



FOX CHAPEL
BOROUGH

Minutes

Fox Chapel Borough Council Meeting Held September 15, 2025

Call to Order

Present: Harrison S. Lauer, Vice-President, Frederic C. Leech, Bradley D. Harrison, Betsy Monroe, Jonathan Colton, Councilmembers

Also Present: Walter A. Scott, III, Mayor; A. Bruce Bowden, Solicitor; Julie Bastianini, Borough Manager; Jeanine Mancuso, Treasurer; Michael J. Stevens, Chief of Police; Larry Kurpakus, Director of Public Works; 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, Fox Chapel VFD; Frances Charley, resident; 7 others

Via Zoom: Sarah Hanna, Councilmember; 2 others

Absent: Andrew C. Bennett, Council President

Mr. Lauer called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Junior Council Person Program

I. Recommended Appointments to the Junior Council Person Program

Bradley Harrison, Julie Bastianini, and Shawn Peterson recommend the appointments of Aiden Drucker (a junior at Fox Chapel High School), Anna Grace Shultz and Ahmed Elsayed (juniors at Shady Side Academy), and Laurence Park (a senior at Shady Side Academy), to the Junior Council Person program.

Mr. Harrison moved to appoint Aiden Drucker, Anna Grace Shultz, Ahmed Elsayed, and Laurence Park to the Junior Council Person Program. Mr. Colton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Lauer stated the Borough is thrilled to have them join the Junior Council Person Program.

1. Junior Council Person Pledge

Mayor Scott will administer the Junior Council Person Pledge to the newly appointed Junior Council Person members.

Approval of Minutes

II. The meeting was held on August 18, 2025.

Ms. Monroe moved that the August 18, 2025, meeting minutes be approved. Mr. Harrison seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Resident Comments

Frances Charley, 226 Laurel Lake Lane, stated that she is not directly affected by Shady Side Academy's proposed new driveway on Riding Meadow Road, but would like to suggest that the Borough solicitor send a letter to SSA specifically informing them that no applications have been approved. She also stated that Borough residents should be updated on the status of the proposed driveway in an upcoming newsletter.

Park Commission

III. The Park Commission meeting was held on September 8, 2025.

1. Live Well Allegheny Campaign

The Park Commission recommends that the Borough Council pass Resolution No. 713, indicating the Borough of Fox Chapel's intent to work with Allegheny County to accomplish the goals of the *Live Well Allegheny* Campaign.

Ms. Monroe moved to adopt Resolution No. 713, indicating the Borough's intent to work with Allegheny County to accomplish the goals of the *Live Well Allegheny* campaign. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed unanimously. A discussion followed about the Allegheny County *Young Lungs at Play* initiative to prohibit tobacco use in municipal parks and green spaces.

Mr. Lauer stated that it is a tribute to the Borough that it already has the five action items in place and is concerned with residents' health and well-being.

2. Park Commission Member Reappointment

Park Commission member Carrie Casey's term will expire September 16, 2025. The Park Commission members recommend the reappointment of Carrie Casey to the Park Commission for a six-year term.

Ms. Monroe moved to appoint Carrie Casey to the Park Commission for another six-year term, which will expire on December 31, 2031. Mr. Colton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. 2026 Trail Run

The Park Commission recommends that the Borough Council approve the one-mile/5K trail run for 2026.

Mr. Leech moved to approve the 2026 one-mile/5K trail run for Sunday, August 30, 2026. Mr. Harrison seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Posvar stated that the Fox Chapel Parks Conservancy's proceeds from the 2025 Trail Run will be donated to the Delafield Connector Trail project.

Environmental Advisory Council

- IV. The EAC meeting was held on September 8, 2025.
- V. Tree Removal Applications TR-25-93 and TR-25-94: Pittsburgh Field Club (121 Field Club Road)

Ms. Monroe moved to approve Tree Removal Applications TR-25-93 and TR-25-94 as submitted, contingent upon the submission of a replanting plan within 20 days, accounting for the twenty trees for replacement with at least seven hardwoods, and the balance of trees being preferably hardwoods. The recommended approval is also contingent upon the submission to the Zoning Administrator of a grading plan or intent relative to stormwater flow to the discovered inlet. Mr. Harrison seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Monroe asked Mr. Henry if the trees being removed were damaged from the April 2025 storm. Mr. Henry stated that the trees were damaged and not viable. He said it would be an improvement since the trees will be replaced with numerous hardwood trees.

Reports

- VI. Police Report for August 2025
- VII. Fire Report for August 2025

Total calls: 26, 15 calls for Fox Chapel Borough (4-O'Hara, 2-Harmar, 1-Pittsburgh, 4-Aspinwall)

Mr. Pohl stated that the Dorseyville Road Station No. 2 siren is still failing. Bearcom will reinstall a tracking device to gather more information and try to resolve the issue.

- VIII. EMS Report for August 2025
- IX. Public Works Report for August 2025

Mr. Kurpakus stated that the PWD is working on its end-of-summer activities, such as crack sealing. He said that Shields Paving will be back in the Borough

on September 29th to complete utility patches, which will close out paving for the year. He also stated that Leaf Collection will begin on October 14, 2025.

X. Engineer Report for August 2025

XI. Treasurer Report for August 2025

Ms. Mancuso stated the Borough has begun budget work for 2026. She also said the VFD Donation drive has raised just over \$63,000 this year, up \$5,000 from last year. She and Ms. Peterson decided to do the mailer envelope and postcard in-house this year instead of using a contracted service. The Borough accepts donations via check and through PayPal, which is an easier option for residents.

1. Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO)

Mr. Lauer moved to approve the three pension plan MMOs — \$33,312 for the Police Plan, \$0 for the Non-Uniform Defined Benefits Plan, and \$77,004 for the Defined Contribution Plan. Ms. Monroe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. Resolution No. 714

Mr. Lauer moved to adopt Resolution No. 714, which states that effective June 1, 2025, and continuing through and including December 31, 2025, the amount of Participation Contributions due shall be two and a half percent (2.5%) of compensation. The obligation to pay Participant Contributions (Police Department) pursuant to Act 600 in the amount specified therein shall resume as of January 1, 2026. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed unanimously.

3. Ratification of Payments

Ms. Monroe moved to ratify the payment of bills for August 2025, General Fund Vouchers 6032 – 6104 in the amount of \$380,602.25. Mr. Colton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

XII. Environmental Reports

Solar Status Report for EIS Fox Chapel for August 2025
Recycling /Solid Waste Report for August 2025

Sale of Equipment

XIII. Muncibid - 1998 Case 590 Super L Backhoe Loader

Bids were received on the Muncibid Online Government Auction for the sale of the 1998 Case 590 Super L Backhoe Loader. It is recommended to award the

sale of the 1998 Case Backhoe Loader to the highest bidder, Mena Abraham.

Mr. Colton moved to award the sale of the 1998 Case Backhoe Loader to Mena Abrehem in the amount of \$13,800. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed unanimously.

Contract Awards

XIV. 2025–2026 Sewer Lining, CCTV & Cleaning, and Pipe Bursting

O'Hara Township's Engineer, Charles W. Steinert, Jr., P.E., on behalf of the North Hills COG, recommends awarding the contract to the lowest bidders via the NHCOC Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Contract.

Ms. Monroe moved to award the 2025-2026 contract for Cured-in-Place to Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC, at the cost of:

- \$48.00 LF (8"), \$53.00 LF (10"), and \$69.00 LF (12"") for Cured-in-Place Lining
- \$53.00 LF (8"), \$58.00 LF (10"), and \$73.00 LF (12") for Styrene Barrier Lining
- Note: All work to be paid manhole to manhole.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed unanimously.

Ms. Monroe moved to award the 2025-2026 contract for CCTV & Cleaning to State Pipe Services, Inc., at the cost of:

- \$1.50 LF (8" and 10") and \$1.60 LF (12") for CCTV
- \$1.08 LF (8", 10", and 12") for Light Cleaning/Jetting
- \$1.60 LF (8", 10", and 12") for Heavy Cleaning/Root Removal

The motion was seconded by Mr. Colton and passed unanimously.

Ms. Monroe moved to award the 2025-2026 contract for Pipe Bursting to State Pipe Services, Inc., at the cost of \$102.80 LF (8" to 12").

The motion was seconded by Mr. Colton and passed unanimously.

New Business

Informational

- XV. Building Reports for August 2025

Executive Session

XVI. Litigation Matter and Personnel Matter

At 6:56 p.m., the Borough Council adjourned into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and a litigation matter. At 9:12 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

Adjournment

With no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Shawn Marie Peterson
Assistant to the Manager