

**BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
COUNCIL MINUTES
September 20, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

Council members present were: Mr. Blatt, Ms. Halleman, Mr. Trabel, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Gifford, & Mr. Trotter. Council President Rapp & Mayor Rosado were absent. Also in attendance was Anthony Branco, Executive Administrator, Bethany Sebesta, and visitors.

1. Roll Call & Pledge of Allegiance

Council Vice-President Blatt called for all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Vice-President Blatt noted that Council President Rapp and Mayor Rosado were absent.

2. Council review of items for the Regular Meeting Agenda:

1. Minutes of August 23, 2017 the Work Session Meeting – DRAFT (Please submit revisions to Ms. Sebesta in writing).
2. Minutes of the September 5, 2017 Regular Meeting – DRAFT (Please submit revisions to Ms. Sebesta in writing).

3. Presentation(s): none

4. Resolutions: none

5. Ordinances: none

6. Discussion Items:

- Mr. Branco announced that the Borough has received \$106,084 in Casino Grant Appropriations to be used as Borough Council sees fit from the items requested:

POLICE

Utility Patrol Vehicle -	\$33,745.00
P/T Officers (3) -	\$35,058.00
In-Car Cameras (4) -	<u>\$15,016.00</u>
TOTAL	\$83,819.00

FIRE

Scott Imaging Face Masks (4) -	\$7,600.00
Self-contained breathing Apparatus (4) -	\$29,728.00
Turn out gear (4) -	<u>\$19,652.00</u>
TOTAL	\$56,980.00

Mr. Branco explained that the Police Department has already ordered a cruiser car and recommended to Council that they approve the entirety of the Police Department expenditures and allow the Fire Department to use the remaining funds.

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

- Mr. Branco announced that the Borough has received \$8,198.00 from the Department of Environmental Protection Act 101 Recycling Program. Ms. Halleman asked Mr. Branco why the amount the Borough receives every year seems to be decreasing. Mr. Branco explained that this program is in the process of being eliminated and the Borough may not receive any money next year.
- Mr. Branco read the end-of-year Playground report, submitted by Mrs. Karen Redding, Playground Supervisor. Council Vice-President Blatt commented that some of the recommendations Mrs. Redding made for next year, specifically the recommendation regarding day cares, is not realistic.
- Mr. Branco announced that due to the implementation of the MS4 Program, the Borough has already paid approximately \$11,044 in engineering fees and that Council is looking at a tax increase in 2018. Ms. Gifford asked Mr. Branco what the status was of her suggestion to appeal the MS4 Program to our State and Federal Representatives. Mr. Branco explained that he has drafted letters. The next step would be to meet with the necessary officials and the Borough solicitor, and finally hold a press conference. Mr. Branco explained that the City of Allentown issued a \$20 fee per every 500 square-feet of impervious coverage. This would equate to approximately a \$40 annual fee for the average size household in the Borough. Mr. Branco asked Council whether they would be interested in pursuing this type of fee and if an Authority would need to be established. Ms. Gifford stated that she believes the Borough should not accept defeat, but rather try harder to fight the program. Ms. Gifford agreed that the fees were the lesser of two evils. Ms. Halleman stated that she believes the Borough should do nothing and wait to see the outcome. Council Vice-President Blatt explained the legal process and ramifications if the Borough opted to pursue fighting the program.
- Council Vice-President Blatt asked Mr. Branco what the status was of the hydrant situation with the City of Bethlehem. Mr. Branco stated that he sent a letter to the City and is waiting until Friday for a response. If he does not receive a response, Mr. Branco will contact the Borough Solicitor to potentially hold any bills to the City without incurring late charges.

- Mr. Branco stated that the Borough needs a UCC Appeals Board and that former Salisbury Township Manager, Randy Soriano, agreed to let the Borough use the Township’s Appeals Board. Mr. Branco stated that Council would need to enter into an inner municipal agreement with Salisbury Township, have the agreement reviewed by the Borough Solicitor, and pass an Ordinance. Council Vice-President Blatt stated that he felt there are plenty of professionals in the Borough and that Council should pursue utilizing local residents before accepting Salisbury Township’s Appeal Board.
- Council Vice-President Blatt announced that the American Legion is seeking Council’s permission to erect a Veteran’s Memorial at the Jeter Triangle. Council Vice-President asked for a motion to approve the monument.

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

- Council Vice-President Blatt announced that on Saturday 9/23 from 9am-12pm the Borough is hosting an Electronics Recycling Drive at the Dodson St. ballfield. Residents must show photo identification and anything with a screen will cost \$10.
- Ms. Gifford announced that the Borough Clean-Up will be held on Saturday, 10/7 at 9am at Borough Hall.
- Council Vice-President Blatt asked what the status was of scheduling budget meetings. Mr. Branco stated that none have been scheduled yet.

7. Council Action:

- Recommendation of the PW Committee to hire Mr. Brian Scott Laible to the position of Public Works laborer contingent on passing the required checks and physicals.

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

- Recommendation of staff to hire Mr. Robert Riley as a Crossing Guard. Child clearance and background checks have been completed.

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

8. Executive Session: none

9. Adjourn

Councilwoman Gifford made the motion to adjourn at 7:31 PM. Councilman Trotter 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: _____
Norman Blatt Jr., Vice-President of Council

ATTEST:

By: _____
Anthony Branco, Executive Administrator