

MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Budget Discussion
November 3, 2025 - 6 P.M.

The Council met as Committee of the Whole 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, and Council President McCandless. Also present was Borough Manager Burkhart.

Absent was Mr. Rufe, Mr. Trotter, Mayor Johnson, Mr. Trabel

Note: The meeting of the Committee of the Whole meeting is a public meeting and work session to discuss the Budget 2026 – and that no formal action is taken.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (NEW BUSINESS)

General Fund – A. Burkhart lead the discussion by outlining the final review of the budget current along with the proposed millage rates as compared to other communities in Lehigh County. The current millage is 10.61 and is proposed as 11.61 mills for 2026.

A. Burkhart outlined the final General Fund Budget for 2026. Items of note were the anticipated Real Estate Taxes, the use of Capital Funds for projects, and the general increase of Permitting Fees. All other funds discussed were listed without change. In the General Fund Budget.

Additionally Intergovernmental Revenue has remained the same as detailed in the Draft Budget. The Casino Grant Income for the Police car is anticipated to be generated revenue in 2025. The estimated \$50,000.00 in 2026 is a hopeful LSA grant and is also reflected in expenses.

In General Fund Expenses A. Burkhart outlined the final Administration fees have essentially remained the same with slight adjustments from the Draft Budget. Public Safety and Recreation fees also remained the same. On page 3 of Revenue, it was noted that Capital Funds budgeted will be used for pool pumps, in car cameras, proportions of the mini excavator, as well as the fire truck refurbishment. The funds total estimate to be \$323,000 coming in from Capital Funds.

A. Burkhart outlined that Training for Council was amended to \$500. Contracted Services was split under General, Sewer, and Health + Sanitation funds. In the Police Budget there was an adjustment on the Part-Time Wages for the police officers, along with the previously adjustment in the full-time police officer wages reflecting another officer to be hired. Firearm supplies were something that was reviewed and remained at \$10,000.

A. Burkhart reviewed Fire Expenses there was an increase in Uniforms it is anticipated to bring on 4 new Fire volunteers. Uniforms are estimated at \$4,000 per uniform. Under Capital Purchases the budgeted amount is \$170,000 of which \$120,000 is going to the fire truck refurbishment.

A. Burkhart outlined that on page 8 there was a revision on the UCC inspection fees and building fees. Everything else remained unchanged from the Draft Budget.

A. Burkhart outlined that pages 11, & 12 remain the same as previously discussed with no changes or adjustments.

A. Burkhart outlined page 13 there was a substantial change for the Police MMO which will be on Council’s Meeting Agenda for discussion. It was recommended to increase the amount and thus keep the payments up to date for the pension.

Full expenses at \$5.556 million, giving a \$0.00 surplus balance. It was noted that the budget is balanced not only using a increase of tax revenue but also using Fund Balance.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS – There were no other items for discussion.

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
Stewart McCandless			X			
Norman E. Blatt Jr.		X	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: _____
 Alysia Velez, Finance and Billing Clerk