

**BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

September 4, 2018

7 P.M.

Council members present were: Ms. Jordan, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Blatt, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Trabel, and Ms. Halleman. Also, in attendance were Mayor Gifford, Anthony Branco (Executive Administrator), Cordula Voges (Finance Officer), Chief Bachert, Mr. Pete Lehr (Borough Solicitor), and guests.

Since Council President Rapp was absent, Mr. Blatt called the meeting to order and asked for everyone to rise for the Pledge to the Flag.

Mr. Blatt asked Council for a motion to accept the minutes of the August 6, 2018 and August 22, 2018 meetings. The motion was made by Ms. Jordan and Mr. Atkinson respectively to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Atkinson and Ms. Jordan, and approved unanimously

PRESENTATION(s) – none.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Discussion on Agenda Items - none.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gifford read the Police report and announced that Lehigh County distributed \$6,750 as revenue to the Borough for code violations.

The Mayor informed that the Fountain Hill Business Alliance secured a speaker for its presentation “Marketing in the Digital Age” on September 27, 2018.

The Small Business Alliance will participate in another roadside cleanup on Broadway.

As recommended by Mr. Branco, Mayor Gifford asked Council to consent to Lehigh University’s donation of its discarded Garbage Cans to the Borough for use at multiple bus stops within in the Borough. Council did welcome the effort and agreed.

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

- The Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the 2018 Gaming Grant requests of \$113,800.00 for the Police and Fire departments.
- Governor Wolf announced that the Borough is awarded a RCAP (Rural Community Assistance Program) grant in the amount of \$750,000. The RCAP Grant will be used to pay off part of the G.O. Note 2017 as authorized in Ordinance No. 835 on 04/27/2017.
- Mr. Branco asked for a motion to send the amendments/issuance of ordinances to deal with feral cats and to implement rules in response to Disruptive Behavior in rental properties to the Planning Commission for final review and subsequent approval by Council.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel	x		x			
Leo Atkinson			x			
Hellen Halleman			x			
Annamarie Jordan		x	x			
Norman Blatt			x			
Doug Trotter			x			
Larry Rapp						x
Mayor Gifford						

- Mr. Branco is informally inquiring about other Information Technology (IT) firms as an alternative to the current IT provider.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2018-32 authorizing the issuance of individual Procurement cards was tabled to the next work session.

ORDINANCES - none.

MOTIONS - none.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Atkinson asked and made the motion to unlock and open the basketball rims at the Park after a summer season without any complaints from Borough residents. Council did not vote for the motion due to a lack of a second. The motion was dropped.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT – none.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Lehr summarized the meeting with Mr. Branco and the Salisbury Township's Manager to discuss an amendment of the ordinance regulating the current Sewer Agreement with the Salisbury Township for sewer transmission and tap fees. The Salisbury Township Manager was receptive to a fee increase by late October. Mr. Lehr will prepare an amended agreement and present it to the Health & Sanitation committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance

(Trotter, Blatt, Jordan)

Mr. Trotter reported the checks paid in August 2018 out of the General, Health & Sanitation, Sewer, and Liquid Fuel Funds and asked for Council approval.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel		x	x			
Leo Atkinson			x			
Norman Blatt			x			
Annamarie Jordan			x			
Larry Rapp						x
Doug Trotter	x		x			
Helen Halleman			x			
Mayor Gifford						

B. Public Works (Jordan, Rapp, Trotter)

Ms. Jordan read the hours worked as reported by the Public Works supervisor.

C. House & Ordinances (Blatt, Halleman, Rapp)

Mr. Blatt reported that the draft of the Feral Cat Ordinance is under review and will be part of the next Council meeting's agenda.

D. Recreation (Trabel, Jordan, Blatt)

Mr. Trabel reported a successful swimming pool season regarding attendance and passes sold.

E. Health & Sanitation (Halleman, Jordan, Trabel)

Ms. Halleman reported the collected fees for garbage and sewage for the month of August.

F. Personnel (Trotter, Blatt, Rapp)

Mr. Trotter made the motion to accept the current Finance Officer as full-time Borough employee at the completion of her probationary period on September 11th, 2018.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			x			
Leo Atkinson			x			
Hellen Halleman			x			
Annamarie Jordan		x	x			
Norman Blatt			x			
Doug Trotter	x		x			
Larry Rapp						x
Mayor Gifford						

SPECIAL OR SELECT COMMITTEES

Mr. Richard Reis, Fire Chief

- Together with Mr. Branco and Mr. Quarry (Public Works), he is reviewing the existing/expiring leasing contract for a garage on the property of Cherokee Street (Fire Department).
- Mr. Reis asked to put any discussions to merge the Fountain Hill and Salisbury Fire departments on hold.
Mr. Atkinson responded that any merger discussions are truly in an exploratory phase that will require a long time to be completed.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Discussion on Non - Agenda Items

Mr. Samu, the owner of a rental property on 1204 Ronca Street, claims that his 1206 Ronca Street neighbor’s sewer line is incorrectly connected to his sewer line. Council asked Mr. Branco to direct the Borough’s Zoning Officer to review the neighbor’s sewer line connection.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – none.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:50 PM, Mr. Atkinson made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Trabel and unanimously approved.

**BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

By: _____
Lawrence Rapp - President of Council

ATTEST:

By: _____
Cordula Voges, Finance Officer

ATTEST:

By: _____
Anthony Branco, Executive Administrator