

**FOUNTAIN HILL BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
April 20, 2022  
7 P.M.**

The Council Meeting was held in-person at Borough Hall. Council members present were: Ms. Jordan, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Rufe, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Blatt, Ms. Graham, and Mr. Trabel. Also, in attendance were Eric Gratz (Borough Manager), Cordula Voges (Finance Director), and guests.

Council President Blatt called the meeting to order and asked for everyone to rise for the Pledge to the Flag.

**MINUTES**

- Approval of the minutes of April 4, 2022

Council President Blatt asked for a vote on a motion by Ms. Jordan to approve the Minutes of April 4, 2022 as amended.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Annamarie Jordan		x	x			
Jamie Johnson			x			
Wilbert Rufe			x			
Doug Trotter			x			
Philip Trabel	x		x			
Erica Graham			x			
Norman E. Blatt Jr.			x			
Mayor Johnson						

**PRESENTATION(S) - None**

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED**

- Mike Zovko – Community Pool Petition and Request

Mr. Michael Zovko of 5507 Greene Ct requested to rethink the permanent closure of the pool, since its intended closure created such a community interest, even though the poll and community meeting participation was lackluster. He reported that one hundred fifty people have signed a petition to keep the pool open. He will submit the respective list to Council.

Even though the pool operation creates a money challenge, Mr. Zovko stressed the importance of the pool as a last community venue. He asked Council to accept help from Borough residents (such as citizens' committee) and allow citizens' committee to meet at Borough Hall.

Mr. Gratz offered to announce any future meetings on the official Borough's facebook page and website. Mr. Gratz pointed out that the next public Citizens' Committee meeting is scheduled for May 12.

Ms. Debbie Spadaccia of 1034 Broadway addressed Council in support of the pool and reminded Council members that the American Legion sold the legion's property to the Borough with the restriction to use it for recreational purposes.

When inquired if St Luke's is assisting with the pool Mr. Gratz mentioned that St Luke's recently helped fund the purchase of the new Fire Truck. The Borough Manager emphasized that funding is only one issue regarding the pool operation. Staffing (i.e. life guards etc) is another.

Mr. Jason Brandon of 701 S Hoffert St asked to increase the efforts to find staff. When asked Mr. Brandon did not offer a tangible suggestion to solve staffing issues. Mr. Rufe stressed that staffing shortages are imminent in many fields. He raised concerns that actual solutions are missing to find people.

Regarding staffing Mr. Quarry (Public Works Supervisor) reminded that park staff is also needed for the 2022 summer park program. Ms. Johnson reported, that despite increased pay rates, no applications have been submitted.

Ms. Briana Warner of 1029 Cherokee St asked for the pay rates offered for the park program. Mr. Gratz stated the hourly rates of \$20 and \$15 for both morning and evening hours. Ms. Warner is also in support of keeping the pool open (at least in the future); she would also accept Real Estate tax increases. Ms. Johnson invited Ms. Warner to participate in the upcoming Recreation Committee meetings.

Mr. Timothy Brown of 615 S Bergen St wondered if the fire tax could be used for the pool operation. He also encouraged Council to look for grants to fund the pool. Council President Blatt explained the use and restriction of the fire tax. Mr. Gratz reported that, indeed, recreational grants have been applied for. This year's "Casino Grant" (now: local share money) is dedicated for a new cruiser car. He added that federal infrastructure money is continued to be monitored.

**DRAFT RESOLUTIONS FOR REVIEW**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022- 19**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL,  
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING PRICE ADJUSTMENT OF BITUMINOUS  
MATERIALS FOR SMALL QUANTITIES IN THE BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR 2022 ROAD  
PROJECTS.

Mr. Gratz reported that the Borough Engineer has suggested to include the price adjustment in the bidding requests (for 2022 only!) to attract more bidders.

Council consented.

## DRAFT ORDINANCES FOR REVIEW

### ORDINANCE NO. 863

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, CHAPTER 6, CONDUCT, PART 5, SMOKING IN CERTAIN AREAS PROHIBITED, ADDING A DEFINITION SECTION, DEFINING TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO INCLUDE ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES, DEFINING SMOKING TO INCLUDE THE USE OF A TOBACCO PRODUCT, REPEALING SECTION ON PERMITTED SMOKING AREAS, PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF PARTS OF THIS ORDINANCE DEEMED TO BE INVALID; REPEALING ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, OR PARTS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Gratz hi-lighted that the above ordinance includes smokeless products at the park.

### ORDINANCE NO. 869

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, CHAPTER 15, PART 3, §304 PARKING REGULATIONS, AMENDING SECTION (4) PENALTIES TO REPLACE WRITTEN WARNING WITH \$25 FINE FOR FIRST OFFENSE AND INCREASE FINE FROM \$75 TO \$100 FOR THIRD OFFENSE.

### ORDINANCE NO. 870

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, CHAPTER 27, ZONING, PART 5, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, SECTION 507 CONTROL OF LIGHT AND GLARE BY AMENDING PROVISIONS RELATING TO OUTDOOR LIGHTING IN ORDER TO PROMOTE SAFETY, SECURITY, NIGHTTIME PRIVACY AND NIGHTTIME ENJOYMENT OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, AS WELL AS MINIMIZE GLARE THAT POSES DANGERS TO THOSE OPERATING MOTOR VEHICLES, PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF PARTS OF THIS ORDINANCE DEEMED TO BE INVALID; REPEALING ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, OR PARTS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Gratz hi-lighted that the above ordinance lays out ground rules for invasive lighting between properties.

Council consented to advertise the above ordinances.

### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Gratz reported that the summer park seasonal jobs have been advertised, but no applications have been received yet.

Council President Blatt noted that regarding the hiring of a Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer and/or the future progress of fulfilling the Zoning/Code Enforcement function an executive session will be held at the end of the public Council Meeting.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS (NEW BUSINESS)**

Mr. Gratz reported that he is in communication with St Luke’s discussing its contributions to the community.

Mr. Gratz also reported that both Hellertown and Allentown have offered pool partnerships for the 2022 season. They would allow Fountain Hill residents to purchase season passes and the Borough would subsidize the difference in residence and non-residence rates. Hellertown had also requested maintenance assistance from Fountain Hill. However, Mr. Berger had raised concerns about liability issues (related workers’ compensation).

Since the City of Bethlehem is no longer able to grind yard waste, it is asking for a new formal agreement with the Borough to financially support its operation in Year 1 with \$1,400 and Year 2 and Year 3 a lesser amount. Mr. Quarry explained that this agreement would only be for the Borough to take yard waste and falls leaves to Bethlehem.

Mr. Gratz reported that Mr. Dave Berger recommended to agree.

Mr. Gratz also reported that individual compost cards will increase from \$15 to \$20.

**MOTIONS**

Council President Blatt asked for a vote on a motion by Mr. Trabel to advertise the Draft Ordinances 863, 869, and 870.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Annamarie Jordan		x	x			
Jamie Johnson			x			
Wilbert Rufe			x			
Doug Trotter			x			
Philip Trabel	x	x	x			
Erica Graham			x			
Norman E. Blatt Jr.			x			
Mayor Johnson						

Council President Blatt asked for a vote on motion by Ms. Jordan to accept the resignation of Tristen Gambino from the Public Works Department, effective April 4, 2022.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Annamarie Jordan	x		x			

Jamie Johnson  
 Wilbert Rufe  
 Doug Trotter  
 Philip Trabel  
 Erica Graham  
 Norman E. Blatt Jr.  
 Mayor Johnson

		X				
		X				
		X				
	X	X				
		X				
		X				

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Discussion on Non - Agenda Items**

Mr. Ronald Goosley of 634 Lechauwecki Ave suggested to make a court for pickle ball available. Ms. Johnson said that his suggestion will be addressed in the upcoming Recreation Committee.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel Discussion)/ ADJOURNMENT**

Council President Blatt announced that the Little League will open this Saturday/

Chief Bachert reminded that the drug drop off will be held this Saturday between 10 AM and 2 PM.

At 8:01 PM Council President Blatt asked for a motion to adjourn to an Executive Session and not return to the public meeting. Mr. Trabel made the motion, seconded by Mr. Rufe and unanimously approved.

BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL  
 LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Norman E Blatt - President of Council

SUBMITTED:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cordula Voges, Finance Director

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Eric Gratz, Borough Manager

Next Ordinance – 871  
 Next Resolution – 2022 - 20