

FORTY FORT BOROUGH
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025

The December work session of the Forty Fort Borough Council was held on Monday, December 15, 2025, at the Forty Fort Borough Bldg., 1271 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, PA immediately following the Special Council Meeting with Council President, Thomas J. Murray, III presiding.

President Murray called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM with the following council members present: Amanda Gallagher, Frank Mazza, Cara Devine, David Sieminski & Sara Michaels. Kristy Dadurka was absent. Also present were Mayor Brian Thomas, Atty. Greg Skibitsky, Chief Dan Hunsinger, Code Officer Lee Hampton, DPW supervisor, Rick Kamus & Borough Manager, Bonnie Arnone.

CITIZENS AND TAXPAYER'S COMMENTS:

Tori Carey from the Forty Fort Borough Parks and Recreation Advisory Group reported that they would be doing the home decorating contest the next evening, Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 5:30 PM. There will be five winners this year. She also stated that beginning in 2026, the Advisory Group will appoint new members and revise the by-laws of the Organization.

Amy Carozza of 57 Yeager Ave. asked about the status of Police Regionalization. At this time, she was advised that this would be discussed a bit later in the agenda where she would be able to ask questions.

MINUTES AND REPORTS:

Minutes and reports from the prior month have been given to council for their review and will be voted on at the January 5, 2025, council meeting. They are:

11/17/25 Council work session minutes	12/1/25 Council meeting minutes
November 2025 Code Office Report	November 2025 Police Chief Report
November 2025 Kingston/Forty Fort Fire Chief Report	November 2025 Treasurer's Report
November 2025 Manager's Time Sheets	November 2025 Tax Collector Report
10/21/25 WVSA meeting minutes	

A letter has been received from Atty. Jack Gill, the solicitor for the Forty Fort Borough Zoning Hearing Board announcing his resignation from this position effective December 31, 2025.

Mayor Thomas gave a report on the recent meeting with DCED and officials from Kingston, Swoyersville & Pringle Boroughs on the proposed police regionalization of all departments. The report, generated by DCED after the submission of an extensive questionnaire from the municipalities, had recently been distributed to the Borough's and they provided a review of the report along with answers to many questions. This process is in the infancy stages with the next meeting being held with the police officers from all three communities. DCED stressed that this report is simply a guideline and changes can and will be made that are agreeable to all involved. Ms. Carozza stated that she felt the residents of Forty Fort must be involved in this process. She was told that there will be many public meetings to disseminate the information to Borough residents when the time for that phase arrives. It was important to note that no community in this prospective regionalization has completely committed at this time. Atty. Skibitsky spoke to the topic of getting information to the residents saying that all council

meetings were advertised and open to any residents wishing to attend. He stressed that many accusations had been made during the campaign year insinuating that council were doing things behind closed doors. He stated that this could not be farther from the truth.

Council members were given the 2026 council meeting schedule which will also be advertised in the legal section of the Citizen's Voice newspaper, the Borough Building meeting location and the borough's website, fortyfort.org.

AROUND THE TABLE:

Ms. Michaels wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Mr. Sieminski echoed those sentiments. Ms. Devine announced that the Police Department was holding a coloring contest for all ages with the drawing available at the Borough Building and Rome Bath. Mr. Mazza thanked everyone for their cooperation and the privilege of serving the council over the last seven (7) years. He also thanked the prompt and professional services of the Kingston/Forty Fort Fire Department and Ambulance during an emergency at his home recently. Ms. Gallagher also wished everyone Happy Holidays and thanked Mayor Brian Thomas and council person Frank Mazza for their service to the community and wished them well. Mr. Murray wished all a Merry Christmas and thanked everyone for their support over the years.

Mayor Thomas thanked all departments of the Borough for their cooperation over the past four years that he has served as Mayor after being appointed at the January 2022 council meeting. He looks forward to handing the reigns over to Mary Ann Bottaro who will be the first female mayor in the history of Forty Fort Borough.

Chief Dan Hunsinger, Ms. Mary Ann Bottaro, Mr. Lee Hampton, Mr. Scott Serafin, Mr. Rick Kamus & Ms. Bonnie Arnone also wished everyone Happy Holidays & thanked those officials leaving office for their service to the community.

Atty. Greg Skibitsky wished everyone a happy holiday season and spoke of his initial meeting with Forty Fort Borough 4.5 years ago and reminisced about the time going forward.

With there being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Devine at 7:05 PM and seconded by Mr. Mazza.

The next meeting will be the Re—Organization meeting on Monday, January 5, 2026, beginning at 5:45 PM with swearing in of new officials at 6:00 PM by Magistrate David Barilla.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Arnone
Borough Manager