

**MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL
Wednesday, February 21, 2024
7 P.M.**

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

MINUTES

- Approval of the minutes of February 5th, 2024, as amended.

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

- **PRESENTATION(S)**

Lehigh County Executive Phil Armstrong was in attendance to discuss some of the projects underway in the county. He mentioned that the County had recently moderated a panel on senior housing and to review ways to make it affordable. Smart growth plan with housing experts. Executive Armstrong further relayed information about the recently introduced Pardon Project in Lehigh County which helps low-income people with police records to become productive members of society. Mr. Armstrong introduced Adrianna Calderon, who is the Community Liaison and Public Information Officer, she is the main point of contact for his office.

Mr. Trabel suggested that more efforts should be made to help senior citizens who would like to stay in their home.

Ms. Johnson asked about the programs that Lehigh County is looking at to encourage home ownership.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED none

- **RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE**

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 8

A RESOLUTION OF THE FOUNTAIN HILL BOROUGH COUNCIL APPOINTING THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE FOUNTAIN HILL PLANNING COMMISSION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Fountain Hill does hereby appoint the following individuals to the Borough of Fountain Hill Planning Commission.

April Kotsch	4-year term	02/21/2024 - 12/31/27
Matthew Sherer	4-year term	02/21/2024 - 12/31/27

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

○ **ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE**

ORDINANCE NO. 882

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, CHAPTER 15, PART 3, SECTION 302 (C) 3, TO DELETE/ADD CERTAIN HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES.

ADD:

STREET	SIDE	LOCATION
South Lynn Street	Front	620
North Clewell Street	Front	521
North Clewell Street	Front	726

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

○ **DRAFT ORDINANCES FOR REVIEW & ADVERTISEMENT none**

● **OLD BUSINESS**

- Broadway Meter pit updates

Amy Burkhart explained that Hanover engineering is recommending that we replace the meter and the housing. The cost to replace the meter is \$6,162.00 and the cost to replace the cabinet \$3,644.00. We are looking to the council since the cost exceeds the amount in the 2024 budget.

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

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- Pollution Reduction Plan – Dodson Street Park.

The Pollution Reduction plan at Dodson Street Park was discussed at the most recent Stormwater Authority Meeting. The Authority approved the planning for the stormwater retention area that will be above pool on Dodson Street. The area may include a single retention area that will include bushes, trees, or a 2-tier drainage system plus nature area.

- Stormwater Connection on 730 Lechauweki

It was discussed that a home on Lechauweki has an abundance of stormwater in their sewer lateral; the Stormwater Authority approved a connection to go directly into the stormwater drain. The homeowner has worked with Hanover Engineering to develop a plan to reduce the amount of groundwater around the home. Hanover Engineering and Norris McLaughlin have worked on an Operations and Maintenance agreement for the project that will need to be reviewed and approved by the Borough in an upcoming meeting.

- Motion to approve the hiring of Jill Fessler as the Finance Officer for the Borough of Fountain Hill, with a start date of February 21, 2024.

Council President McCandless discussed that through the Retirement of Cordula Voges it is being recommended that the Borough approve hiring of Jill Fessler as the Borough's Finance Officer

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

- Repository Sale

Amy Burkhart explained that Lehigh County Repository contacted Fountain Hill that there is a bid to purchase a parcel located on South Hoffert St. Owners would like to purchase the parcel for \$500.00. This would bring the property back to the tax role.

The parcel will automatically sell if the council does not oppose. It will become the property of the adjacent property owners (size 95 x 18' 2100 square foot).

There was no opposition to the sale of the property

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

None

The Council President McCandless recognized Cordula Voges's role during the last six years. Council congratulated Cordula on her retirement and wished her a Happy Retirement. They wanted her to know that they appreciated everything that she had done at Fountain Hill.

EXECUTIVE SESSION & ADJOURNMENT

Council President McCandless announced that a short executive session was held prior to meeting for Personnel Reasons

At 7:34 PM Council President McCandless asked to adjourn the Council meeting and asked Council to move into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Ms. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Trabel and unanimously approved.

ATTESTED

BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

BY: _____
Amy Burkhart, Borough Manager

By: _____
Stew McCandless - President of Council

SUBMITTED

BY: _____
Jill Fessler, Finance Director

Next Ordinance – [883]
Next Resolution – [2024-08]

Approved