

**MINUTES  
BOROUGH COUNCIL  
September 17, 2025 - 7 P.M.**

The Council Meeting was held in person 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. Johnson, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Blatt, Mr. Trabel, and Council President McCandless. Also present were Mayor Johnson, and Borough Manager Burkhart. Mr. Rufe (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

Absent was Ms. Jordan,

The Minutes of September 2, 2025, were reviewed. 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. Mayor Johnson	X		X			

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/ PRE-SCHEDULED & AGENDA ITEMS** – Conner Moriarty 1122 Stanley Ave. C. Moriarity came to Council to discuss his concerns about the behavior of some of the Whitetail employees. He indicated that on July 1 his wife was verbally harassed by the workers and did not feel safe when passing them. Moriarity spoke with the workers and felt that the situation was rectified, however since then a similar incident occurred. C. Moriarity was seeking guidance on how to proceed with the complaint. He was advised to provide a written complaint to the Borough Manager who would open discussions with the company to rectify the situation.

(W. Rufe arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

**NEW BUSINESS**

MMO for Police Pension and Non-Uniformed– A. Burkhart reported that the MMO for 2026 pension plans were recently calculated. There is a motion later in the agenda to approve those amounts.

Technical Assistance Review of Fire – It was recommended by the Borough Manager that the Borough apply for Technical Assistance from the Governor’s Center for Local Government Services through DCED. The assistance is free of charge, and it is a good time, given the staff changes, to have operations at the Fire Company reviewed.

Sidewalk Temporary Waivers – A. Burkhart reported on the progress of the sidewalk review as requested by a resident at the previous Council meeting. It is the Borough’s policy to have the ADA ramps updated if the adjoining panels of sidewalks are replaced. A. Burkhart suggested that the Borough could defer the replacement of the ADA ramps for two years, and in those years, the Borough could seek grant funding to have those ramps replaced. If the Borough was successful in finding funding the Borough would complete the work. If not it would be responsibility of the residents to replace the ramps. N. Blatt raised a concern about the Borough’s liability if a deferral was granted. J. Johnson asked what happened if the property would sell in the meantime. A. Burkhart noted that at that point the ramps would need to be replaced by the resident. N. Blatt sought clarification on the need to replace the ramp due to the deficiency of the ramp, as opposed to the deficiency of the adjoining sidewalk panel. D. Trotter noted that he was surprised by the total cost of ramp replacement as reported by the residents. It was generally agreed to have the solicitor generate draft agreements permitting the deferral.

Fire Relief Fund – It was reported that the Borough has received State Aid for the Fire Relief Fund in the amount of \$27,289.26 to be distributed to the Volunteer Fire Company. There will be motion on the next agenda to provide those funds to the Fountain Hill Volunteer Fire Relief Fund.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Roads Projects – A Burkhart noted that the 2025 projects were moving along nicely and Council could expect a request for payment at the next meeting.

A. Burkhart reminded Council of the Budget Sessions meetings as follows:

- October 16, 2025-6 PM-General Fund, Liquid Fuels, Capital Projects
- October 23, 2025-6 PM- Sewer, Health and Sanitation, Fire, Library, All Other Funds
- November 3, 2025 -6 PM- Unfinished budget business prior to Council Meeting (if needed)

**RESOLUTIONS FOR REVIEW/FINAL PASSAGE** - None

**MOTIONS**

A motion was made to accept and adopt the following Minimum Municipal Obligations for 2026:

- PSAB Police Pension - \$468,079
- PMRS Defined Benefit Non-Uniformed Pension Plan - \$56,113 PMRS
- Cash Balance Non-Uniformed Pension Plan - \$17,029

	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						

A motion was made to approve the Letter of Intent requesting Technical Assistance from the Governor’s Center for Local Government Services.

	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						

Chief Bachert reported that Steve Fritzingler was nominated for Top Gun Award for the number DUI’s that he had last year.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REPORT –**

S. McCandless reported on the following activities: The Halloween Trick or Treat and Trunk or Treat will be October 31 from 6-8 p.m. The Fire Company went to burn training. Fire Prevention Week is October 5 – 11. Lehigh County is hosting a hazardous materials drop off.

W. Rufe reported that the Bethlehem Library is working on their Strategic Plan, if anyone has input this would be time to provide it.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR** – There were no requests for Privilege of the Floor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – It was announced that an Executive Session would be held on Monday September 22, 2025, to interview applicants for the Billing and Finance Clerk Position.

**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						

BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL  
 ATTESTED

LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amy Burkhart, Borough Manager

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Stewart McCandless - President of Council

SUBMITTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amy Burkhart, Borough Manager