

Forty Fort Borough Council Meeting Monday April 6, 2026

The April 6, 2026, meeting for Forty Fort Borough Council was held at the Forty Fort Borough Building, 1271 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, PA with president, Thomas J. Murray III presiding.

Call to order

Gavel strike of President of Council Thomas Murray called tonight's meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Reverend Lukesh lead the pray and Mayor Mary Ann Bottaro lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

President Thomas Murray ordered a roll call. Members in attendance were President Thomas Murray, Vice President Cara Devine, David Sieminski, Sara Michaels, Tori Carey, Amanda Gallagher, Kristy Dadurka. Borough Mayor Mary Ann Bottaro, Borough Manager Bonnie Arnone, Borough Secretary Michele Pascarella, Solicitor Greg Skibitsky, Code Enforcement Officer Thomas Craig, Lee Hampton, DPW supervisor Rick Kamus. There were 11 visitors in attendance.

Public Comments

Leo and Matt from Construct DS Gym at 190 Welles Street Suite 180 gave a synopsis of their gym and gave Council a list of their upcoming events for the month of April. Sunday April 12, 2026, will be their Levee Trail Walk. On Saturday April 18, 2026, which is Earth Day, there will be a clean up on the on/off ramp (which got approval from the PA State Police) and a Back Mountain Trail cleanup. On Friday April 24, 2026, there will be a group bike ride of the Back Mountain Trail.

Maureen Salley of 106 Center Street asked why the tombstones that were dug up during clean up are still just lying in the cemetery. It was explained to Ms. Salley that it is the responsibility of the Cemetery Association. Ms. Salley also voiced concern about how much money is being used for the dog park, but it couldn't be used for the pool. Council stated that the money being used for the dog park is interest that was earned from the Krishock Fund and also the Pool Advisory Board is working very hard on the pool.

Consent Agenda

Matters listed on the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Borough Council for reading and study, are routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Council. If separate discussion is desired, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda by Council action. The resolutions listed below are submitted by Borough Council for review and will be adopted by one

motion. These items were presented to the council at the prior month's work session for review. Motion to approve and/or accept the following consent agenda items:

- 2/17/26 Council work session minutes
- 2/17/26 Special Council Meeting minutes
- 3/2/26 Council meeting minutes
- February 2026 Code Office Report
- February 2026 Forty Fort Police Chief Report
- February 2026 Treasurer's Report
- February 2026 Manager's Time Sheets
- February 2026 Kingston/Forty Fort Fire Chief Report
- February 206 Tax Collector Report
- 1/20/26 WVSA meeting minutes
- 2/5/26 WVSA meeting minutes
- 3/10/26 Planning Commission Meeting minutes

A motion was made by Cara Devine to approve the consent agenda and seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Council Action Items

A motion was made by Cara Devine to pay all bills as presented and seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sara Michaels to engage Savvy Citizen as a platform to alert residents to important issues and was seconded by Cara Devine, All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to move \$40,498.00 from the Krishock fund for construction of the Dog Park and was seconded by Cara Devine. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to hire Zachary Gramps as a crossing guard and was seconded by Sara Michaels. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Cara Devine to hire Cameron Faux as a laborer for DPW and was seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Luzerne County Safe Streets for ALL grant – More information to come
2026 Memorial Day Parade- Monday, May 25, 2026

Around the Table

Sara Michaels thanked Bonnie for helping with getting all the information with the Savvy Citizen platform.

Kristy Dadurka also thanked Bonnie and said the citizen that Kristy spoke to about this last year is so excited.

Lee Hampton said the past 2 weeks have been very busy and everything is going well.

Tom Craig stated that rental registrations are going very well and there are only about 12 landlords left that are outstanding. He also stated the abandoned house on Welles Street has been purchased and caught up on all the fees that were owed to the Borough.

Rick Kamus stated that DPW has been very busy the past few weeks. Spring Clean Up will be Monday, May 11 through May 14, 2026. The street sweeper is out and hopefully another month or so it will all be caught up and can go back to the schedule of the west side on Thursdays and the east side on Fridays. Rick also stated that all the temporary fills with potholes are almost done. They started the clearing of the land for the dog park today Monday April 6, 2026.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 P.M. by Cara Devine and seconded by Sara Michaels

The next meeting will be a work session held on Monday, April 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Pascarella
Borough Secretary