

**BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 7, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

Council members present were: Mr. Rapp, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Halleman, Ms. Gifford, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Blatt and Mayor Rosado. Mr. Trabel arrived at 7:10 PM. Also in attendance were Anthony Branco, Executive Administrator, Mr. Peter Lehr, Esq., Fire Chief Dave Boehner, Zoning Officer Albert Rohrbach, Jason Quarry, Public Works Supervisor, and visitors

Council President Rapp called for the pledge to the flag.

Council President Rapp indicated the next item on the agenda was the approval of minutes:

1. Minutes of September 21, 2016 the Work Session Meeting

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel						X
Carolee Gifford			X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordon		X	X			
Norman Blatt	X		X			
Doug Trotter			X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

2. Minutes of the October 3, 2016 Regular Meeting

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel						X
Carolee Gifford			X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordon		X	X			
Norman Blatt	X		X			
Doug Trotter			X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

Council President Rapp opened the meeting to the public for any comments on Agenda items or by those persons registered to speak.

- Mr. Blatt make a presentation of a check in the amount of \$7,200 from the members the Fountain Hill American Legion, Post # 406. Council asked Mr. Blatt to convey their gratitude for the donation. Current members are Gerhart Bassett, 1927 Eastman Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa, James Taglang, 633 Christian Street, Bethlehem, Pa, John L. Spadaccia, 608 S. Hoffert Street, Fountain Hill, Pa, and Robert Barnes, 905 Delaware Avenue, Fountain Hill, Pa.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Rosado read the Police report for October, and also thanked the Fire Department for their Haunted House during Trick or Treat. The Mayor also thanked the Police and Public Works Department for their contribution in ensuring the safety of all the children. Ms. Gifford echoed the Mayors praise.

Mr. Blatt asked the Mayor if he could explain what makes a person or a vehicle suspicious since it is listed on the monthly report. Mayor Rosado stated he thought that when a call went into the dispatch center that if no other information was available, the dispatcher lists it as suspicious until the Officer lists it as something else.

Executive Administrator’s Report:

1. Upgrade current street lights to LED energy efficient street lights. PPL proposal.

Mr. Blatt added that it is contingent that the upfront cost is only \$172.00

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			X			
Carolee Gifford	X		X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordon		X	X			
Norman Blatt			X			
Doug Trotter			X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

Presidents Report:

Mr. Rapp stated that the Borough had received proposals for the position of Borough Solicitor. Mr. Branco will set up a meeting date to interview all applicants.

Solicitor Report: N/R

Council President Rapp moved onto Resolutions:

RESOLUTION NO. 2016- 27

**A RESOLUTION OF THE FOUNTAIN HILL BOROUGH COUNCIL
APPROVING THE FOLLOWING MEETING SCHEDULE
CALENDAR FOR 2017**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Fountain Hill does hereby approve the Meeting Schedule Calendar for 2017 as follows:

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The following is a list of meeting schedules for calendar year 2017. All meetings will be held in Borough Hall, 941 Long Street, Fountain Hill, PA:

COUNCIL MEETINGS: First Monday of each Month @ 7:00 pm; Third Wednesday of each Month @ 7:00 pm; unless otherwise noted

January 3 (Tuesday)	July 3
January 18	July 19
February 6	August 7
February 15	August 23 (4 th Wednesday)
March 6	September 5
March 22 (4 th Wednesday)	September 20
April 3	October 2
April 19	October 18
May 1	November 6
May 24 (4 th Wednesday)	November 22 (4 th Wednesday)
June 5	December 4
June 21	December 20

PLANNING COMMISSION: Second Monday of each Month @ 7:00 pm as needed

January 9	July 10
February 13	August 14
March 13	September 11
April 10	October 9 (Columbus Day)
May 8	November 13
June 12	December 11

ZONING HEARING BOARD: Third Monday of each Month @ 7:00 pm as needed

January 16 (Martin Luther King)	July 17
February 20 (Presidents Day)	August 21
March 20	September 18
April 17	October 16
May 15	November 20
June 19	December 18

Duly Adopted by Borough Council at a meeting held on the 7th day of November 2016.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			X			
Carolee Gifford	X		X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordan			X			
Norman Blatt		X	X			
Doug Trotter			X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

Council President Rapp moved onto Ordinances: none

Council President Rapp moved onto Motions:

Introduction of 2017 Preliminary Budget with no tax increase. Sewer bills will increase by \$6.00 per quarter. Authorize advertisement for public review.

Mr. Blatt made note that there would be \$50,000 taken from the fund balance.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			X			
Carolee Gifford		X	X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordan			X			
Norman Blatt			X			
Doug Trotter	X		X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

Council President Rapp moved onto New Business:

1. Application for a handicap space at 820 Kieffer Street, Apt 2. – all approvals received

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			X			
Carolee Gifford	X		X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordan			X			
Norman Blatt			X			
Doug Trotter		X	X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

2. Application for a curb cut at 1028 Seneca Street – all approvals received

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel		X	X			
Carolee Gifford			X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordon			X			
Norman Blatt	X		X			
Doug Trotter			X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

Council President Rapp moved onto Old Business: none

Council President Rapp proceeded to Committee Reports:

- Finance Committee:
Mr. Trotter reviewed the bills paid in each Fund, and made a motion for the approval of the bills. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gifford and was approved unanimously.
- Public Works Committee:
Ms. Jordan presented the October Public Works report.
Ms. Jordan opened discussion with Council for the replacement of 2001 Ford F-450 dump with plow and salt spreader with a 2016 Ford F-550 with plow and salt spreader. The Costars price of this truck is \$75,020. The Borough's cost to purchase would be \$66,020. Mr. Quarry would like to upgrade the straight plow for a V plow to do alleys. This cost would be about \$1,000 per the manufacture. The Borough is waiting for the quote. The cost of the truck would come out of the Liquid Fuels Capital Equipment account, supplemented by the sewer fund for the first 2 years of the 5-year lease.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			X			
Carolee Gifford			X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordon			X			
Norman Blatt	X		X			
Doug Trotter		X	X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

Ms. Jordan informed Council that the PW Committee had interviewed a candidate, Mr. Christian Smith, for the open position in the PW Department due to the resignation of Brian Mora. Mr. Smith, in the opinion of the committee had all the necessary requirements for the position, as well as having a current CDL-A license. Ms. Jordan stated that the PW Committee recommendation is to hire the applicant.

Mr. Blatt stated that he was not comfortable hiring someone who was recruited by the PW Supervisor, and that the opening had not been advertised.

Ms. Jordan stated that Solicitor Stewart stated that since the last advertisement was so recent, and that applications are held for a year, re-advertising would not be necessary.

Ms. Halleman asked how did the applicant find out about the opening? Mr. Rapp stated by word of mouth.

Mr. Blatt stated that although it may not be illegal, Council should interview as a group.

Ms. Gifford stated that with winter coming the Borough is over a barrel, and since this person has the qualifications we should hire him.

Ms. Jordan stated that she understood Mr. Blatt's position, but with the circumstances what they are, the Committee felt this person has all the qualities needed for the position.

Mr. Trotter stated that the pressure of advertising, holding interviews, doing the necessary checks would take some time. If a recommendation is made by a Committee made up of your peers, then you should trust your peers took the necessary steps to make a qualified decision.

Mr. Trabel asked if Council would have a chance to meet the applicant. Mr. Rapp stated that Council could meet him if they wish.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			X			
Carolee Gifford			X			
Hellen Halleman				X		
Annamarie Jordan	X		X			
Norman Blatt				X		
Doug Trotter		X	X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

- Police Committee: N/R
- House & Ordinance Committee:
Mr. Blatt informed Council that the Committee had met to discuss upcoming proposed ordinances
- Fire Committee:
Ms. Gifford read the October fire report.
- Recreation Committee: N/R
- Personnel Committee:
Mr. Trotter recommended the promotion of Bethany Sebesta to Finance Director/Assistant to the Executive Administrator. This would be a salaried position, and the salary for 2017 would be \$54,000 per year.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			X			
Carolee Gifford		X	X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordon			X			
Norman Blatt			X			
Doug Trotter	X		X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

- Health & Sanitation Committee:

Ms. Halleman read the October Sewer and Sanitation report, as well as the Northeast Revenue Collections report for the preceding two weeks.

Council President Rapp asked if there were any reports from any Special or Select Committees. none

Council President Rapp opened the meeting up to any public comments.

- Mr. Fred Capuano, 27 Warren Street inquired about the PW building addition, and where the Borough was at. Mr. Branco stated that Mr. Mike Mayrosh has been hired as the Architect, and that Jena Engineering had been hired as the firm to prepare a set of detailed plans. Initial payments have been made out of the Building Escrow Fund that consists of the .5 mill tax increase for 2016. Mr. Capuano asked how much was in the account. Mr. Branco stated that prior to the payments ther was collected about \$110,000.

Ms. Gifford made the motion to adjourn at 7:50 P.M. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jordan, and unanimously approved.

**BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

By: _____
Lawrence E. Rapp, President of Council

ATTEST:

By: _____
Anthony Branco, Secretary