

**BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2019
7:00 PM**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session discussing personnel matters had preceded the public Council Meeting at 6:30 pm.

Council members present were: Ms. Jordan, Mr. Ferencin, Mr. Blatt, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Atkinson, Mayor Gifford, Mr. Trabel, and Ms. Halleman. Also, in attendance were Cordula Voges (Finance Director), Ed Bachert (Police Chief), Jason Quarry (Public Works), Allen Blakeslee (Public Works Applicant) and guests. Mr., Branco, the Borough Manager, was absent.

The documents listed below were provided to Council as a separate document for the December 18, 2019 Council meeting:

- Agenda for December 18, 2018 Council Meeting
- Draft Council Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2019
- Allen Blakeslee (Public Works applicant) resume
- Ordinance No. 856 2020 Taxation

MINUTES

- Minutes of December 2, 2019 Council Meeting

Ms. Jordan proposed to delete paragraph B. Public works of the Committee Reports. Council President Atkinson asked for a motion to approve the minutes including the proposed alteration.

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

PRESENTATION(S) - none -.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Discussion on Agenda Items

Council President Atkinson reminded everyone to adhere to the 3-minute speaking limit.

Mr. Timothy Kelly of 1501 Jeter Avenue asked Council members to closely watch the Budget 2020 and its budget reserves. He welcomed that Council has set aside for capital projects and community development.

Mr. Michael Spencer of 1035 Jeter Avenue addressed the proposed budget and its revision and the tax increase. Ms. Stephanie Spencer of 1035 Jeter Avenue passed her 3-minute speaking time on to her husband. He referred to his written comments that he had presented to Council beforehand to guide and improve Council’s decisions on budgetary spending. He encouraged Council to specifically identify and allocate funds while significant amounts have been reserved for capital projects (\$100k) and community development projects (\$55k) going forward.

MOTIONS

- Recommendation of the PW Committee to hire Mr. Allen Blakeslee for the position of Public Works labor. Necessary checks are required

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

- Adoption of 2020 budget

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

- Acceptance of Civil Service Commission eligibility list – (Mr. Blatt) was tabled.

RESOLUTIONS -none.

ORDINANCES

Second Reading

ORDINANCE # 856

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, ESTABLISHING THE REAL ESTATE AND OTHER TAXATION FOR BOROUGH PURPOSES FOR FY 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the council of the Borough of Fountain Hill, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania:

THAT a tax be and the same is hereby levied on all real property within Fountain Hill Borough subject to taxation for the fiscal year 2020 as follows:

SECTION 1. Tax rate for general purposes, the sum of 9.13 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, or the sum of \$0.913 on each one hundred dollars of assessed value.

SECTION 2. Tax rate for the Fire Department, the sum of 0.08 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, or the sum of \$0.008 on each one hundred dollars of assessed value.

SECTION 3. Tax rate for Library Services, the sum of 0.40 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, or the sum of \$0.040 on each one hundred dollars of assessed value.

SECTION 4. All other municipal tax rates are to remain unchanged.

GENERAL REPEALER

All Ordinances or parts of ordinances, especially Ordinance #846, and all resolutions or part of resolutions, inconsistent herewith shall be and are herewith repealed.

SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any provision, sentence, clause, phrase, section or part thereof shall for any reason be found unconstitutional, illegal, or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality, or invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, sections, or parts thereof, but the same shall remain in effect. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Borough that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part included herein.

EFFECTIVE DATE

The provision of this Ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2020.

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

OLD BUSINESS – none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (NEW BUSINESS)

Council President Atkinson thanked the two parting Council Members, Mr. Norm Blatt and Mr. Francis Ferencin, for having served on Council and wished them well for the future.

Ms. Jordan made the motion to accept the sale of the Ambulance One Ford 350 on the Municibid Auction for \$985.

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

Ms. Jordan reported that the Book Mobile has been stationed in Fountain Hill near the pool but has not opened yet.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Discussion on Non - Agenda Items

Ms. Jamie Johnson of 1330 Stanley Ave (2020 term elected Council Member) asked on behalf of one resident on the 1200 block of Russell Avenue not being able to attend the Council Meeting herself to have blue lines painted marking handicapped parking. Two residents on Russell

Avenue have been awarded handicapped parking spaces. However, the signage differs showing one as "Permit Parking" and the other one as "Handicapped Parking" she asked to clarify.

Mr. Patrick Figueroa pleaded for a good working relationship with Council for 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:05 pm Council President Atkinson asked for a motion to adjourn the Council meeting. Ms. Jordan made the motion and Mr. Trabel seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

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

By: _____
Leo Atkinson - President of Council

SUBMITTED BY

By: _____
Cordula Voges, Finance Director

Next Ordinance – 2019-35
Next Resolution – #857