

**Minutes
BOROUGH COUNCIL
November 4, 2024 - 7 P.M.**

The Council Meeting was held in person at Borough Hall. The meeting was called to order and a roll call was conducted by Council President McCandless. Councilmembers present were Ms. Jordan, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Rufe, Mr. Trotter, Mr. McCandless, Mr. Blatt, Mr. Trabel, Linda Fenner, and Atty. Berger.

Absent were Mayor Johnson and Amy Burkhart

President McCandless asked if there were any revisions to the minutes as presented. N. Blatt noted that the minutes should reflect that the meeting was called to order and a roll call conducted. No other revisions were recommended. President McCandless asked for a motion to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed. Johnson and Rufe abstained from the vote.

	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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED & AGENDA ITEMS – No speakers requested Privilege of the Floor

MAYOR’S REPORT – No Mayors Report

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT – No Manager Report

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence – Council President McCandless noted that correspondence was included in Council’s packet from Eddison Cruz regarding his concerns about motor vehicle accidents along the 900 Block of Broadway. Mr. Cruz requested help from the Borough to improve the safety of that area.

There was consideration given to asking PennDOT to limit parking in that area. It was also stated that the area in question is very tight. Broadway is a state highway, and therefore the Borough has limitations on its ability to impose parking regulations.

N. Blatt recommended that the Borough Manager respond to Mr. Cruz highlighting the Borough’s limitations regarding state highways and that the Borough contact the state to relay the Borough’s concerns of that area.

OLD BUSINESS

Garbage and Recycling – D. Berger stated that he is finalizing the documentation for the new garbage hauler.

Street Projects – No update

Manholes – No update

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE – There were no resolutions for final passage.

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

MOTIONS - Request Council authorize the advertising of the Ordinance change for Handicapped Parking.

President McCandless opened discussion regarding the ordinance as presented. It was recommended that a period should be added after the word plates, and the word placards should be removed from the ordinance. It was asked if applicants are required to be current on Borough bills. It was also noted that there are waiver provisions for those with financial limitations. It was asked why placards could not be included in the ordinance; placards have designated numbers. There was discussion about the ability to include placards as a viable option to obtain a reserved handicapped space. Access to off-street parking was discussed. It was recommended that a waiver provision be added for those who have access to off-street parking. The history of handicapped parking waivers from the off-street parking requirements was reviewed. It was recommended that the ordinance be tabled for today and discussed at greater length at the committee level. It was also recommended that the Borough review the possibility of charging applicants the cost of installing and removing necessary signage. There was a request to more clearly state the waiver process in the ordinance.

There was a motion to table the advertisement of the Handicapped Parking Ordinance to have the amendments made as discussed.

	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

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REPORT - President McCandless announced the following items:

Electronics Recycling November 16 – 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Budget Meetings

- Thursday November 14 6 p.m.
- Wednesday November 20 6 p.m.

Stormwater Meeting on November 13 at 6 p.m.

Election Day will be November 5

Veterans Day Breakfast hosted by St. Pauls on 8:30 a.m.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – D. Berger reported on the Zoning Hearing Board Hearing that was continued to October 21, 2024 for 913 Seneca. That request was denied by the Board.

With regards to the Elementary School Project, the engineers are working through some of the outstanding items and Council should be prepared to expect their plan for the December Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (Trotter, Blatt, Jordan)

D. Trotter reported on the financial reports for the Borough. A motion to pay the bills as presented was requested by President McCandless.

	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						X

Public Works – J. Quarry reported on Leaf Collection

Police – The Drug Take Back collected one box of prescription medications

House & Ordinances – President McCandless reported on the status of the Handicapped Parking Ordinance and the Weed and Vegetation ordinance.

Fire – P. Trable reported on the number of fire calls responded to during the previous month. L. Reisling reported on the upcoming Tree Sale and the Santa Run for the Fire Company. L. Reisling reported on the lighting update on the ladder truck.

Recreation – J. Johnson reported on the Recreation Meeting where members discussed the upcoming summer plans and the proposed staffing that is anticipated for 2025. The Tree Lighting is scheduled for December 8, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

Health & Sanitation - W. Rufe did not have a report.

Personnel – D. Trotter reported on the Borough’s search for a Finance Officer and a Code Enforcement Officer.

IT Committee – There was no IT report.

SPECIAL OR SELECT COMMITTEES - There were no reports for Special or Select Committees

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – No speakers requested Privilege of the Floor

ADJOURNMENT – President McCandless requested a motion for Adjournment.

	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

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

Next Ordinance – 883
Next Resolution – 2024-14