

**MINUTES  
BOROUGH COUNCIL  
February 19, 2025 - 7 P.M.**

The Council Meeting was held in person at Borough Hall. The meeting was called to order and roll call was conducted by Council President McCandless. Councilmembers present were Ms. Jordan, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Blatt, Mr. Trabel, Council President McCandless, and Borough Manager Burkhart.

Absent were Ms. Johnson Mr. Rufe, Mayor Johnson,

**PRESENTATION BY COUNTY EXECUTIVE ARMSTRONG**

President McCandless introduced County Executive Phil Armstrong to provide a presentation for Council. Executive Armstrong presented various county initiatives. He thanked Council for working with the County on the many initiatives throughout his term as Executive. He commended Council for participating in local governance, which is where things really get done. Executive Armstrong outlined the County plan for the new radio purchase which is coming up in 2025. He also reported on the initiative to update the 911 Center for Lehigh County and to upgrade the fire training centers. Executive Armstrong discussed the tax incentives provided to volunteer fire companies. There was an update on the progress Lehigh County has made in developing a multicounty juvenile detention and rehabilitation center.

President McCandless asked when the implementation of the new radio system would be due. Executive Armstrong reported that it would need to be completed by 2025.

The Minutes of January 22, 2025, were presented. A motion was made to approve the minutes and the minutes were approved.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Annamarie Jordan	X		X			
Jamie Johnson						X
Wilbert Rufe						X
Doug Trotter			X			
Philip Trabel		X	X			
Stewart McCandless			X			
Norman E. Blatt Jr.			X			
Mayor Johnson						

The Minutes of February 4, 2025, were presented. A motion was made to approve the minutes and the minutes were approved.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Annamarie Jordan			X			
Jamie Johnson						X
Wilbert Rufe						X
Doug Trotter	X		X			
Philip Trabel		X	X			
Stewart McCandless			X			
Norman E. Blatt Jr.			X			
Mayor Johnson						

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED & AGENDA ITEMS** - There were no requests for Privilege of the Floor

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Correspondence from resident** – A Burkhart reported that the Borough received correspondence from a resident requesting Council review residential parking in the school area. N. Blatt noted that parking is very difficult in that area during school pick-up and drop-off and suggested that without consistent enforcement nothing would improve. A. Burkhart noted that new traffic patterns after the school’s rebuild may beneficially impact the drop-off and pick-up times. It was suggested the A. Burkhart contact the resident to inform him of the plans around the school. Those plans will impact parking in the area and Council can revisit parking when the new building is operational.

**Tax Certification Fees discussion** – A. Burkhart reported that the Tax Collector is requesting an increase in Tax Certification Fees. The fees were last updated in 1997 when the certification fees were set at \$15.00 each. It was suggested that the fee should be increased. A. Burkhart requested input on where Council would be comfortable setting that fee. It was determined to set the fee at \$30.00. A. Burkhart noted that she would develop a resolution making that change for the next meeting.

N. Blatt noted that the new trash collector was not doing a good job in terms of recycling. There was a lot of garbage on the street in town this past week.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Snow Removal Update** – A. Burkhart reported that Public Works is doing a great job on snow removal. Throughout the state, there is a current shortage of salt that is impacting communities. N. Blatt asked why the Borough does not use brine in snow removal efforts. President McCandless noted that brine was very damaging to vehicles. Council commended the efforts of Public Works during snow removal operations.

**Audit Update** – A. Burkhart reported that the Borough’s Audit was still underway.

**MOTIONS**

No Motions were on the Agenda.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT –**

President McCandless asked residents to be aware of weather conditions and to maintain their walks as needed.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR-** There were no requests for Privilege of the Floor

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** –To discuss Finance Officer Position – President McCandless announced an Executive Session to discuss the Finance Officer Position. The session would be for informational purposes only and no decisions would be made. It was noted that Council would not return to session and therefore would move to adjourn the meeting before entering Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT** - There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Annamarie Jordan			X			
Jamie Johnson						X
Wilbert Rufe						X
Doug Trotter			X			
Philip Trabel	X		X			
Stewart McCandless			X			
Norman E. Blatt Jr.		X	X			
Mayor Johnson						

ATTESTED

BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL  
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Burkhart, Borough Manager

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stewart McCandless - President of Council

SUBMITTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Burkhart, Borough Manager