

**MINUTES  
BOROUGH COUNCIL  
July 7, 2025 - 7 P.M.**

The Council Meeting was held in person at Borough Hall. The meeting was called to order. Council President requested that attendees stand, as able, for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was conducted by Council President McCandless. Councilmembers present were Ms. Jordan, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Blatt, Mr. Trabel, and Council President McCandless. Also present were Mayor Johnson, Solicitor Berger and Borough Manager Burkhart.

Absent was Mr. Rufe and Mr. Trotter,

The Minutes of June 18, 2025, were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the Minutes. The motion passed.

	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			X			

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

**MAYOR’S REPORT** - Mayor Johnson reminded everyone to be careful of pedestrians now that the pool and park are open.

**BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT** – Borough Manager Burkart had no report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Billing/Finance Clerk – A. Burkart reported that interviews had started for the Billing Finance Clerk Position.

Change of Council Meeting Dates – A. Burkart reported that there was a request to change some of the summer meeting dates. Specifically, to cancel the July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting and reschedule it for July 21. Also, to cancel the August 4 and August 20 meetings and to instead hold one meeting on August 11.

Pool Filter System – It was reported that one of the pool filters was currently leaking and would require replacement. A quote was received for the project and while the Borough is still working on getting all the updates, the cost will be above \$100,000 for the replacement. S. McCandless

noted that while the large pool is currently the issue, the middle pool has already been a problem in the past. It was suggested that the Borough get pricing to have all the filters at the pool replaced.

Lechauweki Park – Vandalism was reported at Lechauweki Park. Installing trail cameras was discussed as a possible solution to curb future problems.

Firehouse Sub Grant Declined – The Firehouse Sub Grant for which the Borough applied was declined. The grant was for the purchase of Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) for police vehicles. That equipment will still need to be purchased despite the lack of grant funding.

Police Purchase of Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) – It was reported that the police vehicles will need to be outfitted with new Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) due to outdated software. The cost of the terminals is \$25,738.80.

Correspondence from Dylan DeGroat – A resident corresponded with the Borough to request review of restricting RV's from parking on-street. J. Johnson noted that the request was to review the ordinances of other communities. It was discussed that parking in the Borough was already limited without the addition of recreational vehicles. It was suggested that the concept be referred to House and Ordinance Committee for review. N. Blatt asked if panel trucks would also be included in the restrictions. S. McCandless noted there were various concepts that will need to be reviewed.

Correspondence from Libby Ortiz – A request was submitted by Libby Ortiz, a resident who would like to volunteer to teach craft classes in the Borough. There was a discussion about the ability of the Borough to provide space, and it was recommended that the resident contact other community organizations, such as the local churches, who may be better partners for the activity.

Use of Public Space request from Iglesia Cristiana Shekinah's – The Iglesia Cristiana Shekinah's submitted a request to close Hoffert Street between Delaware and Church Alley, and the closure of Church Alley from Elm Street to Hoffert, for a Physical and Mental Health Day on July 19, 2025.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

It was reported that the Bethlehem Area School District's updated request for Lane closure and parking restriction has not yet been received.

**RESOLUTIONS FOR REVIEW/FINAL PASSAGE** - There were no Resolutions for Review or Final Passage

**ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE** - Ordinance 886 AN ORDINANCE INCREASING THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, BY THE ISSUE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$294,466.49 was discussed. It was noted that under Borough Code an Ordinance is required for a Borough to take on debt. The debt that the Borough is taking on is for the purchase of Emergency Management Radios for Police, Fire, and the Emergency Management Coordinator.

**MOTIONS**

A motion was made to approve the closure of Hoffert Street between Delaware and Church Alley, and the closure of Church Alley from Elm Street to Hoffert, for Iglesia Cristiana Shekinah’s Community Physical and Mental Health Day on July 19, 2025, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

	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			X			

A motion was made to authorize the advertisement of Ordinance 886 AN ORDINANCE INCREASING THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, BY THE ISSUE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$294,466.49

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

A motion was made to authorize the purchase of Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) as identified in Advanced Electronic Design Inc Quote #QUO-15140. Total cost of \$25,738.80.

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

A motion was made to approve the change of July and August meeting dates and authorize advertisements of the new dates. Meeting dates will be July 21 and August 11, 2025. The canceled meetings will be July 23, August 4 and August 20.

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

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

S. McCandless reported that it seemed like everyone had a fun and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Also S. McCandless noted that the Park and Pool Programs were going well.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

D. Berger reported on the outstanding collections for the Borough. It was noted that there are some habitual delinquent accounts that will be receiving notice of the outstanding balances.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

J. Johnson read the financial reports. There was a motion to accept the reports and to pay the bills.

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

Public Works – A. Jordan had no report.

Police – Chief Bachert reported that a large truck will be delivered to the school which will cause some temporary traffic restrictions.

House & Ordinance – S. McCandless reported on the ordinances currently under review by House and Ordinance.

Fire – P. Trable reported on the number of Fire calls in the previous month.

Recreation – J. Johnson reported on the success of the summer recreation programming. The potential dates of the Fire Company Soaks were discussed. The dates should be announced in the near future.

Health & Sanitation – W. Rufe was not present; however, it was noted that the delinquent report was included with the financials for Health and Sanitation.

Personnel – A. Burkhart reported on the interviews being held for the clerk position that is open in the Borough.

IT Committee - There was no IT Report.

**SPECIAL OR SELECT COMMITTEES** – No reports by Special Committees.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR** - No one requested Privilege of the Floor.

A. Hogan clarified on some ordinances that were discussed during the Council Meetings.

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

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

BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL  
 ATTESTED

LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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

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

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