



**FOX CHAPEL**  
BOROUGH

## **Minutes**

### **Fox Chapel Borough Council Meeting Held October 20, 2025**

#### **Call to Order**

**Present:** Andrew C. Bennett, Council President; Harrison S. Lauer, Council Vice-President; Frederick C. Leech, Bradley D. Harrison, Betsy Monroe, Sarah Hanna, Jonathan Colton, Councilmembers

**Also Present:** Walter A. Scott, III, Mayor; Bruce Bowden, Solicitor; Julie Bastianini, Borough Manager; Jeanine A. Mancuso, Treasurer; Craig Sorg, Sergeant; Larry Kurpakus, Public Works Director; Shawn M. Peterson, Assistant to the Manager; Ben Shopland, Chief of Foxwall EMS; Austin Henry, Chairperson of the EAC; Wesley Posvar, Chairperson of the Park Commission; Kabeer Chopra, Aiden Drucker, Ahmed Elsayed, Anna Grace Shultz, Laurence Park, Junior Councilmembers; Michael Pohl, Kento Ohmari, Fox Chapel VFD; 3 others

**Via Zoom:** 6 attendees

Mr. Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

- I. The meeting was held on September 15, 2025.

Mr. Lauer moved to approve the meeting minutes from September 15, 2025. Ms. Monroe seconded the motion, which passed with six in favor and an abstention from Mr. Bennett, who was not present at the September meeting.

#### **Resident Comments**

None

#### **Environmental Advisory Council**

- II. The EAC meeting was held on October 13, 2025.
  1. Environmental Disturbance Application No. 24-13 - Replanting Plan

Mr. Leech moved to approve Environmental Disturbance Application No. 24-13's Replanting Plan, acknowledging compliance therewith. Mr. Lauer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. EAC Member Appointment

Mr. Henry stated that there were several qualified applicants for the EAC member appointment to choose from, but the EAC narrowed its search down to one highly qualified applicant.

Mr. Harrison moved to appoint Katherine (Katie) Flynn Wolff to the Environmental Advisory Council for the unexpired term, which will expire on December 31, 2027. Mr. Colton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## Reports

### III. Police Report for September 2025

Sergeant Sorg stated the Police Department held its annual Paint Pumpkins with Police event on Saturday, October 18, 2025. He said they had a great turnout and beautiful weather. He stated the Borough is preparing for its third annual Light Up Fox Chapel event on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

### IV. Fire Report for September 2025

**Total calls: 49**, 26 calls for Fox Chapel Borough (4-O'Hara, 4-Harmar, 7-Sharpsburg, 2-Pittsburgh, 5-Aspinwall, 1-Indiana)

### V. EMS Report for September 2025

Chief Shopland stated that Foxwall EMS is now equipped with two nitrous oxide tanks, thanks to a State Fire Commission grant the department received in the amount of \$8,000. He said this is a non-prescription, non-IV pain management option for those in need.

### VI. Public Works Report for September 2025

Mr. Kurpakus stated that the Public Works Department has begun leaf collection, and this will continue until the beginning of December. He also noted that the department is preparing for winter, as salt deliveries will commence over the next month.

### VII. Engineering Report

Ms. Bastianini provided an update on the ALCOSAN Regionalization. Mr. Kurpakus, LSSE, and she met with ALCOSAN to discuss the Borough-owned lines located outside the Borough, specifically one that runs through Camp Guyasuta and another that runs through the Pittsburgh Water Treatment Plant. She said the meeting was productive, with discussions on ALCOSAN taking over those two lines while leaving the other lines physically within the Borough, under the Borough's control. ALCOSAN is interested in transferring the lines. The next step is to investigate the condition of the lines through CCTV work, to

determine if any repairs are necessary, and to negotiate with ALCOSAN. If no repairs are needed, the legal review of documents related to the transfer of those lines can begin.

VIII. Treasurer Report for September 2025

Ms. Mancuso stated that the 2026 budget work is well underway, with a Finance Committee meeting scheduled for October 30, 2025, to discuss the details.

1. Ratification of Payments for September 2025

Ms. Monroe moved to ratify the payment of bills for September 2025, General Fund Vouchers 6105-6162 in the amount of \$1,947,689.20. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed unanimously.

IX. Environmental Reports

1. Solar Status Report for EIS Fox Chapel for September 2025
2. Recycling/Solid Waste Report for September 2025

**New Business**

X. Executive Session Meeting

An Executive Session Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 9, 2025, at 6 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter.

XI. Retirement of Chief Michael J. Stevens

Chief Michael J. Stevens submitted an official letter of retirement to be effective Sunday, November 2, 2025.

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the retirement of Chief Michael J. Stevens, effective Sunday, November 2, 2025. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

XII. Resolution No. 715 — Amending the Civil Service Rules and Regulations

The Civil Service Commission met on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, to review the recommended changes to the rules and regulations.

Mr. Lauer moved to adopt Resolution No. 715, approving specific changes to the rules and regulations of the Borough of Fox Chapel Civil Service Commission, as recommended by the Civil Service Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed unanimously.

XIII. Interim Police Chief Appointment

Mr. Lauer moved to approve the appointment of Sergeant Craig Sorg to the Interim Police Chief position, as recommended by Mayor Alex Scott. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed unanimously.

XIV. Emergency Management Coordinator Appointment

Mr. Leech moved to appoint Michael Pohl, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator, effective November 2, 2025. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion. After discussion, Mr. Leech moved to amend his motion to appoint Borough Manager Julie Bastianini to the Emergency Management Coordinator position, effective November 2, 2025, and to have Mr. Pohl remain as Deputy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bennett and passed unanimously.

XV. Resolution No. 716 - Dorseyville Fire Station

Ms. Monroe moved to adopt Resolution No. 716, authorizing the request for a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant in the amount of \$684,700 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for the Dorseyville Fire Station Improvements Project. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

XVI. Ordinance No. 733 — Prohibiting the Use of Tobacco Products at all Borough Parks and Green Spaces

Mr. Leech moved to enact Ordinance No. 733, prohibiting the use of tobacco products at all Borough parks and green spaces as part of its commitment to the *Live Well Allegheny* Campaign and the *Young Lungs at Play* program. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

XVII. Ordinance 734 — an amended and restated ordinance setting the Allegheny Valley Joint Sewage Authority (AVJSA) rates and restating ALCOSAN, Borough and Harmar Sewage rates.

Mr. Lauer moved to enact Ordinance No. 734, an amended and restated ordinance setting the Allegheny Valley Joint Sewage Authority (AVJSA) rates and restating ALCOSAN, Borough, and Harmar sewage rates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Colton and passed unanimously.

**Contract Awards**

XVIII. VFD Station No. 1 Furniture Purchase

Ms. Monroe moved to award the contract for furniture for the Volunteer Fire Station No. 1 to Workspace Solutions Interiors at \$17,481.62 via PA State Contract No. 4400025792. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed unanimously.

XIX. Contract No. 25-PD1 - Borough of Fox Chapel Police Department HVAC Improvements

Ms. Monroe moved to award the Base Bid of Contract No. 25-PD1- Fox Chapel Police Department HVAC Improvements to Air Systems Mechanical Contracting, Inc., as the low bidder in the amount of \$161,750.00. The motion was seconded

by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

**Informational**

XX. Building Reports for September 2025

**Executive Session**

XXI. Police Contract Negotiation

At 6:50 p.m., the Borough Council adjourned into Executive Session to discuss the police contract negotiation. Mr. Bennett stated there would be official action to follow the Executive Session when the regular meeting reconvened. At 8:03 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

**New Business (cont.)**

XXII. Appointment of Consulting Firm to Perform the Search for the Position of Chief of Police

Ms. Monroe moved to authorize the engagement of Dailey Operation Consulting LLC to perform the search for the Chief of Police position for the Borough of Fox Chapel. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lauer and passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

With no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

**Shawn Marie Peterson**  
Assistant to the Manager