

FORTY FORT BOROUGH  
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025

The January work session of the Forty Fort Borough council was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at the Forty Fort Borough Bldg., 1271 Wyoming Ave., with council president, Thomas J. Murray, Jr., presiding.

President Murray called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the following council members present: Frank Mazza, Cara Devine, David Sieminski (via telephone) & Kristy Dadurka. Also present were Atty. Greg Skibitsky, Mayor Brian Thomas, Code Officer, Tom Craig, DPW Supervisor, Rick Kamus & borough manager, Bonnie Arnone.

Mayor Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes and reports were provided to council for their review which will be voted on at the February 3, 2025 council meeting. They include:

12/16/24 Council work session minutes	1/6/25 Council Meeting minutes
December 2024 Code Office Report	December 2025 Police Chief Report
December 2025 Kingston/FF Fire Chief Report	December 2025 Treasurer's Report
December 2025 Tax Collector report	11/19/24 WVSA meeting minutes
December 2024 Manager's Time Sheets	2023 Liquid Fuels Audit

The first item on the agenda was introduction of the individuals who have presented a letter of interest in the council vacancy. Each individual spoke at the podium expressing their interest in the position, information about themselves and why they would like to be on council. These individuals are: Amanda Gallagher, Steven Coslett, William Scott, Drew McLaughlin & Amy Carozza. Len Ermak, who had submitted a letter of interest, rescinded his letter during the meeting.

President Thomas explained to these individuals that if selected to fill the vacancy left due to the resignation of Phil Mertz, it would be to finish his current term which ends in December 2025. If desired, they would be able to run for the position in the 2025 Primary Election. Council will vote on this replacement at the February 3, 2025 council meeting.

A letter of thanks was received from the Hoyt Library for the donation from the Borough.

Correspondence was received from the Volunteer Fire Co. indicating their 2025 officers.

Discussion took place regarding the reimbursement to the Capital Expense Fund from the Richard Krishock account being managed by Jacoby Investors. This would be for the upgraded trees placed during the River St. Road improvement project which was approximately \$50,000.00 and the cost of the new council table which was \$21,350.00. A motion will be made at the February 3, 2025 meeting to move \$71,350.00 from the Krishock Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Council was also advised that the Ambulance Fund has a balance of \$644.50 and should be closed with these funds moved to the General Fund. A motion for this will also be on the agenda for the February meeting.

The Borough manager spoke with council about several items with a substantial increased price in 2025, one being the borough's liability insurance and Worker's Compensation insurance. Until tax revenues start to come in, there will be a need to request a motion to move funds from the Capital Reserve Fund to the General Fund for operating expenses.

Council members expressed their gratitude to all the individuals who have expressed an interest in the council vacancy withing them all the best of luck.

Mayor Thomas reported that Dane Sorensen will return to work this week performing light duties which will include filling police report requests, filing, new officer training, and other duties until he is cleared for regular duty.

Tom Craig reported that they have both a Zoning Hearing Board meeting and a Planning Commission meeting coming up next month.

Rick Kamus reported that his department is trying to stay warm during the frigid temperatures doing cleaning and maintenance at the Borough garage. He also reported that he had been sworn in this evening as the Borough's representative to the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority.

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 3, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Arnone  
Borough Manager