

# **Forty Fort Borough Council Meeting Monday February 2, 2026**

The February 2, 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 Lukish 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 and Police Chief Dan Hunsinger. There were 10 visitors in attendance.

## **Public Comments**

Ann Verbyla from the Forty Fort Lyons club asked council for approval to hold the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Day 5mile run/walk at 9 AM. Registration will begin at 7:30AM Council approved.

Amy Carozza from 57 Yeager Ave asked Council if they were aware that the agenda was not posted on the Forty Fort website 24 hours before the meeting. Borough Manager Bonnie Arnone apologized as she went home ill on Friday and posted everywhere but the website. All other documents were uploaded by Mrs. Arnone. Mrs. Carozza called the borough secretary first thing on Monday morning, and Bonnie uploaded the agenda right away. Due to the agenda not being posted 24 hours before the meeting is held all motions are tabled until the Special Meeting before the work session on Tuesday February 17, 2026.

Eric Reinhard from 112 Dana Street asked Council member Dave Sieminski if the dog park was still moving forward. Mr. Sieminski stated that the dog park will be worked on this spring. Mr. Reinhard asked for the green light to work on the remaining holes for disc golf. DPW supervisor Rik Kamus said this is on hold until he gets the maps for the wetlands. Mr. Reinhard also stated that him and Tom from the Cancer Center are talking about holding a Charity Disc Golf Tournament with a proposal date of May 2, 2026. Mr. Sieminski said he will talk with DJ to see what the schedule is like for that day down and the recreation fields.

## **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:

- 12/15/25 Council work session minutes
- 12/15/25 Special Council meeting minutes
- 1/5/26 Council Reorganization & Council Meeting minutes
- December 2025 Code Office Report
- December 2025 Forty Fort Police Chief Report
- December 2025 Treasurer's Report
- December 2025 Manager's Time Sheets
- December 2025 Kingston/Forty Fort Fire Chief Report
- December 2025 Tax Collector Report
- 11/18/25 and 11/25/25 WVSA meeting minutes

A motion was made by Cara Devine to table until the Special Meeting on 2/17/26 and seconded by Sara Michaels. All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

## **Council Action Items**

A motion was made by Cara Devine to table until the Special Meeting on 2/17/26 to pay all bills as presented and seconded by Dave Sieminski. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cara Devine to table until the Special meeting on 2/17/26 to approve transfer of funds from Capital Reserve to General Fund if necessary and seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

## **New Business**

PA American Water Company assistance program-PA American water representative will be in the Council Chambers on March 19, 2026, from 1PM-4PM and 6PM-9PM

Declaration of Disaster Emergency- Lee Hampton Assistant EMA Coordinator filed the paperwork for the dates of 1/25/26-1/27/26. If funds become available, Forty Fort Borough will be eligible.

NIMS training for Elected Officials & Employees- will be held at the Water Street facility on April 8, 2026, from 10:30AM-12:30PM and 6PM-8PM

## **Old Business**

Newly Elected Officials bootcamp-Friday & Saturday February 20, 21, 2026 at Hilton Garden Inn.

## **Around the Table**

Sara Michaels let everyone know that the Public Relations committee will hold a meeting in council chambers on Thursday February 5, 2026, at 3:30PM.

Cara Devine stated that the Nation Night Out registration opened today.

Amanda Gallagher asked if there were any further recommendations regarding recording the meeting. Sara said this will be discussed at the Public Relations meeting on Thursday.

Mayor Mary Ann thanked everyone for a great first month as Mayor. Mayor stressed that no matter how small the issue is call 911.

Chief Hunsinger asked if a personnel issue can be added to tonight's executive session.

Ray Elias said the Forty Fort Volunteer Firemen donated to Kingston Feed a Family Project. Ray also noted that they now have coloring books and crayons in the utility truck for the children. On Saturday January 31, 2026, they unburied 18 fire hydrants due to the snow.

Tom Craig asked council to set up a meeting with the Code Enforcement committee.

Bonnie Arnone let Council know that the police garage door broke and fell on one of the police cruisers. She received an estimate of approximately \$9,000.00 for a new door and approximately \$1,500.00 to repair it. Chief Hunsinger stated both doors will need to be replaced and suggested applying for an LSA grant. Bonnie also let everyone know that Chief Guido's email was hacked.

All of Council and the Mayor thanked the DPW crew for their continued hard work especially through the snowstorm. All agreed, Forty Fort has the best crew.

## **Executive Session**

To collect information on the sale of Borough property  
To discuss legal matters involving Civil Service lawsuit  
To discuss Police Department personnel issues

Council entered Executive Session at 6:35 P.M.

## **Adjournment**

Council returned from Executive Session at 7:58 PM.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Devine at 7:58 PM and seconded by Ms. Michaels.

The next meeting will be a work session held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, due to the President's Day holiday.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Pascarella  
Borough Secretary