



**Special Collections and University Archives**

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**Manuscript Group 43  
Leonard Abrams Collection of Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

**For Scholarly Use Only  
Last Modified October 2, 2014**

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**Leonard Abrams Collection, Manuscript Group 43**  
**Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives**  
**3 boxes; 3 linear feet**

**Biographical/Historical Note**

Leonard Allen Abrams (March 25, 1927 – December 15, 2013) served as a long-time member of the Indiana Borough Council from 1960 to 2009. Abrams came to Indiana as a 9-year-old boy when his family moved from Pittsburgh. In 1936, his father David Abrams became co-owner of Ash Shoes in the 700 block of Philadelphia Street. Leonard Abrams graduated from Penn State University in 1951 with a degree in economics and commerce. He later ran the family shoe store with his brother Howard Abrams before going into the brokerage business.

Leonard Abrams was first elected to the Indiana Borough Council in 1960. Borough councilmen serve on committees and make recommendations regarding purchasing, finance, health, police, streets, engineering, and traffic. He served as council vice president, chaired the Indiana Borough Council's Street Committee, Insurance Committee, and the Police Civil Service Commission. He helped create a borough parking authority.

During Leonard Abrams tenure on the Indiana Borough Council, urban renewal projects included the construction of the borough sewage treatment plant, building of the new borough administration building (with the facilities for the police and fire departments), the construction of the Water Street parking garage and the new Indiana County Courthouse were all undertaken. Leonard Abrams was also Indiana's first Jewish council member.

The Indiana County Trustees selected the site of Indiana Borough in Indiana County, Pennsylvania on April 11, 1804. George Clymer (1739-1813), signer of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, donated 250 acres of land under the Act of March 25, 1805. This act specified the town shall be called Indiana and further specified the size of the town lots and width of streets. A three-day auction was held in which Indiana town lots were sold. Indiana was incorporated as a borough by an Act of the General Assembly on March 11, 1816.

**Scope and Content**

The Leonard Abrams Collection is housed in three archival boxes. These papers contain meeting minutes and correspondence relative to the business of Indiana Borough and borough council. The papers have been arranged by topic and then chronologically within each topic.

**Provenance**

The collection was donated by Leonard Abrams.

**Restrictions**

None.

**Processor**

January 21, 2001; the records, reorganization, and inventory was rewritten by Kathy Redd.

Records rearranged and inventory rewritten by Special Collections in 2014.

### **Container List**

#### **Box 1 (29 folders) Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

1. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, November-December 1958
2. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1959
3. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1959
4. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1960
5. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1960
6. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1961
7. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1961
8. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1962
9. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1962
10. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1963
11. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1963
12. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1964
13. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1964
14. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1965
15. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1965
16. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1966
17. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1966
18. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1967
19. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1967
20. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1968
21. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1968
22. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1969
23. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1969
24. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1970
25. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1970
26. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1971
27. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1971
28. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1972
29. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1972

#### **Box 2 Indiana Borough Council (17 folders)**

1. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1973
2. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1973
3. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1974
4. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1974
5. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1975
6. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1975
7. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1976
8. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1976

9. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1977
10. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1977
11. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, January-June 1978
12. Indiana Borough Council Meeting Minutes, July-December 1978
13. Council Minutes, Budget, January-December 1979
14. Council Minutes, Budget, 1980
15. Council Minutes, Budget, 1981-1982
16. Council Minutes, Budget, 1983-1984
17. Council Minutes, Budget, 1985

**Box 3 (29 folders) Indiana Borough Council**

1. Council Minutes, Budget, 1986
2. Council Minutes, Budget, 1987
3. Council Minutes, Budget, 1988
4. Council Minutes, Budget, 1989
5. Council Minutes, Budget, August 2004, May 2005-December 2005
6. Audit Report, 1957
7. Indiana Council Budget, 1958-1959
8. Indiana Borough Proposed Budgets, 1960
9. Indiana Borough Proposed Budgets, 1961
10. Indiana Borough Proposed Budgets, 1962
11. Indiana Borough Approved Budget, 1962
12. Indiana Borough Approved Budget, 1963
13. Indiana Borough Zoning Ordinance, 1963
14. Indiana Borough Zoning Ordinance, 1978
15. Indiana Borough Zoning Ordinance, 1979
16. Indiana Borough Zoning Ordinance Planning Commission, 1979
17. Preliminary Report on Improvements to the Sewage, 1957
  - a. Collection System and Construction of a Sewage Treatment
  - b. Plant for the Borough of Indiana
18. Engineer's Report on Sanitary Sewerage Facilities for the 1962 White Township Indiana Borough Area Engineers Report on the review of Financial Programs Sewage Facilities, Borough of Indiana, February-August 1962 (2 folders)
19. Attachment to Application for Federal Grants for Indiana, 1967
  - a. Borough Sewage Treatment Project
20. The Borough of Indiana Official Statement \$750,000, 1960
  - a. Proposed General Obligation Bond Issue
21. Redevelopment Authority of County of Indiana, 1965
  - a. Annual Progress Report
22. Housing and Neighborhood Analysis Borough of Indiana, 1967
23. Indiana Borough a Financial Analysis of the past and a look at the future a review of the financial Operations and a Projection of Revenues and Expenditures of the Borough of Indiana, 1960-1964

24. Indiana-White Regional Master Plan Capital Improvements, 1963
  - a. Program Borough of Indiana
25. Master Plan Updated Indiana Borough, 1963-1980
26. Summary Report Comprehensive Regional Plan Indiana-White Region Borough of Indiana and White Township, 1980
27. Sludge Dewatering Predesign Study Indiana Borough Water Pollution Control Plant, 1987
28. Indiana Borough Council Sidewalk Renovation Project, 1986-1989
29. Miscellaneous items of Leonard Abrams