

FORTY FORT BOROUGH
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

The Forty Fort Borough Civil Service Commission held an advertised meeting on Monday, June 17, 2024 at the Forty Fort Borough Bldg., 1271 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, PA. with Vice-Chairperson, Sara Michaels presiding in the absence of the chairperson, Rob Swaback.

Ms. Michaels called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM with the following commission members present: Christine Kutz; Alternate members Rob Craig, William Stone, Jr. & Donnie Evans. There were several guests present which included the commission's clerk, Tony Smith, who did not participate in the meeting, Forty Fort Borough Mayor Brian Thomas, Council persons Phil Mertz & Cara Devine, Police Chief Dan Hunsinger & Borough Manager, Bonnie Arnone.

From the audience, Mr. Smith announced that he felt the meeting was illegal due to the fact that it was not called by two full members of the commission based on the fact that he felt Christine Kutz is not recognized as a full member but rather Rob Craig is still in that position after being placed there following the resignation of Scott Serafin at the April 10, 2024 meeting. It was noted that both the Commission's solicitor Lars Anderson and the Borough solicitor, Greg Skibitsky, have explained that once council appointed a replacement to the vacancy on the commission by appointing Ms. Kutz, Mr. Craig went back to the alternate status. He further stated that anyone participating in the meeting could be fined individually.

At this time, Mr. Craig questioned Ms. Michaels as to her residency accusing her of living in Kingston, PA. Ms. Michaels explained that her job with Wyoming Seminary requires her to have limited overnight duties at the upper school in Kingston, but her residence is and has always been in Forty Fort, PA. Mr. Craig then excused himself from the meeting stating he did not feel comfortable participating in it.

Ms. Michaels then announced that William Stone, Jr. would then be appointed as the alternate that would move into the full position. From the audience, Mr. Craig disagreed with this, stating he had seniority. He was advised that this action was not done on a seniority basis but on a rotating basis and Mr. Stone was next in line to slide into the full position when the need would arise.

Ms. Michaels proceeded to explain that she, along with Mr. Smith and Mr. Swaback had met with Lars Anderson, the Commission's solicitor, recently to go over various items of concern. She stated that he assured her that she was free to discuss everything in open meetings.

The purpose of today's meeting was to collect the three applications that had been received up to the deadline, which was Friday, June 14, 2024 at 2:30 PM. The applications will be examined by the commission for completeness at the next Commission meeting on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 5:30 PM and then submitted to Chief Hunsinger to conduct background checks. The applicants will then be notified of the time and place of upcoming examinations. Atty. Anderson will be available for the meeting on Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Kutz at 4:14 PM and seconded by Mr. Stone.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Arnone