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OLD FORGE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
OLD FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: COUNCIL WORK SESSION

OCTOBER 4, 2022

7:00 P.M.

OLD FORGE MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
314 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
OLD FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- RUSSELL RINALDI, PRESIDENT
- RICK NOTARI, VICE-PRESIDENT
- JAMES HOOVER
- MICHAEL LETTIERI
- ANDREW BUTLER
- WILLIAM RINALDI, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR
- MARYLYNN BARTOLETTI, BOROUGH MANAGER
- ROBERT LEGG, MAYOR

Mark Wozniak  
Official Court Reporter

1 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Good evening,  
2 ladies and gentlemen. I'd like to call the  
3 meeting to order with the Pledge of  
4 Allegiance.

5 (The Pledge of Allegiance was  
6 recited.)

7 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Roll call,  
8 please, Marylynn.

9 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilwoman  
10 Avvisato is absent, Councilman Febbo is  
11 absent. Councilman Lettieri?

12 MR. LETTIERI: Present.

13 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Butler?

14 MR. BUTLER: Here.

15 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Hoover?

16 MR. HOOVER: Here.

17 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Notari?

18 MR. NOTARI: Present.

19 MS. BARTOLETTI: Councilman Rinaldi?

20 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Here. Once  
21 again, ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the  
22 work session of the Old Forge Borough.  
23 Tonight is Tuesday, October 4, 2022. The  
24 purpose of our meeting is to set the agenda  
25 for our next meeting, which would be our

1 regular meeting, October 18th. We'll go  
2 down the table, we'll hear from our members  
3 and our mayor, our department heads.

4 There's a public sign-in sheet the  
5 chief of police has if anyone from the  
6 public would like to address us at the end.

7 We'll begin with our first  
8 department head, Joe Lenceski, DPW manager.  
9 Anything for the agenda for our upcoming  
10 meeting?

11 MR. LENCESKI: I have nothing for  
12 the agenda.

13 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Does anybody  
14 have any questions for Joe? Thanks, Joe.  
15 Chris Hart, code enforcement/zoning officer,  
16 anything for our meeting coming up?

17 MR. HART: Nothing for the agenda.

18 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Anybody have  
19 any questions for Chris?

20 MR. NOTARI: Do we have statute  
21 updates on the lower Main Street issue?

22 MR. HART: Yes. I just got off the  
23 phone them before. Everything's been good  
24 so far. All they have is a little bit of  
25 scaffolding left to go on the truck. The

1 truck is coming back tomorrow. I just got  
2 off the phone with him. That's all they  
3 have outside.

4 MR. NOTARI: So is the driveway  
5 empty?

6 MR. HART: Yes. There's the two  
7 cars still there, but unfortunately, like  
8 the chief said, there's nothing we can do  
9 with the two cars.

10 MR. NOTARI: How about the winery  
11 with the people on West Morton with the  
12 issue?

13 MR. HART: We were just in court  
14 with them this morning. For the West Morton  
15 side everything's cleaning up very nicely  
16 through there. He got building permits off  
17 me today. He's building kind of a tool shed  
18 on his concrete piece of land over there and  
19 his plan is to reopen the winery. He's  
20 coming to planning on Tuesday. I guess he  
21 has somebody who wants to come in and revamp  
22 the whole place, open the winery back up to  
23 full operation. Tuesday he'll be at  
24 planning.

25 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Anyone else

1 have anything for Chris?

2 MR. LETTIERI: Did we ever find out  
3 who the owner of that building is? The  
4 Junkin Monkey.

5 MR. HART: Amy Martin.

6 MR. LETTIERI: It's not Chicky?

7 MR. HART: No. The assessor's  
8 office still shows Chicky, but I spoke to  
9 him before here, I confirmed it was Amy  
10 Martin. I have all her contact information  
11 if we have any problems in the future.

12 MR. HOOVER: The shed, what's the  
13 date?

14 MR. HART: I didn't set a date yet  
15 for zoning.

16 MR. HOOVER: He keeps asking me  
17 about that shed, Dunn Avenue.

18 MR. HART: No. I'm waiting for one  
19 person to confirm on a zoning meeting. I'll  
20 schedule it within the next three weeks as  
21 opposed to two. I'll schedule it by the end  
22 of the month.

23 MR. HOOVER: The neighbors seem to  
24 think it's staying there.

25 MR. HART: No. Like I said, I have

1 to give him a fair shot to go for what he  
2 wants. Unfortunately, only because last  
3 week when we needed to add Jerry Hobbs to  
4 the board that completed it. So now I have  
5 to get a date for a meeting.

6 MR. NOTARI: If he wants to move it  
7 off his property just move it out of that  
8 corner. Correct?

9 MR. HOOVER: Move it back, apply for  
10 a reasonable variance.

11 MR. HART: Even move it back even  
12 with the house. They're not living in it.  
13 He put the mattresses in there on purpose.

14 MR. BUTLER: Bed and curtains on the  
15 windows.

16 MR. HART: I'm aware. He did it on  
17 purpose. I spoke to him.

18 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Did he just do  
19 it to dress it up neatly or something?

20 MR. HART: He overheard some  
21 comments from people walking by and  
22 stopping, saying what, is somebody going to  
23 live in here. So it was more or less a  
24 joke.

25 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: But there

1 isn't anybody living there.

2 MR. HART: No, absolutely not. The  
3 shed came from his father's house in  
4 Pittston. His father passed away.

5 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Anyone else  
6 have anything for Chris? Thank you, Chris.

7 Dave Lopatka, engineer, anything for  
8 the meeting coming up?

9 MR. LOPATKA: I don't have anything  
10 for the agenda.

11 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Anybody have  
12 any questions for Dave? Thanks, Dave.

13 Chief Dubernas, anything for the  
14 meeting coming up?

15 CHIEF DUBERNAS: I'm not sure. It  
16 depends on the civil service. I'd like to  
17 meet with personnel and have a meet with  
18 them, decide what's going on. The test is  
19 due back Monday from Chicago. Hopefully  
20 I'll have them by Friday to set up the oral  
21 interviews and then go from there.

22 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Do you want to  
23 have a personnel meeting before the next  
24 regular meeting?

25 CHIEF DUBERNAS: Yes.

1 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Or next Monday  
2 or Tuesday or Monday or Tuesday before the  
3 meeting?

4 CHIEF DUBERNAS: No, let's have it  
5 earlier because I might be pretty close to  
6 oral interviews coming closer to the  
7 meeting. I just want to get the results  
8 back.

9 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Let's set it  
10 up. After this meeting we'll discuss it and  
11 we can set it up for either Monday or  
12 Tuesday this week.

13 MR. BUTLER: Did we get our quota?

14 CHIEF DUBERNAS: I have four right  
15 now that passed the physical that took the  
16 written. I'm just waiting on the results.  
17 One person didn't show up. Today I actually  
18 had a kid come in for a part-time  
19 application rather than -- I had two  
20 part-time applications. One kid that I'm  
21 doing a background check on and another one  
22 that's, you know.

23 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Anyone else  
24 have any questions for the chief? Thanks,  
25 Chief.

1 Attorney Rinaldi, anything for the  
2 agenda coming up, for the meeting?

3 ATTY. RINALDI: No, nothing for the  
4 agenda. I'm going to have Marylynn -- I  
5 have a draft and criteria for you for future  
6 street names. You can add to it. But it's  
7 something to look at.

8 Also, I got dates from Charlie  
9 Schimmel. I would suggest two days in case  
10 one gets cancelled. Any evening he's  
11 available. October 10, 11, 19, 20, 24, 25,  
12 31 and November 1 and 2. I sent them to  
13 Marylynn. Pick two.

14 MS. BARTOLETTI: Anyone have dates  
15 that they're not available?

16 MR. LETTIERI: Next week I'm not.

17 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: I'm not next  
18 week, too. I'm not good the 19th or 20th.

19 ATTY. RINALDI: The 11th is no good  
20 anyway because of the planning commission.

21 MS. BARTOLETTI: The 24th is the  
22 first date, the 26th is the second date.

23 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: At 6:30.  
24 Anything else?

25 ATTY. RINALDI: No, that's all. The

1 subdivision I think we may have done if it  
2 gets done by planning and Dave and Chris has  
3 it. That's for the pit. That's it.

4 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Anybody have  
5 any questions for the solicitor? Thanks,  
6 Bill.

7 Marylynn, anything for the agenda?

8 MS. BARTOLETTI: I do not.

9 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Anybody have  
10 any questions for the borough manager?  
11 Thanks, Mare.

12 Chief, anyone from the public? I  
13 know Rusty wanted --

14 CHIEF DUBERNAS: I think he's going  
15 to counter off the mayor.

16 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: We'll go down  
17 the table, see if the mayor or council have  
18 anything for the agenda. Mayor Legg,  
19 anything?

20 MAYOR LEGG: Not a thing. Thanks.

21 MR. LETTIERI: I do not.

22 MR. NOTARI: Nothing for the  
23 agenda, but I just want to let everybody  
24 know that our recreation committee met last  
25 week, Mike and myself, along with Joe

1 Lenceski, who is our director of parks, and  
2 Tony DiMattia, who is the president of the  
3 rec board. We asked Tony to reconvene the  
4 rec board on Thursday here, at 6:30, and  
5 talk about our parks pretty much going  
6 forward and the use of them and the order of  
7 operation, I should say. That we're  
8 bringing all these groups in, youth groups,  
9 the representation that will mix up our  
10 recreation board. So they're going to come  
11 in and we're going to talk about the use of  
12 our facilities and the proper channels to go  
13 through with using them and seeking to  
14 improve them, is the safest way to say it.  
15 We'll meet on Thursday and we'll have a  
16 report to council.

17 MR. BUTLER: I have nothing.

18 MR. HOOVER: Nothing.

19 MR. RUSSEL RINALDI: I don't have  
20 anything either. At this time the chair  
21 would entertain a motion to adjourn.

22 MR. NOTARI: I'll make that motion.

23 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: By Councilman  
24 Notari.

25 MAYOR LEGG: Before we adjourn,

1 everything was settled at the last meeting  
2 and Dale and I have been working on this for  
3 a couple months. We want to thank you. We  
4 will meet with Marylynn and come up with an  
5 agenda. We have to have some kind of  
6 ceremony.

7 MR. FENDER: I want to thank Mayor  
8 Legg and council for this. We're working on  
9 this actually for 40 years, since the 1980s.  
10 It's a whole different regime as far as a  
11 lot of folks weren't even born on July 20,  
12 1969. Glynn Lunney was a friend of mine.  
13 Presently I'm the senior space systems  
14 engineer for NASA at the Goddard Flight  
15 Center in Greenville, Maryland. I'm working  
16 on the Mars project. I'm also the senior  
17 civil engineer for PennDOT the last 11  
18 years. I work out of Harrisburg. My  
19 territory is district six in Montgomery and  
20 Philadelphia counties and district five, the  
21 Allentown area, and there are five counties.

22 So this Glynn Lunney thing was the  
23 perfect time and the perfect storm to have  
24 this done. A NASA guy who's going to get  
25 tons of publicity from NASA, and we can't

1 put a price on publicity. We've established  
2 this town, I'm born and raised in this town.  
3 I was born over Flora's Gift shop on Oak  
4 Street. I've lived in this town,  
5 Lawrenceville Hill, still live here. This  
6 is one of the best things to do because in  
7 this era of diversity we are the pizza  
8 capital of the world. It's engrained in  
9 everybody's mind.

10 But I think to honor a person from  
11 this town who a lot of people don't even  
12 know that the 56 year veteran of NASA in  
13 charge of Apollo 11 and then Apollo 13 and  
14 actually named in the Ron Howard movie  
15 Apollo 13, Glynn Lunney, was the flight  
16 director for all these flights since 1959,  
17 before it was even called NASA. So I think  
18 that the publicity and the promotion of  
19 this -- again, I'm in the radio and  
20 television business 51 years this year.  
21 Since I was 15 and a half. Channel 16 is in  
22 on the deal, Fox 56 is in on the deal, and  
23 WYOU and WBRE is going to cover this deal.  
24 So I think the publicity for the town is  
25 just a hundred fold. And that brings more

1 publicity because now the word leaked out a  
2 little bit and now I've been contacted by  
3 relatives of Frank Claus. Frank Claus was  
4 an eight time pro bowler's tour winner from  
5 Mary Street. They're thinking the same  
6 thing. I know we're not in the street  
7 rededication business, but I think that  
8 these ancillary tactics to gain incredible  
9 publicity for this town, which is already on  
10 the map with a gold star, is worth its  
11 weight in gold. This has maximum impact for  
12 minimal price and minimal labor. So I think  
13 this was a really good thing.

14 I want to thank everybody for being  
15 in on this deal. It takes a lot of eggs to  
16 be broken to make an omelet. This took a  
17 long time. I think this should have been  
18 done 40 years ago. That's not here nor  
19 there because, again, people have a great  
20 memory but it's a short one.

21 But I think that the publicity,  
22 again, on top of all the great publicity --  
23 I mean, look at this town. You got  
24 franchises, MacDonald's, Burger King, Dunkin  
25 Donuts. You get more than the cities to the

1 north and south of here, plus that's not  
2 even the five star private restaurants.

3 So I think this was long overdue,  
4 and I don't think there's one negative  
5 aspect that could be said about doing  
6 something for a few blocks of Main Street.  
7 I think it's great.

8 I want to thank everybody for being  
9 on board with this. As long as it gets  
10 done, it gets done. As a spokesman for NASA  
11 and a spokesperson for PennDOT this was the  
12 perfect time to get this together. Once  
13 again, underlining minimal, minimal, minimal  
14 effort, maximum impact, and I thank council  
15 and the mayor.

16 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Thanks, Rusty.

17 MR. NOTARI: Dale, you have  
18 connections with NASA. Can you get us any  
19 artifacts? We're naming part of a street  
20 after Mr. Lunney and eventually we will have  
21 one of those historical plaques. Can you  
22 get us a rocket for one of our parks?

23 MAYOR LEGG: Just to be clear, Mr.  
24 Chairman, again we are not renaming the  
25 street. You can't do that. We're just

1 designating a portion of it Glynn Lunney  
2 Way. Dale did a lot of work. He did about  
3 four month's work in, like, four days. He's  
4 got great connections. That's all I have.

5 MR. RUSSELL RINALDI: Thanks, Rusty.  
6 If there's nothing else, the chair would  
7 entertain a motion to adjourn. Motion by  
8 Councilman Notari. All in favor?

9 (Unanimous. Meeting adjourned.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that I attended the foregoing proceeding, took stenographic notes of the same, that the foregoing, consisting of 16 pages, is a true and correct copy, done to the best of my ability, of same and the whole thereof.

  
Mark Wozniak  
Official Court Reporter