

**MEETING MINUTES  
FORD CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
BC3 Armstrong  
October 28, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Call the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and advise the audience that the meeting on October 28, 2024, is being audio taped by Ford City Borough to be made available for borough councilmembers.

Is anyone else audio or video taping the meeting?  
Vicki Schaub, recording audio.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Council President Carol Fenyes, Vice President Richard Chimka, Councilwoman Mary Alice Bryant, Councilwoman Sally Beck, Councilman Tom Ondrusek, Councilwoman Vicki Schaub, Mayor Tim Bureau, Borough Manager Charles Stull, Solicitor Anna Hosack, Sr. Engineer Joel Romagna, and Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department Chief Christopher Fabec

**CITIZENS AGENDA COMMENTS – None**

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS – None**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Bill List, September 30, 2024
2. Bill List, October 14, 2024
3. Treasurer's Report, September 2024
4. Water Report, September 2024
5. Zoning Report, September 2024
6. Code Enforcement Report, September 2024
7. Fire Report, September 2024
8. Meeting Minutes, September 23, 2024

Having no objections, the consent agenda was passed.

**SOUTHERN ARMSTRONG REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Christopher Fabec, Chief of Southern Armstrong Police Department, gave a verbal police report for the month of September. He also addressed members of Council about directing officers at their own will and reminding them of the importance of going through the proper channels outlined by the SARPD Commission.

## BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Charles Stull, Ford City Borough Manager, has prepared an update regarding recent borough matters as well as his existing projects.

## 2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Charles Stull, Borough Manager, gave a presentation breaking down the 2025 Preliminary Budget for members of Council and the public.

## ACTION ITEMS

### 1. 2025 Preliminary Budget

Councilwoman Vicki Schaub made the motion to advertise the 2025 Budget in the Leader Times and at the Ford City Borough Municipal Building for at least the required 10-day minimum period, for an enactment vote on November 25, 2024, at the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Ford City Borough Council. Councilwoman Sally Beck seconds the motion.

No comments

Motion carried: 6-0

### 2. Open Grant Deposit Account at S&T Bank

Councilwoman Mary Alice Bryant made the motion to open a deposit account at S&T Bank for the purpose of receiving and expending MORE Grant funds and authorize all necessary borough officials to effectuate the same. Councilwoman Vicki Schaub seconds the motion.

Council comments: Council President Carol Fenyes clarified that this is usually standard when receiving grant funds.

Motion carried: 6-0

### 3. Grant Agreement with DEP

Councilwoman Vicki Schaub made the motion to approve and ratify the signing of a grant agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for a Municipal Opportunities for Retrofits & Energy Efficiency (MORE) Program Grant in the amount of \$50,000 and authorize all necessary Borough officials to execute the agreement and any future related funding requests, contracts, or documentation required to effectuate the same. Vice President Richard Chimka seconds the motion.

No comments

Motion carried: 6-0

### 4. Energy Audit with Stiffler McGraw

Councilwoman Mary Alice Bryant made the motion to authorize Stiffler McGraw and Associates to perform an energy audit at a cost of \$33,500 funded by the MORE Grant and authorize all necessary borough officials to effectuate the same. Councilwoman Sally Beck seconds the motion.

No comments

Motion carried: 6-0

**5. Stiffler McGraw Projects**

Councilwoman Mary Alice Bryant made the motion to authorize Stiffler McGraw and Associates to initiate the design and permitting phase for various water system upgrades, including but not limited to the Anti-Scalant conversion, softener removal, raw water pump upgrades, reservoir demolition with replacement tanks, and other essential water system improvements, and to authorize all necessary Borough officials to take all actions required to effectuate the same. Councilwoman Vicki Schaub seconds the motion.

Council comments: Engineer Joel Romagna gave a breakdown of the different projects addressed in the above motion.

Motion carried: 6-0

**6. Resolution 22-2024: PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant Application Authorization for Phase 1 of the Borough's 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Streetscape Project**

Councilwoman Vicki Schaub made the motion to adopt Resolution 22-2024 requesting a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for Phase 1 of the Borough's 5th Avenue Streetscape Project, authorizing the Borough Manager to prepare and submit on the Borough's behalf said Grant application, and authorizing and directing proper Borough officials to execute all documents and agreements associated with, and to take all action necessary to facilitate and obtain, said Grant. Vice President Richard Chimka seconds the motion.

Council comments: Council President Carol Fenyes mentioned that this is a resubmission. The borough did not obtain the grant last year, and that the borough will be trying again.

Motion carried: 6-0

**7. Resolution 23-2024 Mid-County Transit Authority Articles of Incorporation Amendment**

Councilwoman Vicki Schaub made the motion to table the adoption of Resolution 23-2024 amending the Articles of Incorporation of the Mid-County Transit Authority in order to extend the existence period of the "Authority." Councilwoman Sally Beck seconds the motion.

Council comments: Borough Manager Charles Stull recommended tabling this item after learning this needs to be adopted via ordinance. Councilwoman Vicki Schaub mentioned that she spoke with Patti Lynn Johnston, Director of Mid-County Transit Authority, about a concern with the borough's financial obligation to the authority.

Motion carried: 6-0

**8. CD Rollover**

Councilwoman Vicki Schaub made the motion to ratify the rolling over of two (2) CDs to two (2) 6-month 4.5% Interest CDs at S&T Bank and authorize all necessary borough officials to effectuate the same. Vice President Richard Chimka seconds the motion.

Council comments: Borough Manager Charles Stull mentioned that this was the best interest rate he received after inquiring with several local banks.

Motion carried: 6-0

**9. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ratification and Amendment Oil & Gas Lease Agreement - Snyder Brothers Inc.**

Councilman Tom Ondrusek made the motion to approve Third Ratification & Amendment of Oil and Gas Lease Agreement with Snyder Brothers, Inc. adding additional parcels, and authorizing all necessary borough officials to effectuate the same. Councilwoman Mary Alice Bryant seconds the motion.

Council comments: Council President Carol Fenyes clarified that a third amendment was necessary after Snyder Brothers Inc. was made aware of some parcels that were not included in the second amendment.

Motion carried: 6-0

**10. Approval and Authorization to Submit Payment Requisition #2 to PennVEST for Cast Iron Waterline Replacement Project**

Councilman Tom Ondrusek made the motion to approve and authorize proper Borough officials to take all action necessary to submit Payment Requisition #2 in the amount of \$880,919.29 to PennVEST related to the Cast Iron Waterline Replacement Project. Vice President Richard Chimka seconds the motion.

No comments

Motion carried: 6-0

**11. Approval and Authorization to Submit Payment Requisition #2 to PennVEST for Lead Service Line Replacement Project**

Councilwoman Sally Beck made the motion to approve and authorize proper Borough officials to take all action necessary to submit Payment Requisition #2 in the amount of \$19,929.00 to PennVEST related to the Lead Service Line Replacement Project. Councilman Tom Ondrusek seconds the motion.

No comments

Motion carried: 6-0

**12. Authorizing Payment to J.S. Bova Excavating, LLC Pay Estimate #1 for Contract 2023-1**

Councilman Tom Ondrusek made the motion to approve and authorize proper Borough officials to take all action necessary to remit payment for Pay Estimate #1 in the amount of \$784,990.30 to J.S. Bova Excavating, LLC submitted pursuant to Contract 2023-1 related to Waterline Replacement Project – Mainline Work (Project No. 22-0018). Councilwoman Mary Alice Bryant seconds the motion.

No comments

Motion carried: 6-0

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

-PSAB Fall Conference

Carol Fenyes, Council President, shared with Council and the public that she attended the PSAB Fall Conference and shared her experience attending. She also mentioned that she received free admittance to next year's Spring Conference alongside Borough Manager Charles Stull.

-Service Line Inventory

Charles Stull, Borough Manager, addressed the outcome of the Service Line Inventory, ultimately leaving the borough in violation due to a lack of cooperation from property owners while determining service line materials boroughwide.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Abby Nimerosky, Assistant Secretary, announced that Trick or Treating in Ford City Borough on October 30, 2024, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. She also mentioned that the Ford City Borough Halloween Parade would be on October 31, 2024, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, beginning at the fire station.

CITIZENS COMMENTS – Open Comments

-Kathy Bartuccio, Ford City Borough Resident, asked about the future of the trail restrooms.  
-Christopher Fabec, Chief of Southern Armstrong Regional Police Department, addressed council at large about directing officers at their own will and reminding them of the importance of going through the proper channels outlined by the SARPD Commission.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING –November 25, 2024, 6:30 PM at BC3 Armstrong

ADJOURNMENT – 8:04 PM

Councilman Tom Ondrusek made the motion for adjournment. Councilwoman Vicki Schaub seconds the motion.

No comments

Motion carried: 6-0

AUTHORIZING MINUTES



Assistant Secretary



Council President



Secretary