

**MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL
July 3, 2023
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, Mr. McCandless, Mr. Trabel and Mayor Johnson. Also in attendance were Jason Quarry (Interim Borough Manager & Public Works Supervisor), Cordula Voges (Finance Director), Keith Zehner (Zoning Officer), Dave Berger (Solicitor), and guests.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 June 21, 2023

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED

- Mr. Brian Ferencin of 1210 Broadway reported that parents speed on their way to take their children to school especially on Cherry Alley, but also on other alley ways. He asked Council to investigate if removable speed bumps could be installed. Fifteen other residents signed a petition asking for removable speed bumps. Council President Blatt accepted the petition on behalf of Council and referred the matter to the Solicitor to investigate if the Borough Code allows removable speed bumps.
- Mr. Mike Zovko of 507 Greene Ct. added to Mr. Ferencin's comments that one-way entries ("Do Not Enter" signs) into the alley ways at certain times could offer an alternative to removable speed bumps.

Regarding the "Movies in the Park" community event on 7/15/2023, Mr. Zovko inquired about the cost of three hours of employee time to open and close the park. Mr. Quarry will let him know.

The Community Coalition would like to promote this year's community "Wetdown" event in the park. Council President Blatt recommended to reach out to the Fire Department and the Playground Program staff to coordinate.

Mr. Zovko asked the Public Works department to specify any of the cement areas on the pool grounds that will be repaired before the volunteers will start caulking.

Mr. Zovko reported that the locker room exterior was painted. To complete the painting of the upper locker rooms, gutters, and downspouts more paint would be needed. Mr. Quarry will coordinate the purchase of the paint with the coalition.

Three Community Coalition members are interested in taking online courses in grant writing at Penn State to be able to identify grant opportunities and assist in grant writing.

The Community Coalition will get involved with a new organization "Lehigh Valley Life Saving Association" in its efforts to coordinate training and placement of lifeguards throughout the Lehigh Valley.

Mr. Zovko mentioned again the upcoming 150th anniversary of St. Luke's hospital taking care of its first patient. Council President Blatt asked if a proclamation to commemorate that event is desired. Mr. Zovko welcomed that suggestion.

NEW BUSINESS

- Application for Waiver requested by Fountain Hill Properties, LLC regarding 950/960 Broadway Apartment Development

Mr. Zehner (Zoning Officer) further explained the application for the waiver to reduce the two-step application process to a one-step process. The Planning Commission was also in favor of granting the waiver. The final plan approval by Council is scheduled for the 8/7/2023 Council Meeting.

Council President Blatt asked if there was a motion approve the waiver.

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

- 2022 DCED Annual Report of Municipal Authorities (FH Stormwater Authority) was presented to Council for informational purposes.
- Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative (PMHIC – BENECON)
PMHIC provided the first surplus claim fund distribution check for the 2022 plan year (\$98k).

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE – None.

MOTIONS

Approving Invoice # 6874REVISED as submitted by AMS, LLC for the 2022 Delaware Ave Pavement Preservation Project in the amount of \$214,699.60 as recommended by Hanover Engineering. The work has been completed and accepted by the Borough.
Council President Blatt asked if there was a motion to approve the payment.

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

OLD BUSINESS – None.

MAYOR'S REPORT – None.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Council President Blatt welcomed the upcoming "Movies in the Park" community event.

The community yard sale was well run.

Council President Blatt wished everyone a safe 4th of July celebrations and reminded that the police will be monitoring the use of fireworks.

The next Fire committee meeting will be held on 7/19/2023 at 5:30 pm. Council President Blatt invited Mr. Berger to it.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (Trotter, Blatt, Jordan)
 Motion to pay the bills as presented.

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

Public Works (Jordan, Trotter, Rufe)-None.

Police (Blatt, Trotter, Johnson) – None.

House & Ordinances (Rufe, Jordan, McCandless)

Mr. Rufe reported that the lighting ordinance was discussed at the recent committee meeting and a draft will be presented at the next Council meeting. Non-lawn landscapes will be discussed at the August Committee meeting to conform to the residents’ desire to take ecology into consideration.

Fire (Trabel, Rufe, McCandless) – None.

Recreation (Johnson, Rufe, Trabel)

Ms. Johnson thanked the police for monitoring the evening playground program.

Ms. Johnson also thanked the Community Coalition for their volunteer work.

Health & Sanitation (McCandless, Johnson, Trabel)

Mr. McCandless read the June Sewer/Garbage collection reports.

Personnel (Trotter, Blatt, Jordan) – None.

Technology (Johnson, Rufe)

Ms. Johnson reported that all council members were given access to Fountain Hill email accounts.

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

Council President Blatt reported Paving that PennDOT is now scheduled to start paving Broadway in August.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – (Personnel matters) & ADJOURNMENT

The agenda was amended to include the discussion of personnel matters under “Executive Session”.

At 7:39 pm Council President Blatt asked to adjourn the Council meeting and asked Council to move into an executive session to discuss personnel matters. Ms. Jordan made motion, seconded by Mr. Trabel and unanimously approved.

BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By:

Norman E. Blatt - President of Council

ATTESTED

BY: Jason Quarry, Interim Borough Manager

SUBMITTED

BY: Cordula Voges, Finance Director

Next Ordinance – 874
Next Resolution – 2023-16