SECTION 1. Purpose. As permitted by the Pennsylvania Borough Code, the purpose of this policy is to allow for the participation of Council Members in meetings of Council from remote locations by means of telecommunication devices, including but not limited to, telephones, computers, smart phones, or other devices which permit, at a minimum, audio communication between locations so that Council may participate in meetings if an individual member cannot physically be present for one or more reasons set forth herein.

SECTION 2. Conditions Precedent. Borough Council may provide for the participation of other Council members by means of telecommunication devices provided that a majority of the membership of Borough Council is physically present at the advertised meeting place within the Borough and a quorum is established at the convening or reconvening of the meeting. If, after the convening or reconvening of a meeting, a member has been disqualified from voting as a matter of law but is still physically present, Council members participating by telecommunication device in accordance with this Policy shall be counted to maintain a quorum.

SECTION 3. Requirements of Telecommunication Devices.

The telecommunication device used permits the member or members of the Council not physically present at the meeting to:

A. Speak to and hear the comments, and votes, if any, of the members of Council who are physically present, as well as, other members of Council who may not be physically present and who are also using a telecommunication device to participate in the meeting; and

B. Speak to and hear the comments of the public who are physically present at the meeting.
The telecommunications device used permits the members of Council and the members of the public who are physically present at the meeting to speak to and hear the comments and the vote, if any, of the members of Council who are not physically present at the meeting.

**SECTION 4. Permitted Reasons for Meeting Absence.** Council may only authorize participation by telecommunication device for one or more of the following reasons:

A. Illness or disability of the member of Council;
B. Care for the ill or newborn in the member's immediate family;
C. Emergency;
D. Family or business travel;
E. Other reasons deemed reasonable, appropriate and necessary by Borough Council physically present at the meeting.

**SECTION 5. Amendments to Policy.** Amendments to this Policy shall not be effective until thirty (30) days after the amendment is approved.

**SECTION 6.** Nothing in this Policy shall be construed to limit the protections and prohibitions contained in any law or regulation relating to the rights of the disabled.

ADOPTED By Resolution this _______ day of ________________________, 2021.