

**BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

October 23, 2019

7:00 PM

Council members present were: Ms. Jordan, Mr. Blatt, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Atkinson, Mayor Gifford, Mr. Trabel, and Ms. Halleman. Also, in attendance were Anthony Branco (Borough Manager), Cordula Voges (Finance Director), Pete Lehr (Solicitor), Ed Bachert (Police Chief), Jason Quarry (Public Works Supervisor) and guests. Mr. Ferencin was absent.

Council President Atkinson called the meeting to order and asked for everyone to rise for the Pledge to the Flag.

The documents listed below were provided to Council for the October 23, 2019 Council meeting:

1. Agenda for 10/23/2019
2. Minutes of September 17, 2019 Special Council Meeting
3. Minutes of September 18, 2019 Council Meeting
4. Minutes of October 7, 2019 Council Meeting (will be in your mail slots before meeting)
5. Resolution 2019-33
6. Ordinance # 853 Municipal Authority
7. Ordinance # 854 Handicap Spaces, 1st reading
8. Proposal for the cleaning of Police & Adm. Offices
9. Request of FH Elementary School to close Church St.

DRAFT MINUTES

- Minutes of September 17, 2019 Special Council Meeting – DRAFT (Please submit revisions to Ms. Voges in writing)
- Minutes of September 18, 2019 Council Meeting – DRAFT (Please submit revisions to Ms. Voges in writing)
- Minutes of October 7, 2019 Council Meeting – DRAFT (Please submit revisions to Ms. Voges in writing)

PRESENTATION(S)

Ms. Mary Erdman, Vice President of League of Women Voters, Lehigh County and volunteer for *Fair District PA*, presented the Fair District PA's work to make the 2018 PA Supreme Court ordered redistricting process more transparent, impartial and fair.

5. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Discussion on Agenda Items - none.

7. RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2019- 33

A RESOLUTION OF THE FOUNTAIN HILL BOROUGH COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF A CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of Fountain Hill in Lehigh County, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process of the decennial drawing of state legislature and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, legislative and congressional redistricting has at times resulted in gerrymandered districts that favor one political party over others; and

WHEREAS, such gerrymandering of legislative and congressional districts has worked at times to the detriment of our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a truly independent citizens redistricting commission devoid of political motivation or partisanship will: ensure a fair, transparent, and accurate legislative and congressional redistricting process that respects political subdivisions; prohibit districts from being drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party or candidate; require the use of impartial and sound methodology when setting district boundaries; require public input; and fully comply with the constitutional requirement that “no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward” be divided “unless absolutely necessary,” and

WHEREAS, legislation to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to reform the decennial legislative and congressional redistricting process with the intent of using fairness and sound methodology in a non-partisan fashion is required to ensure these reforms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fountain Hill Borough Council does hereby support legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens' redistricting commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all those elected officials and party leaders in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of the Borough of Fountain Hill to publicly announce their support of and commitment to work towards passage of such legislative efforts, and that a copy of this resolution be delivered to each of them.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Annamarie Jordan		x	x			
Francis Ferencin						x
Norman Blatt	x		x			
Doug Trotter			x			
Leo Atkinson			x			
Philip Trabel			x			
Helen Halleman			x			
Mayor Gifford						

ORDINANCES

At 7:30 pm Ms. Jordan made the motion to adjourn the regular Council meeting to commence the Public Hearing and Voting on Ordinance No. 853 to create a Stormwater Municipal Authority. Mr. Trabel seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

Public hearing and Vote

Mr. Lehr summarized the legal process for creating the Stormwater Municipal Authority.

Mr. Brian Ferencin asked how the areas that the fees will be based on are measured. Mr. Branco explained that the City of Allentown had created a geographic information system (GIS) map to provide GIS information on impervious areas. For example, the City of Allentown set a stormwater fee of \$20/500 sf. impervious area.

Mr. Zionelli asked to define “impervious area”. Mr. Branco noted that impervious areas refer to land that is covered by features that cannot absorb water.

ORDINANCE NO. 853

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FOUNTAIN HILL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, CREATING A STORMWATER MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF MANAGING STORMWATER ISSUES WITHIN THE BOROUGH