

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN  
HELD AT THE FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
46 MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN, NJ  
August 5, 2014**

Mayor Crowley called the meeting to order and requested the Borough Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the Governing Body were present: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Giordano, Mr. Limon, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Zschack, and Mayor Crowley.

Absent: None

Mayor Crowley led the assembly in the flag salute.

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."

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Babcock made a motion to open the meeting to the public for anyone wishing to address the Governing Body. Seconded by Mr. Snyder. All were in favor.

No one from the public stepped forward.

There being no one else present who wished to address the Governing Body, Mr. Babcock made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Zschack. All were in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Appointment of Council Member**

At this time Mayor Crowley requested the Borough Clerk to read for the record a letter dated July 23, 2014 from Virginia Littell, Franklin Municipal Republican Committee Chairperson, submitting three names to fill the vacancy for interim Council Member.

Robin Hough, Borough Clerk read the letter from Virginia Littell into the record.

Mayor Crowley thanked Virginia Littell and the Republican Committee for their work in this endeavor. Mayor Crowley congratulated all of the nominees, this is a very tough choice for the Council. These are very good recommendations with very good background. Mayor Crowley commented he would like to invite the nominees to address the Council; we will go in alphabetical order.

Ms. Dawn Fantasia, stepped forward to address the Council on her behalf. Ms. Fantasia also passed a hand out to the Council members. Ms. Fantasia commented on goals, acting as a team of unified professionals, her role is to serve and represent the residents of Franklin Borough. Ms. Fantasia commented this is a time for the Borough to heal, community and outreach efforts, Franklin Borough has been nominated by the Sussex County Economic Development Partnership for its 2014 Municipal Award, Clean Community program, also the Borough submitted a grant application Safe Routes to School Sidewalk project. Ms. Fantasia commented it is programs like these that need to be publically counted and celebrated, to send out a message that we of Franklin are ready. Ready for your business and we are ready for your families. Ms. Fantasia commented she would add a degree of diversity to the Council, and explained good government. Ms. Fantasia commented on education. Ms. Fantasia concluded with a quote from Mother Theresa.

Mr. Joseph Martinez, stepped forward to address the Council on his behalf. Mr. Martinez thanked the Council and is honored to be in the lineup with Dawn Fantasia

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and Mike Rathbun. Mr. Martinez gave a background of his family, time lived in Sussex County, and his family background in helping the community. Mr. Martinez explained his involvement in the pond revitalization area. Mr. Martinez commented we are the Mineral Capital of the World and we need to capitalize on that. Mr. Martinez explained the need to address items one at a time and gave an example. Mr. Martinez commented he is here because he is looking to bring his family up in Franklin and wants to make sure they have a good community, volunteerism, to prosper here in Franklin, Rte 23 business, the pond become our diamond that will attract businesses and to bring the community and businesses back.

Mike Rathbun, stepped forward to address the Council on his behalf. Mr. Rathbun thanked the Council, there are no wrong decisions here. Mr. Rathbun commented he can't see why all of us can't be a team one day in the future. Mr. Rathbun gave his family background to the Council of growing up in Sussex County Area. Mr. Rathbun commented it is very important to get the community back together. Mr. Rathbun commented he is vice chairman of Recreation, he coached the girls softball league for five years and was president for two and a half years. Mr. Rathbun gave his work experience background; Morris County MUA, the past 8 years has been the assistant operations manager, in charge of 43 employees and oversees contracts, very familiar with government contracts and regulations. Mr. Rathbun commented each candidate will bring something different to the Council. Mr. Rathbun commented he would like to bring business back into town and work close with EDC to promote Franklin and bring business in.

Mayor Crowley called for nominations to fill the vacancy. Mayor Crowley commented when a nomination is made and seconded, it will be brought to a vote. If this is the candidate you want vote affirmative, if this is not the candidate you want vote in the negative for that.

Mr. Giordano made a motion to nominate Joe Martinez for the Council seat.

Mr. Babcock made a motion to nominate Dawn Fantasia,

Mayor Crowley commented this needs to have a second.

Mr. Snyder seconded the motion for Joe Martinez.

Mayor Crowley commented we have a motion and a second for Joe Martinez.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Giordano, Snyder, Zschack

Nays: Babcock, Limon Absent: None Abstentions: None

Mayor Crowley commented three yes's, two no's, that means the Council has voted affirmatively for Joe Martinez who will now take that seat.

The Borough Clerk administered the oath of office to Joseph Martinez.

Mr. Martinez stepped onto the dais as Councilman

Mayor Crowley asked the Clerk to give a roll call of the new Council.

Present: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Giordano, Mr. Limon, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Zschack and Mayor Crowley.

Absent: None

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**MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS**

Mr. Giordano commented this situation was brought by a lot of bad publicity of Franklin. There was a tremendous amount of support for Franklin, the change was a difficult change for everyone. Mr. Giordano commented having sat on the committee the three best candidates were nominated and he sees a very strong future for both of the candidates. This was a hard decision for everyone. Mr. Giordano thanked the candidates.

Mr. Limon commented he was wrestling around with the decision, it went right to the wire. Mr. Limon wished Joe [Mr. Martinez] luck. Mr. Limon commented that Mike [Mr. Rathbun] put a lot of effort in this last election.

Mr. Snyder congratulated Mr. Martinez. Mr. Snyder commented this was a hard decision to make, he was very impressed by the fact that some people and Dawn came forth with a lot of information. Mr. Snyder commented his decision came down to Joe [Mr. Martinez] he has been in town for quite awhile and has been on recreation for several years and on Zoning [Board] so he gave him the advantage to serve on this Council. Mr. Snyder commented that is why he seconded the nomination for Mr. Martinez to be Councilman.

Mr. Martinez thanked everyone.

Mayor Crowley congratulated everyone.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Zschack made a motion to adjourn the meeting at p.m., seconded by Mr. Babcock. All were in favor.

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Paul B. Crowley, Mayor

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Robin Hough, Borough Clerk