

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN
HELD AT THE FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
46 MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN, NJ
March 18, 2015**

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."

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. Dabinett, Mr. Giordano, Mr. Limon, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Snyder, and Mayor Crowley.

Absent: None

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Dabinett made a motion to open the meeting to the public for anyone wishing to address the Governing Body. Seconded by Mr. Martinez. 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. Dabinett made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Martinez. All were in favor.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

CY 2015 Municipal Budget

Monica Miebach, CFO and Thomas Ferry, Auditor were present for the discussion.

Mrs. Miebach referred to the water and sewer budget. Mrs. Miebach explained there will be a \$20,000 increase from the requested total, she explained why and where the money was going to be adjusted from. This was due to the emergency.

There was a discussion regarding MUA budget line, water and sewer still self liquidating, reserves, accrual interest and capital plan for water and sewer.

Mrs. Miebach referred to the current fund budget.

There was a discussion on the average assessed home, tax points, garbage bid will have to be sent out, grants in the budget, dept ratio is the same and Monica explained the pension line.

Mayor Crowley commented on some possible potential problems not in the budget. Repairs at the Fire Department, Vehicle for the Fire Department, having to put more money in the First Aid Squad, personnel change where people may retire. When they retire they retire at the top of their salary guide, money is saved because when they are replaced there is a saving between the higher salary of people retiring and the lower salary of the new people.

Mayor Crowley commented he wants to make it clear that this savings is not out there as a golden goose for that department to spend more money. That has to be decided at the Council or the finance committee and then brought to the Council as to what to do with that savings. It is not automatically given to those departments to then spend in other ways.

Mr. Limon asked about hiring new people.

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN
HELD AT THE FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
46 MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN, NJ
March 18, 2015**

Mayor Crowley commented he is not talking about not hiring new people, he is saying the difference in their salary the new people and the salary of the old people is not for the department heads to spend. It is for the Council to spend if they see fit.

Mr. Dabinett commented he agrees.

Mr. Snyder commented Monica, Mayor, Alison, Mr. Dabinett and himself met several times for several hours on the budget. We also cut line by line to bring this down to what we feel is good budget. We did cut more than almost double point structure, \$52.14 [per Tom Ferry] on the average house. We stayed below the 2% hard cap.

Mrs. McHose thanked Councilman Snyder very much for all the work and help and Mr. Dabinett and Monica Miebach for all the work you have done. Coming into this during the process, Mrs. Miebach had done a lot of work on this already when she started. Mrs. McHose commented she is very thankful to her [Monica] for all her guidance in this.

Mrs. McHose commented she is looking to expanding the cell tower rentals on municipal properties so that will bring in some revenue. Hopefully if we have some economic upturn we will have some applications and the Planning Board will be busy and we will get our economy going in town. Mrs. McHose also thanked Tom Ferry.

Mayor Crowley thanked the Finance committee and Mrs. Miebach for all their help. We will have a public presentation on this.

Mrs. Miebach commented on a correction that needed to be made with the EDC line item.

Mrs. McHose explained the reason for the increase having to do with the Master Plan Re-examination.

Mr. Giordano commented on EDC members attending the course to understand land use development.

Mr. Ferry commented the dates he has for introduction is March 24, Advertise in the paper on April 17 and public hearing and the adoption on April 28.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Snyder made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37p.m., seconded by Mr. Babcock. All were in favor.

Paul B. Crowley, Mayor

Robin Hough, Borough Clerk