

**MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL
May 5, 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, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Rufe, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Blatt, Mr. Trabel, Council President McCandless, Borough Manager Burkhart, and Borough Solicitor David Berger

Absent was Mayor Johnson

Council President McCandless announced that an Executive Session was held before the meeting to discuss personnel matters regarding a pending employee.

The Minutes of April 7, 2025, were presented. N. Blatt suggested that the word “specifically” should be removed from page 2 under New Business. And that in the Finance Committee Report, the wording should be “A motion was made to accept the report and to pay the bills.” A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed.

	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 April 23, 2025, were presented. 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						

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED & AGENDA ITEMS –

Ashley Woods, 1128 Russell Avenue, was present to discuss the condition of her sidewalk. She was seeking clarification on who is responsible for the repair of the sidewalk. President McCandless clarified that the repair of the sidewalk is the responsibility of the homeowner, though it is in the right-of-way. Ashley Woods asked if she could remove the sidewalk. N. Blatt clarified that residents could not remove the sidewalk but are responsible for the repair of the sidewalk.

Ashley Woods also indicated there is not enough police presence on her block. Ashley reported that neighbors yelled at her mother and accused Ashley of moving the neighbor's car. President McCandless suggested that Ashley call the police when there are issues that require intervention. W. Rufe suggested that she could use the non-emergency number for non-emergency conditions 610-437-5252.

Ashley also discussed the fire lane next to her house. She was concerned about the width of the lane and its maintenance. N. Blatt volunteered to meet with Ashley to discuss her concerns.

Luz Garcia 722 N. Bergen Street, Luz attended to discuss the alley behind her house and the deteriorating curb that exists there. Luz indicated that she is concerned about stormwater impacting her property. She asked if someone could look at it. It was suggested that Public Works review the location to determine what could be done.

MAYOR'S REPORT Mayor Johnson was absent. Jamie Johnson reported on the Mayor's behalf and wished Emi Marshall Happy 100th Birthday! Emi will celebrate her Birthday on May 26, 2025.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT – A. Burkhart had no report

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Streets Project – A Burkhart reported on the 2025 Streets project. Bids have been received for the Frederick/Fiot Street project. The lowest bidder is Bracalente Construction, Inc, in the amount of \$128,105.00. Four bids were received for the project.

Little League Fence Request – A request was received from the Little League to install a temporary fence at the softball field.

2025 Pool Rates – A Burkhart recommended that the pool rates for 2025 remain the same as what they were in 2024. N. Blatt asked if there was still a reduced resident rate available at Borough Hall, and it was confirmed that residents could purchase discounted passes at Borough Hall.

Lechauweki Park Use – The Borough received a request for use of Lechauweki Park on May 25, 2025, for a wedding ceremony.

Pool Employees – There is a list of recommended hires for the park and pool on tonight's agenda.

A. Burkhart reported on a Lifeguard Training Class that will be run at the Fountain Hill Pool for 2025. The class will be June 6-8, 2025, with a cost of \$200 per applicant

OLD BUSINESS – There was no Old Business

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

MOTIONS

There was a motion to accept and approve the recommendation by Hanover Engineering to award the 2025 Street Project – Frederick Street and Fiot Street Mill and Overlay to Bracalente Construction, Inc in the amount of \$128,105.00. The motion passed.

	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						

There was a motion to hire Andre Hogan as the Code Enforcement / Zoning Officer at an annual rate of \$60,000, conditioned on the successful completion of all necessary documentation. 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						

There was a discussion on the installation of a temporary outfield fence. W. Rufe asked if the fence was installed before submitting a request to Council. M. McCandless clarified that the fence was installed before approval. M. McCandless reviewed some of the background

information about the fence and indicated that the appropriate process was not followed. N. Blatt indicated that he is in favor of the Little League, but it is unclear what necessitates the installation of a fence on public property. Kevin Frankfield from the Little League introduced himself and explained that children encroach on the play area, and those children are resistant to following directions. Kevin also provided a status update on the Little League and the field requirements that are recommended to them. President McCandless reiterated that the appropriate process was not followed and advised the Little League to request permission before installing a fence.

It was suggested that the Little League annually request use of the fields and that the lease be updated. A. Jordan reiterated that seeking permission before making changes to public property is essential.

There was a motion to approve the installation of a temporary outfield fence at Stanley Avenue Ball Field by the Fountain Hill Little League. Approval is conditioned on the submission of a Certificate of Insurance listing the Borough as additional insured within 7-days of approval and the removal of the fence by June 2, 2025. The motion passed.

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

N. Blatt requested that D. Berger review and update the lease between the Borough and Little League

A motion was made to approve 2025 Season Pool Rates as follows:

Season Pass Rate for Fountain Hill Resident - \$60 / person.

Season Pass Rate for Non-Resident - \$90 / person.

Daily Door Rate - \$8 / person

Daily Door Rate after 4 p.m. - \$5 / person

Residential Daily Rate (must be purchased at Borough Hall with proof of residency)
\$6 / person.

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						

A motion was made to approve the use of Lechauweki Park by Susan Meier on May 25, 2025, at 1 p.m. for a Wedding Ceremony. The motion passed.

	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						

A motion was made to hire the following people as 2025 Seasonal Employees, conditioned on the receipt of all necessary documentation and background checks. The motion passed.

Name	Position	Payrate
Talia Matos-Keller	Head Lifeguard	\$20.00
Juan Orlang	Lifeguard	\$18.00
Auriana Bobo	Cashier	\$12.00
Isaac Greaves	Lifeguard	\$18.00
Bryn Korab	Lifeguard	\$18.00
Lucia Dredge	Cashier	\$12.00
Ryan Monahan	Lifeguard	\$18.25
Yareli, Ramos	Lifeguard	\$18.00
Diane Vandervere	Lifeguard	\$18.00
Elijah Williams	Lifeguard	\$18.00
Jovanni Velazquez	Lifeguard	\$18.00
Reilly Szarah	Lifeguard	\$18.00
Joshua Sterner	Lifeguard	\$18.25
Aiden Walters	Lifeguard	\$18.25

Thomas Pojanowski	Cashier	\$12.25
Amelia Saggio	Cashier	\$12.25

	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						

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REPORT - Council President McCandless reported on the following events:

Opening Day of Little League went well.
 Memorial Day Ceremony – 5/23/2025 at 1 p.m.
 The pool will open for the summer of 2025.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE – There were no Ordinances for final passage.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – D. Berger had no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance - D. Totter reported on the Borough's Financial Report. A motion was made to accept the report and to pay the bills. The motion passed.

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

Public Works - A. Jordan had no report.

Police – N. Blatt had no report.

House & Ordinance – S. McCandless reported on the ordinances being reviewed by the committee.

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

Recreation – J. Johnson had no additional report beyond what had already been discussed during the Council Meeting.

Health & Sanitation - W. Rufe asked the Solicitor to provide a report at the next meeting on delinquencies. W. Rufe also noted that in the future, the Borough would include updates on sewer billings.

Personnel – D. Trotter had no report

IT Committee - J. Johnson had no report

SPECIAL OR SELECT COMMITTEES –

W. Rufe noted that the Library meeting schedule has changed to bi-monthly.

M. Zovko reported that the Community Coalition had a meeting and is working to organize a yard sale. Also, they have been researching playground activities. N. Blatt asked if there was consideration for a movie at the park this year. M. Zovko noted that the idea is being considered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR-

Brian Chaenka, 1304 Stanley Avenue, was present to request a waiver from the Sewer Lateral Inspection requirement. Brian’s home shares a sewer lateral with the neighboring property, which is not permitted by Borough Code, and the cost to separate them would be high. D. Berger indicated that if Mr. Chaenka would like to request a waiver, Council would need additional information submitted for review. There was discussion regarding the history of sewer laterals in the Borough of Fountain Hill, which included shared laterals, water infiltration, current ordinances, and sale requirements. W. Rufe volunteered to meet with Mr. Chaenka to discuss his sewer lateral.

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						

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

APPROVED