

Forty Fort Borough Council Meeting September 8, 2020

Call to order

Gavel strike of President of Council Jeffrey McLaughlin, called tonight's meeting to order.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Pastor Tom Morris led the invocation along with Mayor Andy Tuzinski leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

President Jeffrey McLaughlin ordered a roll call. Members in attendance were President Jeffrey McLaughlin, Vice President Thomas Murray, Phil Mertz, Kristy Dadurka, Frank Mazza, David Sieminski and Cara Devine. Borough Mayor Andy Tuzinski, Chief of Police Daniel Hunsinger, Borough Manager Bonnie Arnone, Borough Secretary Michele Pascarella, DPW Supervisor Rick Kamus, Attorney William Finnegan and 3 visitors were in attendance.

Public Comments

Erin Lucas of 64 Slocum Street wanted to thank DPW, the lifeguards and Counsel for a great 2020 pool year. They did many activities this year and are hoping to do more next year. She also thanked everyone for extending the closing of the pool for one more week. Erin stated that there was an incident at the pool on Monday September 7, 2020 involving her nephew getting hurt and that she applauded lifeguards Angelo, Abby, Zach and Sophia on how quick and professional they handled it.

She also brought to Council's attention that kids have smoked weed at the park a few times this summer, she suggested passing out information to prevent drug use for children and adults.

Councilman Phil Mertz thanked DPW Supervisor Rick Kamus and all the DPW workers on the excellent job they did with the last storm. He recommends that a letter of recognition be given to all of them.

Consent Agenda

Matters listed with 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 Borough Council for the

review and will be adopted by one motion. These items have been presented to the council at the prior month's work session for review. Motion to approve and/or accept the following consent agenda items

- 7/20/2020 Council work session minutes
- 7/20/2020 Special council meeting minutes
- 8/3/2020 Council meeting minutes
- July 2020 Code Office Report
- July 2020 Kingston Fire Chief Report
- July 2020 Forty Fort Police Dept. Report
- July 2020 Treasure's Report
- July 2020 Manager's Time Sheets
- July 2020 Forty Fort Fire Chief Report
- July 2020 Tax Collector Report
- 2020 Second Quarter SPCA Report
- 6/18/2020 Civil Service Minutes
- 6/16/2020 WWSA meeting minutes- At the October work session there will be an update
- Volunteer Fire Company Report

Motion was made by Dave Sieminski and seconded by Kristy Dadurka. All were in favor, motion passed.

Correspondence

- 2021 Unemployment Compensation rate- 0.0285
- Tax Appeals Notice- 900Rutter Ave, Harvey Industries and Turkey Hill
- 2020 Census Information

Council Action Items

A motion was made by Tom Murray to pay all bills as presented and seconded by Cara Devine. Jeff McLaughlin abstained from GBM and Kingston Borough bills. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Tom Murray on 2021 MMO's which are \$27,270.00 for Fire Pension, \$144,698.00 for Police Pension and \$19,650.00 for Non-Uniform Pension. The motion was seconded by Dave Sieminski. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski on Ordinance 5 of 2020- Luzerne Compost agreement. The cost is \$250.00 a month at \$3,000.00 a year. The motion was seconded by Cara Devine. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Kristy Dadurka on Ordinance 6 of 2020- Portable Storage Container Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Phil Mertz. All in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Tom Murray to accept 2021 PENNDOT Winter Service Agreement in the amount of \$1,706.21 for Borough services to Slocum and Dennison Streets. The motion was seconded by Frank Mazza. All in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to accept Resolution 11 of 2020- Revised Fee Schedule. The motion was seconded by Phil Mertz. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Cara Devine on the Motion for COVID19 County Relief Block Grant Request for payment. Kristy Dadurka seconded the motion. Frank Mazza abstained. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Tom Murray to accept the resignation of Matt Smith as full-time police officer. The motion was seconded by Phil Mertz. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Frank Mazza to hire Shawn Carey as a full-time employee for DPW. The motion was seconded by Tom Murray. All were in favor. Motion passed.

New Business

Certified Civil Service List for the full-time Police officers- A motion was made by Dave Sieminski to extend offer of employment to Jefferson Ramirez with completion of a medical clearance and a 1-year probationary period. This motion was seconded by Cara Devine. All in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Cara Devine to extend offer of employment to Nickolas Basov with completion of a medical clearance and a 1-year probationary period. Motion was seconded by Dave Sieminski. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Diesel Fuel Usage for 2019 and 2020-Borough Manager Bonnie Arnone provided a spread sheet to show Council the savings that can be realized by having our own diesel fuel onsite. In 2019 \$17,876.18 was spent on diesel, in 2020 \$12,289.00 has been spent so far. The potential savings for 2019 would have been \$9,902.00. The double wall tank (which would have its own containment) would be placed next to the garage. The cost of purchasing the tank is \$4,500.00 and \$1,300.00 for the concrete pad. A motion was made by Phil Mertz to purchase the tank and have a concrete pad put in. The motion was seconded by Frank Mazza. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Paving of DPW driveway- Rick Kamus stated 2 loads of black top would be needed to pave the driveway at \$1,400.00 a load. A motion was made by Kristy Dadurka to proceed with the paving. Motion was seconded by Tom Murray. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Bonnie Arnone got the Pool extended until Sunday September 13, 2020 with limited hours and 3 lifeguards.

New Recycle packer cost approximately \$180,000.00 would take 8-16 weeks to get our money back.

Mayor Andy Tuzinski announced that the National Night Out will be October 9th at the park.

Chief Dan Hunsinger wanted to thank the Civil Service Commission and the volunteers that helped with testing the applicants for the Forty Fort Police.

Old Business

Executive Session

Security camera issue in Fire Office-potential grievance

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm

The next meeting will be a work session on Monday September 21, 2020 at 7:00PM in council chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Pascarella
Borough Secretary