

Forty Fort Borough Council Meeting Monday October 6, 2025

The October 2, 2025, 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 led the prayer and Mayor Brian Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

President Thomas Murray ordered a roll call. Members in attendance were President Thomas Murray, Vice President Cara Devine, Sara Michaels, Kristy Dadurka, Dave Sieminski, Frank Mazza, Amanda Gallagher, Borough Manager Bonnie Arnone, Borough Secretary Michele Pascarella, Solicitor Greg Skibitsky, Police Chief Dan Hunsinger, Code Officer Tom Craig, DPW Supervisor Rick Kamus and Borough Mayor Brian Thomas. There were 21 visitors in attendance.

Public Comments

Ms. Salley of 106 Center Street asked Council to consider day passes and selling food to generate money for the pool if it does open. She stated she has talked to a couple of families that said they would bring their kids to the pool during their lunch hour. Ms. Salley also stated that maybe it should be investigated for an LLC to take over to get the pool open.

Mary Ann Botaro from Parks & Recreation stated the 2nd Fall Festival will be held this Saturday October 11, 2025. The girls will be on PA Live on Wednesday to promote. Mary Ann thanked council for everything, Mayor Brian Thomas for organizing the food trucks, Bonnie Arnone and Michele Pascarella for all help with the paperwork, Ray Elias and his team for traffic control and keeping everyone safe, Chief Hunsinger for his volunteers, Wyoming Valley West, Holy Redeemer and Wyoming Seminary for all the students volunteering and also Rick Kamus and the DPW Crew for all the time and help that they put in for the festival. Mayor Thomas thanked the Parks & Recreation team for how successful the Fall Festival is and for going from the ground up in starting the festival and he also for the final time as Mayor guaranteed good weather for Saturday.

Ellen Beck of 7 Tripp Manor asked why the dollar amount of repairs to the pool is so high. Kristy Dadurka stated that that was the estimate from Benesch, and they are looking into getting other estimates for the repairs. Ellen is very discouraged and voiced her opinion on the pool never opening again.

Bruse Dadurka of 44 Tripp Street asked if anyone had any update on the plowing of the alley that runs behind 5 households on Tripp Street. Sara Michaels stated that at the work session Ms. Salley reported that she had spoken with the church and the church agreed to plow and take care of that property as it is theirs.

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 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 the 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:

- 8/18/25 Council work session minutes
- 9/2/25 Council Meeting Minutes
- August 2025 Code Office Report
- August 2025 Forty Fort Police Chief Report
- August 2025 Treasure's Report
- August 2025 Manager's Time Sheets
- August 2025 Kingston/Forty Fort Fire Chief Report
- August 2025 Tax Collector Report

A motion was made by Cara Devine to approve the consent agenda and seconded by Sara Michaels. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Council Action Items

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to pay all bills as presented and seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously. All bills that are to be paid at every meeting are on the Council table for anyone to view.

A motion was made by Cara Devine to hire Corey Pavinski as a full-time police officer and seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously. Mayor Brian Thomas swore in Officer Corey Pavinski.

A motion was made by Cara Devine to adopt Ordinance 6 of 2025- Airport Overlay Ordinance and was seconded by Dave Sieminski. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to adopt Ordinance 7 of 2025- Posting and Placement of Signs and was seconded by Kristy Dadurka. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cara Devine to adopt Ordinance 8 of 2025- Amend Zoning Ordinance on sign size and was seconded by Kristy Dadurka. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cara Devine to adopt Ordinance 9 of 2025- Amend Zoning Ordinance on Use Table and was seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sara Michaels with regret to accept the resignation of Lee Hampton as Code Officer and was seconded by Kristy Dadurka. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously. Cara Devine read the resignation letter that Lee Hampton wrote.

A motion was made by Sara Michaels to hire Lee Hampton as a part-time Code Enforcement Officer and was seconded by Cara Devine. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to hire Alexander Prete as a part-time DPW employee and was seconded by Amanda Gallagher. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cara Devine to approve the 2024 Annual Audit Report and was seconded by Dave Sieminski. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously. Amanda Gallagher stated that she did not realize how detailed this report is and wanted to give kudos to those who did the audit and prepared the report. It is very impressive.

Old Business

DPW Facility update-Borough Manager Bonnie Arnone and DPW Supervisor Rick Kamus had a meeting today Monday October 6, 2025, with Attorney Terrana and Aaron Kauffer on the Santayana property.

Fall Clean Up Event- October 20-23, 2025.

Pool Committee Update- Kristy Dadurka- Kristy stated she is waiting to hear from other committee members about cost estimates. Kristy also said to be kind to one and others as she knows this is a heated subject and wants everyone to know the committee is working hard.

Around the Table

Kristy Dadurka thanked the Parks & Recreation committee for all that they do and stated she signed up to work at the table.

Dave Sieminski thanked Rick Kamus and the DPW crew for an amazing job done on Welles Street. Rick wanted to thank the residents and business owners on Welles for working together to have no issues.

Amanda Gallagher voiced concern about Murray Street and Shoemaker Street for people blowing by the stop sign, she asked Chief Hunsinger and Rick if anything could be done. Rick Kamus said that if council approves a flashing stop sign, he will install one on that corner. Chief Hunsinger stated he will have officers drive through and sit by there to help with cars stopping. Amanda also asked if anything can be done at the intersection of Oneida Place and River Street. She said it is hard to pull out as she almost got hit because you can't see if cars are coming until it is almost too late.

Mayor Brian Thomas guaranteed for his last time as Mayor for great weather for the Fall Festival.

Chief Dan Hunsinger thanked Council for all their continued support for the Police Department

Tom Craig said there is a Zoning Hearing tomorrow Tuesday October 7, 2025, in Council chambers.

Rick Kamus stated they will be line painting on Welles Street on Thursday and/or Friday. Rick told everyone that he and his crew will start stump grinding during the week of October 13, 2025.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:49 PM.

The next meeting will be a work session held on Monday October 20, 2025, at 6:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Pascarella
Borough Secretary