

Minutes
BOROUGH COUNCIL
AUGUST 1, 2022
7 P.M.

The Council Meeting was held in-person at Borough Hall. Council members present were: Ms. Jordan, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Blatt, and Mr. Trabel who arrived late. Ms. Graham, Mr. Rufe and Mr. Trotter were absent. Also, in attendance were Eric Gratz (Borough Manager), Cordula Voges (Finance Director), Pete Lehr (Solicitor) 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 July 20, 2022

Council President Blatt asked for a motion to approve the Minutes.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED - None.

MAYOR'S REPORT - None.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Fire Department will facilitate a Community Soak Event on 8/4/22 from 5-8 pm at the playground on Stanley Ave.

Roadwork Update:

- Jeter Ave (Kieffer St to N Clewell – CDBG Funded) –

The road project is a full reclamation including a new road, new sidewalks (where needed), and new curbing. The work started on 7/25/2022 and is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

- Broadway Curbs and Sidewalks (MTF Funded)

The advertisement for bids is advertised on 8/1 and 8/8/2022.

- Broadway and Delaware Pedestrian Improvement (TASA Funded)

The final bid will be awarded in the 3rd week in August.

- Notification System for the public

The “Public Alert” messaging system offered through the utility billing software provider is under consideration.

Alternatively, two more vendors will be reviewed.

- Fountain Hill Food Pantry Follow-up

The building plans for the Fountain Hill Elementary School Food Pantry were submitted and are under review. Donations for non-profit purposes are encouraged in the future to support it.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2022- 24

A RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH THE DEGRADATION FEE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 21, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, SECTION 305, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL.

Resolution No 2022-24 amends the street degradation costs which have not been updated since 2016.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2022- 25

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2022-05, FEE SCHEDULE, TO ADJUST THE STREET EXCAVATION ESCROW FEE.

Resolution 2022-25 adjusts the street excavation escrow amounts.

	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						

RESOLUTION NO. 2022- 26

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DESIGNATING SIGNATORY OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT.

Resolution 2022-26, as required by PennDOT, authorizes the Borough Manager to sign the PennDOT traffic signal maintenance agreement (related to Broadway/Delaware Pedestrian Improvement Project) on behalf of the Borough as recommended by the engineer.

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

ORDINANCES – None.

MOTIONS

- Awarding the Warren Street mill and overlay contract to Gaver Industries Inc dba Barker and Barker Paving (low bidder) as recommended by the Borough Engineer

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

- Rejecting the sole bid from Kobalt Construction for the Grass Alley Conversion and Storm Sewer Replacement project

The bid from Kobalt Construction was way over estimated project cost. The Borough Engineer recommended to postpone the project, when the market is more competitive. The Lehigh County Conservation District grant is valid for two years; bidding will be advertised next year again.

	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						

OLD BUSINESS – None.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Council President Blatt reported on the recent PSAB held annual legal seminar that he and the Borough Manager attended.

Council President Blatt accompanied his granddaughter to the Fountain Hill Playground Program. They enjoyed the activities.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

(Trotter, Blatt, Jordan)

Council President presented the bills as presented and asked for a motion to approve the payments.

	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						

Public Works

(Jordan, Trotter, Rufe) – None.

Police

(Blatt, Trotter, Johnson) – None.

The Police Committee will continue negotiations with the Fountain Hill Police Association on Thursday, August 4th.

House & Ordinances

(Rufe, Graham, Jordan) – None.

Fire

(Trabel, Graham, Rufe)

The Voluntary Fire Department continues its drive to increase membership. Training is offered through Bucks Community College and equipment is provided. It is also looking for auxiliary roles, such as fund raising. Any volunteer activity also qualifies for high school juniors' community service hours.

Recreation

(Johnson, Rufe, Trabel)

Ms. Johnson reported on her findings to potentially offer a movie night at the park. The cost will be based on the number of attendees (e.g., 2-500 attendees = appr. \$600).

Health & Sanitation

(Graham, Johnson, Trabel)

In Ms. Graham's absence, Council President Blatt read the July Sewer/Garbage collection reports.

Personnel

(Trotter, Blatt, Jordan) - None.

SPECIAL OR SELECT COMMITTEES

The BOOK MOBILE offers multiple activities during the summer for children and adults.

The closing of the PLAYGROUND PROGRAM will depend on the staff availability.

The annual STICKBALL TOURNAMENT will be held this coming weekend.

Chief Bachert reminded that a DRUG DROP OFF date is scheduled for October 2nd from 10 am to 2 pm.

The FOUNTAIN HILL LITTLE LEAGUE will have a fall league this year!

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Discussion on Non - Agenda Items – None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel)

Council President announced that even though an Executive Session was scheduled, it will be deferred to another time.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:28 pm Council President entertained a motion to adjourn. Ms. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Trabel 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 – 2022-27