



FOX CHAPEL

BOROUGH

Minutes

Fox Chapel Borough Council Meeting Held December 15, 2025

Call to Order

Present: Harrison S. Lauer, Council Vice President; Frederick C. Leech, Bradley D. Harrison, Betsy Monroe, Sarah Hanna, Jonathan Colton; Councilmembers; Walter A. Scott, III, Mayor

Also Present: Julie Bastianini, Borough Manager; Jeanine A. Mancuso, Treasurer; Craig Sorg, Interim Chief of Police; Larry Kurpakus, Public Works Director; Shawn M. Peterson, Assistant to the Manager; Ben Shopland, Chief of Foxwall EMS; Wesley Posvar, Chairperson for the Park Commission; Aiden Drucker, Anna Grace Shultz, Junior Councilmembers; and four other attendees

Via Zoom: Bruce Bowden, Solicitor; and three other attendees

Absent: Andrew C. Bennett, Council President; Laurence Park, Kabeer Chopra, Ahmed Elsayed; Junior Councilmembers

Mr. Lauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

- I. The meeting was held on November 17, 2025.

Mr. Harrison moved to approve the meeting minutes from November 17, 2025. Mr. Leech seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Resident Comments

None

Park Commission

- II. The Park Commission met on Monday, December 8, 2025.

Mr. Posvar summarized the December 8, 2025, Park Commission Meeting. He stated that the Allegheny County Health Department Director, Dr. Iulia Vann, presented the Borough of Fox Chapel with the Live Well Allegheny logo. She had mentioned that she and Allegheny County are looking forward to collaborating with Fox Chapel and expressed gratitude for the new partnership.

1. Cattle Gate Installation at the Entrance of Salamander Park's Parking Lot, to be Used During High Salamander Activity, as Recommended by the Park Commission

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the installation of a cattle gate at the entrance of Salamander Park's parking lot as recommended by the Park Commission. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

Reports

III. Police Report for November 2025

Interim Chief Sorg stated that Light Up Fox Chapel took place on December 3rd and was well attended. He also said that with the collection locations and the lighting event, over 150 toys were collected for the Western PA Athletic League's Stuff-a-Store.

He stated that all officers have qualified for the year at the gun range, as well as Defensive Tactics training.

Mayor Scott thanked interim Chief Sorg and the other officers from the Department for keeping Fox Chapel safe and for their efforts with community events.

IV. Fire Report for November 2025

Total calls: 25, 10- Fox Chapel Borough (7- O'Hara, 4- Sharpsburg, 2- Aspinwall, and 2- City of Pgh)

V. EMS Report for November 2025

Chief Shopland stated that calls were down for November, but that is expected at this time of year. He also discussed the partnership between Foxwall and West Deer EMS. He said that when West Deer EMS has high call volumes (typically in the mornings), Foxwall will position its non-emergency unit in Indiana Township so it may assist West Deer on calls if necessary.

VI. Public Works Report

Mr. Kurpakus stated that leaf collection has ended and the Public Works Department has changed over its vehicles for snow removal.

VII. Engineer Report for November 2025

Mr. Kurpakus stated that the contractor for the traffic light at the corner of Fox Chapel and Field Club Roads will complete the installation, and he is hopeful that the equipment will be operational by the end of next week.

VIII. Treasurer Report for November 2025

1. Ratification of Payments for November 2025

Mr. Leech moved to ratify the payment of bills for November 2025, General Fund Vouchers 6220-6270 in the amount of \$434,222.65. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

IX. Environmental Reports

1. Solar Status Report for EIS Fox Chapel for November 2025
2. Recycling/Solid Waste Report for November 2025 and Quarter 3 HHW Report

New Business

X. Recognition — Recognize Sarah Hanna for her service to the Borough of Fox Chapel

Mr. Lauer read aloud a letter of thanks to Sarah Hanna for her service to the Borough of Fox Chapel, on behalf of the Borough Council. Mr. Lauer thanked Ms. Hanna for her years of service and contributions to

the Borough.

XI. Resolution No. 718 - Proclamation

Mr. Lauer read aloud Resolution No. 718, a Proclamation to Walter 'Alex' Scott, III, for his years of dedicated service to the Borough of Fox Chapel as a member of Borough Council and as Mayor. On behalf of the Borough and the Council, Mr. Lauer extended his gratitude to Mayor Scott for his years of dedicated service and contributions.

Mayor Scott stated that he would miss spending time with the friends he has made in the Borough, but he will still be around.

Mr. Leech moved to adopt Resolution No. 718, recognizing Mayor Walter 'Alex' Scott, III, for his 27 years of dedicated service as a member of the Borough Council, during which 13 of those years he served as the Mayor of the Borough of Fox Chapel. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

XII. Verizon Cable Franchise Renewal Agreement/Resolution No. 719

Mr. Lauer summarized the Verizon Cable Franchise Renewal Agreement. He stated that it had much the same terms as the current agreement, but with a slightly extended definition of "revenue" and stronger language for auditing the cable franchise fee. Mr. Leech noted that numerous Verizon ghost cables need to be cleaned up, and it was suggested that Mr. Bowden review the agreement to determine if this issue is addressed within its contents.

Ms. Monroe moved to adopt Resolution No. 719, authorizing execution of a cable franchise agreement between the Borough of Fox Chapel and Verizon Pennsylvania, LLC. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

XIII. Organization Meeting Advertisement

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the Organization Meeting date of Monday, January 5, 2026, at 6 p.m. and the advertisement of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and passed unanimously.

XIV. 2026 Budget

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the 2026 Budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Colton and passed unanimously. This budget was recommended by the Finance Committee, reviewed by the Council, and advertised for public viewing.

XV. Resolution No. 720 — Fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Year 2026

Ms. Monroe moved to adopt Resolution No. 720, fixing the real estate tax rate for 2026, for general revenue purposes at a sum of 2.95 mills on each dollar of market valuation for 2026. Ms. Hanna seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. This rate has remained the same since 2019.

XVI. Ordinance No. 735 - An Amended and Restated Ordinance Setting ALCOSAN Rates and Restating Borough, Harmar, and AVJSA Sewage Rates

Ms. Monroe moved to enact Ordinance No. 735, establishing the sewer rates for the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) and restating the sewage rates for the Borough, Harmar, and AVJSA. Mr. Leech seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

XVII. Ordinance No. 736 — Amending and Restating the Regulations for Parkland

Ms. Hanna moved to enact Ordinance No. 736, amending and restating the regulations for parkland. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed unanimously.

XVIII. Appoint an Officer of Open Records for the Fox Chapel Borough Police Department

Mr. Colton moved to appoint interim Chief of Police Craig Sorg as the Open Records Officer for the Fox Chapel Borough Police Department. Mr. Harrison seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Contract Awards

XIX. Park Signage - Phase 1

Ms. Monroe moved to award the contract for Phase 1 of the park signage to SignPro, Inc., via Costars Contract No. 032-E25-097, in the amount of \$13,095. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

Informational

XX. Borough of Fox Chapel Emergency Management Coordinator Appointment Letter from the Governor, Josh Shapiro

Mr. Lauer congratulated Ms. Bastianini on her appointment as the Borough of Fox Chapel's Emergency Management Coordinator by Governor Josh Shapiro.

Executive Session - Real Estate

At 6:53 p.m., the Borough Council adjourned into Executive Session to discuss a real estate matter. At 7:05 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

Adjournment

With no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Shawn Marie Peterson
Assistant to the Manager