENT - TEMPORARY WORKER

Schaub made a motion to advertise for a Temporary Employee or Employees to work in the Street Department. Seconded by Banks.

Solicitor Vigilante explained that a Temporary Employee is for a period of 120 days or less.

Miklos stated hopefully it will be 120 days or less. It doesn't always work that way in this Borough.

Schaub stated it will be marked on her calendar.

Miklos stated it all depends on who wants him here or her.

Schaub stated she challenges all of Council to keep track of the dates.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

Miklos asked the Solicitor if we need to specify a number? We have employee or employees?

Solicitor Vigilante stated he didn't think so.

Borough Manager explained the Personnel Committee can make a recommendation to the Council on how many or if any to hire.

Solicitor Vigilante explained the motion is just permission to advertise.

Miklos asked if there is any rationale for that?

Schaub explained her rationale is what if we do hire one (1) and a week later they quite. Then we have to go thru the whole process of advertising to re-hire again. This way we will have permission to advertise that we could expedite faster. The grass is growing now.

Banks stated that makes sense.

Solicitor Vigilante explained the expectation is you will just be hiring one temporary employee now. You have someone not working now, without naming names, the Temporary Employee will take their place until that employee is able to come back to work or the 120 days expires.

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLED FOR A VOTE.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

NEXT PUBLIC WORK SESSION: Monday, May 18, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the Ford City Public Library.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Monday, June 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Ford City Public Library.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Caroline Hassa explained she wanted to make a comment for the record, earlier this month Ford City Police responded to a call to a rental unit on her block. Hassa wanted to make sure there was a Disruptive Conduct Report written on this unit. Hassa distributed a paper to Council President Bartuccio, Vice-President Miklos, and Councilor Schaub. Mayor asked to be provided a copy too.

Stacy Klukan explained the Ford City Leo Club, about 20-22 members, cleaned up the Borough Park and Trails. Carole Bowser and Zoning Board member James Milligan assisted too.

Klukan asked when will the Trail Pavilion be cleaned up from the fire?

Borough Manager answered it will be as soon as we can. We are still sending information to the Insurance Co. That will get wrapped up here pretty quickly.

Klukan asked if the Fire Marshall had finished his review?

Borough Manager answered yes, but there are still other moving parts.

Klukan advised there are metal chards that need removed and she explained she tried to remove some of them. It is really a safety hazard along the trail like that. Klukan asked for a date when the cleanup would take place.

Borough Manager explained he could not provide a date.

Klukan asked if they could help clean up?

Borough Manager answered yes, but not until we have authorization for that. But it will have to be determined if it is union work.

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Klukan asked if the Safety Barriers could be pulled out where the metal chards are? Klukan asked if the area could be made larger because there are dogs walking along there? We don't want anyone's dog getting cut.

Banks explained he, Mayor Mantini, Councilman Miklos and the Borough Manager attended a program that the Ford City Partnership and Mr. Klukan's group was having. He mentioned about his group, the Venture Group, helping to build that for us.

Paul Klukan explained his group is trying to get the youth, in town, involved. Turning this into a weekend project with the assistance from some contractors. Trying to teach the kids about construction and taking pride in stuff they do. But, we can't do anything until you folks tie up the insurance.

Banks asked if got insurance money for this?

Borough Manager answered yes we should.

Miklos added there is also a deductible.

Klukan reminded Borough Manager she provide a couple tree bids.

Borough Manager explained there needs to be some discussion before it is brought to a Council meeting. We'll try to get that done before the next meeting.

Klukan stated she would like them down before Summerfest.

Schaub asked when the information was provided to the Borough Manager?

Klukan stated the end of April or first of May. There are two bids.

Mayor reminded everyone a number of years ago a storm came thru and there were limbs there that were ready to fall.

Klukan stated last year there was a big branch [fell and destroyed a Summerfest vendor canopy and merchandise] fell.

Klukan stated there should not be any poking anything, insulators, into the trees.

Borough Manager those have been there for a long time.

Klukan stated the trees used for the speakers are coming out so those [insulators] need removed.

Schaub explained last year Summerfest was careful not to put anything in the trees. Those [insulators] have been there, they are growing into the trees.

Klukan asked who owns the property at the end of the Bergad building? The slab of concrete, near the PPG Tunnel.

Mayor explained that is in litigation and he will speak with Klukan after the meeting.

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Klukan stated she would like to use that as a dance area and needs permission.

Klukan asked what is the status of the filing of the Trail Cracks that are three (3) to six (6) inches wide?

Borough Manager stated that is just not a matter of putting cold patch in there. It needs figured out and an Engineer needs brought in. We are bringing in an Engineer to assist with the Paving Project and hoping the same day the Trail can be looked at and obtain recommendations on both.

Klukan asked if it included the 14th Street Project to McGrann.

Borough Manager explained the next step with that project is to get it graded. The Borough has met all of its obligations.

Klukan asked if it was combined with some other grant with the 14th Street Project.

Borough Manager stated he would have to check.

Klukan asked if the Trail Cracks can be painted bright orange? This would alert people to the cracks.

Bill Oleksak most trails are limestone. Ford City and Kittanning are fortunate to have a paved trail. Kittanning has tree limbs coming up thru theirs.

Klukan asked for a temporary fix.

Tyson Klukan asked with regard to the EDA, how many days are left to pay? Is there a payment plan? Since we technically defaulted on the grant. Can we even apply for the Flood Program Grant?

Borough Manager read from a prepared statement. (Attachment)

Klukan asked if it means the \$116,000 offer is gone?

Borough Manager stated he has no further comment at this time.

Klukan stated he'll assume \$580,000 then.

Banks asked if we received a letter from the Department of the Treasury?

Miklos asked Klukan why would he assume that? You just want to assume that? Why would you just assume something?

Klukan explained he would assume the \$580K since we can't further talk about it.

Miklos asked why wouldn't you assume the \$116K or some other number that is less.

Klukan explained because he likes to think the worst case scenario than best case scenario because obviously....

Banks stated we defaulted in the \$116K.

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Solicitor Vigilante stated he did not think that is the proper terminology.

Banks stated we didn't pay.

Solicitor Vigilante explained if you want to talk about the grant was in default, way back the original grant. That may be a true statement. But, I think the best thing to say is what Eden said. You're still trying to work through the process to get the best deal for Ford City. I'm not really involved with it. But I think that is what everyone is trying to do who is involved.

Mayor explained he asked the question at the last meeting and nobody seemed to observe that letter or saw that letter. Everybody here denied. You [Mayor looks to Solicitor] didn't see it either.

Miklos asked the Borough Manager to clarify.

Borough Manager [who was not in attendance at the last Council meeting] explained that letter was received by the Borough. It was shown to the Borough in Executive Session in early October. As I talked to the individual Council people they all agreed, oh yeah we did see that letter. We did see it. If you all want to step in and recall that we all reviewed that letter in Executive Session in early October.

Banks stated that Kathy said she never saw it.

Borough Manager stated to Kathy she was in Executive Session.

Bartuccio agreed and said she never saw that letter, that day you had that you picked all those papers up. Gene was that only one that kept his.

Borough Manager stated you may not have had a physical copy of the letter, but the letter was read to all of you, you all saw it.

Banks stated he still has his.

Borough Manager stated that letter was discussed with Council in Executive Session in early October, I don't recall the exact day.

Schaub stated she thought the Mayor was there also.

Mayor stated he wasn't there. He didn't see the letter until much later. I happened to get the letter dated April 24 from UPS, basically we're in default. There's serious repercussions. It's a four page letter. The Public should see this letter too.

Miklos explains we were all in that room together.

Mayor stated he didn't know about the \$116K until much later.

Miklos stated he [Borough Manager] read the letter to everybody in Executive Session.

Mayor stated he did not see the letter. I don't remember \$116K. Believe me that would have stuck in my mind. Something is wrong here. Drastically wrong.

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Miklos says right, your memory.

Mayor states my memory is usually pretty good. You denied even seeing this letter.

Miklos explained we are all very, very busy here. We've got a lot of things going on.

Mayor says \$116K vs \$581K, that's approx. \$455K that people here now are liable for.

Miklos states there is only one (1) elected official here sitting at this table that was at the Council meeting that was there when the property was given away. What did you say then? Did you have any comments? No, you were on board with what was going on. Why weren't you vocal that vocal then when you could have tried to prevent this situation from occurring? No, you were silent. You were on board.

Mayor asks were you there?

Miklos answered yes I was there. I remember the meeting vividly. I expressed my disappointment and my concern about them giving this property away. The Council reaction was, get him out of here. And you said nothing Mayor. You said nothing.

Mayor says something is wrong here when nobody knew about this letter to settle for \$116K.

Miklos speaks to the Mayor, let me remind you of another letter that was sent to you from the EDA, which you did not share with Council. And we were on about a two (2) or three (3) day deadline.

Schaub adds six (6) days.

Mayor stated he did not see that letter. That is the letter you showed me.

Miklos disagrees, that is a different letter.

Mayor states that is the May 12 letter.

Miklos disagrees, that is the letter that came to you.

Mayor stated he did not see that one.

Miklos states you did not share it with Council.

Mayor states there is a real crisis here. These letters come about and nobody sees them.

Miklos states we need to set the record straight.

Mayor states he has the letter if the Public wants to read the letters.

Miklos states we don't need hype, we need action. We need people to stand up and do the right thing. And you sat silent when the time was right to stop this.

Mayor states right now we have viable businesses.....

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Stacy Klukan states paying \$38,000 per year for three (3) years is a minimal amount of money compared to the other payment.

Mayor states that lawyer's bills on this for the last month is about \$8,000. The month before was \$7,000. I've never saw anything this Mr. Miklos.

Miklos stated that's because your eyes were closed the whole time.

Mayor asked Mr. Miklos what about the hundreds of thousands that walked out of here and you were Council President?

Miklos states and you vacillate from one time I have nothing to do with it and the next time I'm to blame next time Mr. Vergari is the problem next time he's a good guy. You are on both sides of every issue.

Solicitor Vigilante asked if this is Public Comment or are you guys arguing?

Mayor stated it's an argument basically.

Miklos we need to set the record straight.

Solicitor Vigilante states he thinks you have adequately done that.

Miklos stated to move this town forward Tony, we need people to do something, not say something, we need them to do something.

Solicitor Vigilante stated I think you made your point. I think that the Public.....

Miklos stated it takes action, I am tired of listening to what people say I want to pay attention to what they do. The Mayor has shown us what.....

Mayor states there are viable businesses in there right now.

Miklos states you just agreed with they did

Borough Manager asked if there is any more comment from the Public?

Cody Atherton asked why the issue was not brought to the Tax Payers right away? Why wasn't it more transparent?

Borough Manager answered not appropriate to say anything further.

SOLCITOR COMMENTS

Solicitor Vigilante had no comments at this time.

BOROUGH MANAGER COMMENTS

Borough Manager made comments that required no action.

MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor made comments that required no action.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Banks and Bartuccio made comments that required no action.

Schaub had no comments at this time.

Miklos made a motion that Council approve that one (1) member of the Finance Committee join the Borough Manager in meeting with EDA. Seconded by Schaub.

Banks stated wait a minute, this is comments?

Solicitor Vigilante explained he can bring a motion up and will have to be reopened up to the audience if anyone has a comment about that.

Miklos states that has been done many, many times before Gene. As a matter of fact, I think you did it.

Banks states he is not disagreeing.

Solicitor Vigilante states just want to do it right.

Miklos states this came up after the agenda was printed.

Banks answers that explains it. Not trying to make waves here. Just want to know what is going on.

Julie Martin – Leader-Times asked if there was a date for the meeting with EDA?

Miklos added at a time that is mutually agreeable to both the EDA and the Borough.

Borough Manager asked if that was being added to the motion?

Miklos stated that is part of the motion. I meant to include that as part of the motion.

Schaub states she will still make the second it with the inclusion.

Julie Martin asked if they was already spoken to EDA about a meeting?

Miklos states we have.

Schaub answered she doesn't know.

Miklos stated we have, but don't have a date.

Banks added to note the rest of Council don't know about this. Note that please.

Miklos states you don't worry Gene, you don't have to tell them to note anything. Don't worry they'll juice it up.

Banks stated to Julie he would like to be at that meeting. We don't know.

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Miklos stated this will be juiced, heavy.

Banks states could be heavy but

Borough Manager there will be plenty of time for Community Comments or Council Comments can we keep it on Public just so we can keep clean about it.

Banks states now you want to go back to Council Comments.

Borough Manager explained Council has an opportunity to comment on the motion, just want to give it to the Public and asked if there was any more Public Comment?

Banks stated proceed, proceed.

Borough Manager asked if there was any more Public Comment about the motion on the floor?

Stacy Klukan asked if we can be notified as a community on the positive things that are coming out of and the negative things that are coming out of the EDA meeting?

Banks stated they are not telling the Council people so I doubt if you will hear anything.

Miklos asked the Borough Manager to read the “EDA” statement again.

Borough Manager reads the last line from the previously read prepared statement.

Borough Manager asked if there was any more Public Comment? None.

Any Council Comments? None.

BOROUGH MANAGER CALLS FOR A VOTE.

[The full motion is:

Miklos made a motion that Council approve that one (1) member of the Finance Committee join the Borough Manager in meeting with EDA at time that is mutually agreeable to both EDA and the Borough. Seconded by Schaub.]

Motion Carried. 3-1 Banks is opposed.

Miklos stated this new Council has been working extremely hard. We are a do something Council. We have made significant strides here. This is the first year for example that we did not have to borrow money to operate the Borough in at least a dozen years. I think that speaks volumes for the fiscal responsibility that this Council is showing. And if there are people out there who think that paying \$38,000 a year for the next three (3) years is such a little bit of money I welcome them to open up their check books and share it with the Borough if it's such a little bit of money. But, I would venture to say that most people in this Borough do not think \$116,000 is a very little bit of money. Because that is quite a tax increase, \$38,000 a year equates to about a mill and a half of taxes and we have a lot of places to spend money in this Borough. We are trying to rebuild this community and you don't do it by just spending money. Spending, borrow, tax that was the modus operandi of previous Councils. We are changing that. I think the people are sick of borrow, spend, tax.

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Bartuccio made comments that required no action.

ADJOURNMENT

Miklos made a motion to adjourn at 7:17 p.m. Seconded by Schaub.

Motion Carried. 4-0 Unanimous

Kathy Bartuccio
Council President

Lisa Bittner
Borough Secretary