

**MINUTES FOR THE ORGANIZATION MEETING
FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN
HELD AT THE FRANKLIN BOROUGH HALL
46 MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN, NJ AT 7:00 PM
JANUARY 6, 2009**

Mayor Crowley called the meeting to order.

Mayor Crowley stated "this meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Ch. 231. It has been properly advertised and certified by the Clerk."

Mayor Crowley led the assembly in the flag salute.

ROLL CALL OF 2008 BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Crowley requested the acting clerk to call the roll of 2008 Borough Council Members. Upon roll call, the following members of the Governing Body were present:
Mr. Barton, Limon, Stoll, Zschack
Absent: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Williams

APPOINTMENT ACTING CLERK

Mr. Stoll made a motion to appoint Richard R. Wolak as Acting Clerk for this January 6, 2009 Re-Organization meeting. Mr. Limon seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Barton, Limon, Stoll, Zschack

Nays: None Absent: Snyder, Williams Abstentions: None

OATHS OF OFFICE

Mr. Wolak, Acting Clerk, read the "Statement of Determination" of the Board of County Canvassers.

Mr. Wolak, Acting Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Councilman-elect Mark Zschack for a three-year term as Councilman of the Borough of Franklin.

Mr. Wolak, Acting Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Councilwoman-elect Donna Miller for a three-year term as Councilwoman of the Borough of Franklin.

Mr. Wolak, Acting Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Councilman-elect Jack Stoll for a two-year unexpired term as Councilman of the Borough of Franklin.

ROLL CALL OF 2009 BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Crowley requested the acting clerk to call the roll of 2009 Borough Council Members. Upon roll call, the following members of the Governing Body were present:
Mr. Barton, Mr. Limon, Ms. Miller, Mr. Stoll, Mr. Zschack and Mayor Crowley
Absent: Mr. Snyder

Council Appointment: Council President

Mayor Crowley opened the floor for Council nominations to the position of Council President for 2009.

Mr. Stoll nominated Patrick Barton for the position of 2009 Council President. Mr. Limon seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Limon, Miller, Stoll, Zschack

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: Barton

Fire Department Chief and Line Officers

Mayor Crowley recognized the Chief of the Franklin Fire Department for 2009, James Carroll and was administered the Oath of Office for Chief of the Franklin Fire Department for 2009 by Mr. Wolak, Acting Clerk.

Mayor Crowley recognized Fire Chief James Carroll who introduced the 2009 Line Officers of the Franklin Fire Department.

Mr. Wolak, Acting Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to the Line Officers of the Franklin Fire Department for 2009.

Wallkill Valley First Aid Squad President & Officers

Mayor Crowley announced the Wallkill Valley First Aid Squad 2009 officers.

President	William Lanham	Captain	Ryan Stickle
Vice President	Glenn Soules	1 st Lieutenant	Donald Stoll
Treasurer	Laura Balunis	2 nd Lieutenant	Scott Cook Jr.
Secretary	Cindy Lanham		

Mr. Wolak, Acting Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Wallkill Valley First Aid Squad Captain Ryan Stickle.

Mayor's Appointments

Mayor Crowley presented his nominations for appointment to the various positions of Borough Government for the year 2009.

Administrator (1 yr.)	Richard R. Wolak
Prosecutor (1 yr.)	Anthony DenUyl
Public Defender (1 yr.)	Daniel A. Colfax, Esq.
Assessment Search Officer (1 yr.)	Patricia Leasure
Tax Search Officer (1 yr.)	Terry Beshada
Zoning Officer (1 yr.)	Patricia Fischer
Borough Physician (1 yr.)	Dennis Fielding
Animal Control Officer (1 yr.)	John Abate
School Crossing Head Guard (1 yr.)	Darlene Tremont
Municipal Housing Liaison (1yr.)	James Kilduff
Public Agency Compliance Officer (1yr)	Richard R. Wolak

Mr. Stoll made a motion to confirm the Mayor's appointments. Mr. Zschack seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Barton, Limon, Miller, Stoll, Zschack
Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

Appointments: Planning Board

Mr. Stoll made a motion to select Mark Zschack as representative to serve on the Planning Board as a Full Member Class III for a one year term. Mr. Limon seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Barton, Limon, Miller, Stoll, Zschack
Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

Mayor Crowley made the following appointments to the Planning Board:

Member Class IV (4 yr. term)	John Cholminski
Member Class IV (4 yr. term)	Robert B. Olesky
Fire Safety Class II (1 yr. term)	Wes Suckey
Alternate #1 (2 yr. term)	Ronald J. Maugeri

Page Three of the Minutes of January 6, 2009

Appointments: Boards and Commissions

Mayor Crowley nominated his appointments for the various Boards and Commissions of the Borough of Franklin for 2009.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Member	4 year term	Richard Kell
Member	4 year term	Liz Bonis
Member	4 year term	John Kopcso
Alternate #2	2 year term	Vacant

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Member	3 year term	John Friend
Member	3 year term	Robert Dabinet

FRANKLIN/HARDYSTON JOINT RECREATION COMMITTEE

All current Board of Recreation Commissioners 1 year term

BOARD OF HEALTH

Member	4 year term	Mary Alonso
Member	4 year term	Amy Fiorentino

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL

Mayor	1 year term	Paul Crowley
Deputy	1 year term	Joseph A. Kistle
Member	1 year term	Mike Gunderman
Member	1 year term	James Carroll
Member	1 year term	Donald Stoll
Member	1 year term	Scott Rogoff
Member	1 year term	Grant Rome
Member	1 year term	Richard Wolak
Member	1 year term	Steve Sluka
Member	1 year term	Dayne Hill

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Member	1 year term	William Hodas
Member	1 year term	John Sowden
Member	1 year term	Betty Allen
Member	1 year term	Renee Smith
Member	1 year term	Steve Oroho
Member	1 year term	Donna Miller
Member	1 year term	Vacant
Alternate #1	1 year term	Vacant
Alternate #2	1 year term	Vacant

RENT LEVELING BOARD

Member	5 year term	Sayla Weekley
--------	-------------	---------------

Mr. Zschack made a motion to confirm the Mayor's Appointments. Mr. Limon seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Barton, Limon, Miller, Stoll, Zschack
Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

Page Four of the Minutes of January 6, 2009

Appointment Municipal Judge

Mayor Crowley nominated James G. DeVine as Municipal Judge for a three year term ending December 31, 2011.

Mr. Stoll made a motion to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Judge James G. DeVine. Mr. Zschack seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Barton, Limon, Miller, Stoll, Zschack
Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

Council Committee Duties

Mayor Crowley announced Council Committee duties for the year 2009 with the Mayor named as Ex-Officio Member of each Committee.

2009 COUNCIL COMMITTEE DUTIES

ADMINISTRATIVE: Ordinance

Chairman: Patrick Barton
Member: Gilbert Snyder
Member: Mark Zschack
Alternate: Donna Miller

ADMINISTRATIVE: Finance, Budget & Insurance

Chairman: Mark Zschack
Member: Jack Stoll
Member: Gilbert Snyder
Alternate: Paul Crowley

PUBLIC UTILITIES: Council Liaison to the Board of Public Works

Liaison: Jack Stoll
Member: Patrick Barton
Alternate: Donna Miller

PERSONNEL & NEGOTIATIONS:

Chairman: Gilbert Snyder
Member: Patrick Barton
Member: Joe Limon
Alternate: Donna Miller

PUBLIC SAFETY: Police & Fire

Chairman: Mark Zschack
Member: Patrick Barton
Member: Paul Crowley
Alternate: Donna Miller

COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Council Representatives to:

Recreation Commission, Economic Development, which also serves as the "Awards Committee."

Member:	Donna Miller	Economic Development
Liaison:	Joe Limon	Recreation
Member:	Donna Miller	Recreation
Liaison:	Joe Limon	Joint Recreation Commission

Page Five of the Minutes of January 6, 2009

Shared Services Committee

Members: Patrick Barton
Jack Stoll
Paul Crowley

Rent Leveling Board

Members: Joe Limon
Donna Miller

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mayor Crowley requested that all persons present review the consent agenda and offer any comments they may have at this time regarding the consent agenda.

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Zschack seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Barton, Limon, Stoll, Zschack

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: Miller

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Crowley stated that in the past year a lot has happened. They had successfully applied for a waiver of a COAH payment with the help of Senator Oroho's office and COAH. The waiver eliminated an unfair COAH payment for a house that was burnt down on Rutherford Avenue and also resulted in an important change on a statewide basis to the COAH regulations.

Mayor Crowley thanked the businesses for their commitment at the Franklin Hardyston Business Appreciation breakfast lunch. The businesses that were acknowledged from Franklin were Westwind Manor, Starbucks and the Irish Cottage. The Mayor represented the Borough interests through correspondences and appearances with local agencies, especially COAH and NJDEP about the rules that threatened the Borough's sustainability and the County.

Mayor Crowley stated he formed a Re-development Committee in Franklin that will continue. He also formed a Plan Endorsement Committee of citizens to advise the Borough to implement a process for plan approval which meets the obligations by the state. He discussed that the Borough received a \$15,000.00 grant from the Highlands to assess conformance to the Highlands Plan and this does not mean we bought into the plan. We have gotten an application for a big box. It would provide the largest ratable. There has been a new shopping center approved at the north end of the Borough, Franklin Shopping Plaza was granted approval for site plan and when the economy turns this will also bring a large ratable to town.

Mayor Crowley discussed the construction of new affordable housing project for 93 units for age restrict housing to help the seniors with low to moderate income. There is approximately 290,000 square feet of new commercial space approved for construction when the economy turns around. We are not counting on it until it is in the ground and we get revenue. Hopefully in the future we will be getting new ratables. We also have 275 approved residential units of which 100 are under construction.

Scott Road project has finally come to an end. The road is re-opened. The quarry zone has been re-zoned. There is a new company in the Quarry area.

The Mayor welcomed Starbucks and several other businesses including those on Main Street. The Edison School House / Hungarian Church had final approval for construction.

To cut costs benefits have been eliminated to the governing body. The police department has been brought down to the right size and brought back to conformance with its budget. There has been no money taken out of the police department's budget.

The Borough approved a new solid waste agreement which is saving the Borough money. The Borough has entered into a shared services agreement with Hardyston for the Construction Department which saves tens of thousands of dollars and we are looking into a new insurance carrier which will save approximately \$40,000.00. We cannot rely on the state financially. The Mayor does not think the Borough will get state aid next year. We will have a very tight budget next year. There has been much revitalization on Main Street.

The Mayor discussed that the town work is done by staff and paid people, everyone needs to realize that most of the work is done by the volunteers. The Mayor thanked all the volunteers for their work. If the volunteers were not here everything would grind to a halt. The Mayor thanked Freeholder Crabb for coming out to the meeting tonight.

Council Comments

Mr. Stoll wished everyone a happy and healthy New Year. He hopes that the Borough can maintain the services without a burden to the taxpayers. He grew up in town, it is a booming town. He discussed the economic situation locally and around the world.

Mr. Limon thanked the first aid squad. He thanked Senator Oroho and Freeholder Crabb for all their help. He discussed the hard decisions that the Council will have to make in the future. He discussed a health benefit levy for employees. He asked that the public to continue to submit suggestions.

Ms. Miller thanked her family. She thanked Rich Wolak for his help and Freeholder Crabb for coming. She also thanked Allison McHose. She promised she would do the best job she is capable of doing. She thanked all.

Mr. Zschack thanked his family and all those that supported him. He looks forward to making decisions with the Council.

Mr. Barton welcomed Ms. Miller to the Council. He thanked all for their support. He thanked the Council for electing him to Council President. He added that ratables will help the Boroughs taxes being lowered.

Phil Crabb, County Freeholder congratulated everyone. He explained that it is going to be a challenging year. There is no doubt that the volunteers are the backbone of a municipality. Share Services are getting town leaders to collaborate with each other.

Rich Wolak offered his comments to the public. He thanked everyone for their support.

Adjournment

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Stoll made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM, seconded by Mr. Limon. All were in favor.

Paul B. Crowley, Mayor

Richard R. Wolak, Acting Clerk