

**BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 4, 2017**

7:00 P.M.

Council members present were: Mr. Rapp, Ms. Jordan, Mr. Trabel, Mr. Blatt, Ms. Halleman, Ms. Gifford, and Mr. Trotter. Also in attendance were Mayor Rosado, Mr. Peter Lehr, Esq., Anthony Branco, Executive Administrator, Bethany Sebesta, Police Chief Edward Bachert, Fire Chief Dave Bohrer and guests.

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 the October 18, 2017 Meeting

	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						

2. Minutes of the October 23, 2017 Special Meeting

	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						

3. Minutes of the October 30, 2017 Special Meeting

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Philip Trabel			X			
Carolee Gifford		X	X			
Hellen Halleman			X			
Annamarie Jordan	X		X			
Norman Blatt			X			

Doug Trotter			X			
Larry Rapp			X			
Mayor Jose Rosado						

4. Minutes of the November 6, 2017 Regular Meeting

	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						

PRESENTATIONS: none

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: none

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Council President Rapp thanked Mayor Rosado for his years of public service to the Borough. Mayor Rosado seconded Council President Rapp’s sentiments and stated that this will be the last Council Meeting he will be presiding over as Mayor. Mayor Rosado read the District Justice’s October 2017 report and the tickets and reports amounts received in November 2017. Mayor Rosado read from the Investigation’s Report that there has been an overall decrease in incidents by 40.

Mayor Rosado stated he was very proud of the 7 years he has served as the Mayor of the Borough. Mayor Rosado’s accomplishments include hiring current Police Chief Ed Bachert, 5 new department hires, updated the department’s evidence room, computer system, acquired 5 new vehicles, and there have been no grievances from the Police Union.

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT: none

RESOLUTIONS: none

ORDINANCES:

Second Reading

ORDINANCE # 839

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, ESTABLISHING THE REAL ESTATE AND OTHER TAXATION FOR BOROUGH PURPOSES FOR FY 2018.

SECTION I - The Real Estate Tax Rate for all Borough purposes for Fiscal Year 2018 is as follows:

General Fund	7.63 mills (Municipal government operations)
Fire Department	0.08 mills (Debt payment on fire apparatus)
Library Services	<u>0.40 mills</u> (Provision of Library services)
Total	<u>8.11 mills</u>

These taxes are to be levied on all properties in the Borough subject to taxation for Borough purposes.

GENERAL REPEALER

All Ordinances or parts of ordinances, especially Ordinance #830, and all resolutions or part of resolutions, inconsistent herewith shall be and are herewith repealed.

SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any provision, sentence, clause, phrase, section or part thereof shall for any reason be found unconstitutional, illegal, or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality, or invalidity shall not effect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, sections, or parts thereof, but the same shall remain in effect. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Borough that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part included herein.

EFFECTIVE DATE

The provision of this Ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2018.

DULY ENACTED AND ORDAINED on this 6th day of December 4, 2017, by the Borough of Fountain Hill in lawful session duly assembled.

	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						

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Gifford asked Mr. Branco if the Borough has received a maintenance report from the City of Bethlehem regarding the fire hydrants. Mr. Branco stated that he is expecting the report in Spring once the maintenance is completed. Councilwoman Gifford stated that she would like a more frequent report. Mr. Branco stated that he will follow-up with the City of Bethlehem.

Council President Rapp asked Council to review the Quality of Life and Marijuana Ordinances and submit comments in writing.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Council President Rapp congratulated all the elected officials who won a seat in November's election. Council President Rapp also thanked everyone that was involved in the Christmas Tree Lighting.

Council President Rapp announced that he received a letter from Councilwoman Jordan stating that she will not be accepting the Planning Commission seat in 2018. Councilman Blatt made the motion to accept Ms. Jordan's vacancy, Councilwoman Gifford seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Lehr informed Council that the Council Meeting of January 2, 2018 will be a reorganization meeting and Council members are expected to nominate and vote for lead positions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Finance Committee:
 - Councilman Trotter reviewed the bills paid in each Fund, and made a motion for the approval of the bills. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Gifford and was approved unanimously.

- Public Works Committee:
 - Ms. Jordan presented the November Public Works report submitted by Mr. Jason Quarry.

- Police Committee:
 - Chief Bachert stated that the new police cruiser will now be a 2018 model, but at the 2017 price due to the dealer having back orders.

- House & Ordinance Committee:
 - Councilman Blatt asked Council to review the outstanding ordinances.

- Fire Committee: N/R

- Recreation Committee:
 - Councilwoman Gifford thanked everyone for a successful Tree Lighting ceremony and a successful Clean-Up day.

- Health & Sanitation Committee:

- Councilwoman Halleman read the November Sewer and Sanitation report and asked Ms. Sebesta for a 2017 total collected by Northeast in January.
- Personnel Committee:
 - Council President Rapp stated that a Personnel Meeting was held to discuss legal issues.

SPECIAL OR SELECT COMMITTEES:

Fire Chief Boehrer stated that Operation Santa will held on 12/16 between 4pm & 9pm. Details will be posted throughout Borough Hall and on the Borough’s website.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (non-agenda items): none

Councilwoman Gifford made the motion to adjourn at 7:36 PM. Councilwoman Jordan seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bethany Sebesta, Assistant to the Executive Administrator

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

By: _____
Lawrence Rapp, Council President

ATTEST:

By: _____
Anthony Branco, Executive Administrator