

Forty Fort Borough Council Meeting Monday March 2, 2026

The March 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 Morris 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, David Sieminski, Sara Michaels, Tori Carey, Amanda Gallagher, Kristy Dadurka. Borough Mayor Mary Ann Bottaro & Cara Devine via telephone, 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

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:

- 1/20/26 Council work session minutes
- 2/2/26 Council meeting minutes
- January 2026 Code Office Report
- January 2026 Forty Fort Police Chief Report
- January 2026 Treasurer's Report
- January 2026 Manager's Time Sheets
- January 2026 Kingston/Forty Fort Fire Chief Report
- 2024 Liquid Fuels Audit Report
- 12/9/25 WWSA meeting minutes
- 2025 SPCA Report

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to approve the consent agenda and seconded by Sara Michaels. All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Council Action Items

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

A motion was made by Sara Michaels to make a \$200.00 donation to Hoyt Library and was seconded by Kristy Dadurka. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Kristy Dadurka to make a \$200.00 donation to the Kingston/Forty Fort Baseball & Softball and was seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to authorize the engagement of PFM, a consultant to evaluate long-term financial and operations for the Boroughs sewer system and was seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sara Michaels to pass Resolution 4 of 2026-Transfer of DCNR & DCED grants to Luzerne County and seconded by Tori Carey. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to advertise Ordinance 1 of 2026- DECED approval of Wayne Bank Loan as per Municipal Debt Act and was seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Kristy Dadurka to advertise Ordinance 2 of 2026- Amendments to the Quality-of-Life Ordinance and was seconded by Sara Michaels. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to advertise Ordinance 3 of 2026- Amendments to the International Property Maintenance Code Ordinance and was seconded by Tori Carey. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

9-1-1 Concerns with Butler Street address duplication- Mr. Romanelli will be at the March 16, 2026, work session.

The proposed letter that will be sent to Butler Street residents was given to council for review.

Around the Table

Kristy Dadurka and the Pool Advisory Board met last week and let Council know that they will be at the work session to give an update. Kristy also let Council know that the Recreation Committee will meet on March 10, 2026, at 5 PM.

Amanda Gallagher asked everyone if they have some spare time to read to the kids for Read Across of America, as she did and highly recommends it.

Mayor Mary Ann Botaro let Council, and everyone know that her, Amanda and Tori attended the PSAB training and it was very eye opening and educational. All the questions that they had asked were answered.

Ray Elias from the Forty Fort Volunteer Fire stated they have had a very busy and emotional month. Thomas Murray and the rest of the Council let Ray know that they are doing a great job.

Tom Craig thanked Council for the passing of the amendment There will be a Zoning Hearing Board Meeting on Wednesday March 4, 2026.

Bonnie Arnone let Council know of an issue that was had on the Forty Fort Borough group page. The page will be suspended. Bonnie also let Council know that a grant will be submitted through Congressman Bresnahan's office for a COG training center and DPW garage.

Council entered Executive Session at 6:23 PM

Executive Session

To discuss pending litigation against the Borough & Civil Service Commission

Adjournment

Council reconvened 7:30 PM. Motion by Ms. Michaels & second by Ms. Dadurka to adjourn at 7:30 PM.

The next meeting will be a work session held on Monday, March 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Pascarella
Borough Secretary