

**MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL
November 15, 2023
7 P.M.**

The Council Meeting was held in-person at Borough Hall. Council members present were: Ms. Jordan, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Blatt, Mr. McCandless, Mr. Trabel and Mayor Johnson. Ms. Johnson and Mr. Rufe were absent. Also in attendance were Amy Burkhart (Borough Manager), Cordula Voges (Finance Director), Ed Bachert (Police Chief), 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 November 6, 2023, as amended

	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						

PRESENTATION(S) - None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED

Mr. Charles Zurick of 734 Delaware Ave presented the Zoning Officer’s Official Notice of Violation (dated 11/9/2023) of Ordinances, Chapter 27 Section 403.D.6. regarding an improper number of garage sales/yard sales to Council. Mr. Zurick admitted that he had held garage sales on three (3) consecutive Saturdays but stated that no garage sales were held on any following Sunday. He complained that his neighbor’s allegation to have exceeded the number of permitted garage sales is not sufficient evidence for the Zoning Office to issue the Notice of Violation. Council President Blatt stated that the remedy to challenge the accuracy/applicability of the violation notice is to file an appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB). However, Council President Blatt and Council agreed to review the matter and get back to Mr. Zurick.

Mr. Brandon Zurick of 629 S Hoffert St addressed Council to review the Zoning Officer’s request to remove/relocate any fencing currently not within the property as expressed in the Zoning Permit dated 10/4/2023 for his property on 629 S Hoffert St.

Council President Blatt will present this case again to Mr. Berger and invited Mr. Zurick to come before the next Council Meeting on December 4 at 6:30 pm to further discuss.

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE

RESOLUTION 2023-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A LOCAL SHARE ASSESSMENT GRANT FROM THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY.

Ms. Burkhart stated that Resolution 2023-25 was necessary to change the language of Resolution 2023-10 and be compliant with the Commonwealth Financing Authority’s (CFA) program.

Council President Blatt asked to amend Resolution 2023-25 adding the words “rescinds 2023-10” and asked if there was a motion to accept the amendment.

	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						

Council President Blatt asked if there was a motion to approve Resolution 2023-25 as amended.

	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						

DRAFT ORDINANCES FOR REVIEW & ADVERTISEMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 880

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
Itaska Street	front	929
 REMOVE:		
STREET	SIDE	LOCATION
Delaware Avenue	front	922

Chief Bachert did not have any concerns about adding a Handicapped Parking Space on Itaska Street. Council President Blatt asked if there was a motion to authorize Ms. Burkhart to advertise Ordinance No 880.

	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						

OLD BUSINESS

- **Rescind Resolution 2023-10 (see below) – to be replaced with Resolution 2023-25**

- *SEE RESOLUTION 2023-25 FOR FINAL PASSAGE* -

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT FUNDS

DISCUSSION ITEMS (NEW BUSINESS)

- One-Way Traffic Ordinance on Church Street during School Hours

Chief Bachert reported that currently one-way traffic cannot be enforced because no traffic signs are up. He suggested that one-way traffic regulations are needed on Moravia and Church Streets to have continuous one-way traffic during school drop-off hours.

Council President Blatt suggested and asked Ms. Burkhart to start a letter campaign asking residents on Moravia Street to comment on the potential traffic changes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Discussion on Non - Agenda Items

Ms. Rosanne Minarovic of 605 Norway Place addressed Council to report frequent speeding on Norway Place in the mornings before school starts despite the stated speed limit of 25 mph. Mr. McCandless suggested to install additional signage alerting drivers to adhere to the speed limit.

Mr. Jason Brandon of 701 S Hoffert St added that speeding signs are not effective. Police-enforced speed controls are needed to cite violators.

Mr. Brandon inquired about the status of securing lifeguards for 2024. Council President Blatt assured him that Council will undertake any efforts to recruit lifeguards and will share information with the Community Coalition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:40 PM Council President Blatt asked to adjourn the Council meeting. Mr. Trabel made the motion, seconded by Mr. McCandless and unanimously approved.

ATTESTED

BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

BY: _____
Amy Burkhart, Borough Manager

By: _____
Norman E Blatt - President of Council

SUBMITTED

BY: _____
Cordula Voges, Finance Director