

**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 17, 2015**

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

Absent: Mr. Limon, Mr. Babcock (Arrived approximately 6:02 PM)

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 commented Mr. Babcock just arrived.

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. 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. Snyder made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Martinez. All were in favor.

Resolution 2015-76 awarding bid for Improvements to High Street

Mr. Dabinett made a motion to adopt resolution 2015-76 to award the bid for proposed improvements to High Street. Seconded by Mr. Giordano.

Mrs. McHose explained the resolution to the Council.

Mrs. McHose commented the bid was awarded to Tony's Concrete Co. from Newark the low bid was \$197,562.00.

There was a brief discussion regarding Grant money.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Dabinett, Giordano, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Limon Abstentions: None

Resolution 2015-77 awarding bid for Improvement to Various Streets

Mrs. McHose explained the resolution to the Council and various roads the bid covered. Mrs. McHose stated this bid was awarded to Mark Paving from Woodbridge and the low bid was \$728,602.83.

Mr. Dabinett made the motion to adopt resolution 2015-77 to award the bid for proposed improvements to various streets. Seconded by Mr. Snyder.

There was a discussion on the schedule for the paving.

Tom Knutelsky, Borough Engineer explained the project and time frame to the Council.

There was a discussion on time of the day the work would be done, no plan to do night work or after hours or weekend work, if Braen Aggregates would be doing any of the work on Corkhill Road, eventually Braen Aggregates will be opening a different entrance and at that time they will have to connect into their new driveway.

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Mr. Knutelsky explained the work on Corkhill that Braen Aggregates will have to do when opening their new driveway,

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Dabinett, Giordano, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Limon Abstentions: None

Review the Condition and Traffic Situation on High Street and Evans Street

At this time there was a discussion to review the condition and traffic situation on High Street and Evans Street to determine if temporary or permanent restrictions are needed.

Mayor Crowley commented a portion of High Street has been closed off, it was reviewed with Tom Knutelsky and the Chief of Police.

Mrs. McHose commented the day after the Council meeting she visited High Street and then later in the day Tom Knutelsky, Brian Vandebroek, and Chief McInerney visited the site. It was determined that we would close a portion of High Street, from Junction Street down to Main. That has been in place for a couple of days; there are still some trucks coming down Main Street, coming up Junction. There haven't been major complaints.

Mr. Babcock commented there are at least 100 trucks a day on that road; he lives on that street, it is a nightmare waiting to happen. Somebody is going to get killed on that road. Mr. Babcock commented he has two young children that play in the yard, there is no reason why that whole road can't be shut down. Most of the kids live by him there are no houses on that side of the road.

Mrs. McHose commented the difficulty with closing all of High Street is the impact of Rutherford on two sides, Buckwheat and Parker. We have to take into consideration the school is going to be starting that is a major roadway for parents dropping off kids at school. There are a lot of considerations when talking about closing the whole road.

Mr. Babcock commented on the speed of the trucks coming over the hill with a crossing guard trying to cross those kids over that hill. Will there be an extra crossing guard there at Parker/High Street. The trucks will never stop.

Mr. Giordano commented on changing an ordinance to effect a truck route through town in conjunction with changing another ordinance for locals living in town.

Mr. Dabinett commented he went into our local ordinance 259-6, routes for trucks over 4 tons. Mr. Dabinett read NJSA 40:67-16.1. Mr. Dabinett commented he thinks by taking this ordinance and amending it to insert a truck route we have accomplished everything that we need to accomplish. It does say in here all these trucks will be excluded from all streets in the Borough of Franklin.

Mrs. Mchose commented does is identify what the truck route is.

Mr. Dabinett commented yes, absolutely. Mr. Dabinett read a suggestion of a designated route.

There was a discussion on the truck route, possible truck routes and legally what can be done.

Mr. Knutelsky explained the process involved with weight posting of a roadway.

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Mayor Crowley asked about Evans Street, that doesn't seem wide enough for those trucks to go down there.

Mr. Knutelsky commented Evans Street is weight posted, municipal ordinance has that in there, DOT accepts that because it was part of a municipal ordinance. It is when you add something they look at this new process within the last five years or so how they [DOT] changed their way of looking at weight posting. Mr. Knutelsky commented Evans Street is prohibited for any truck traffic whether that involves buses or not that is one thing. A lot of buses for school routes and the Mineral Museum, he doesn't know how they go up and down from Buckwheat Road up and over to at least Parker he believes it is weight restricted. Taylor Road and Evans Street are weight restricted, all those roads on that South corner of town are weight restricted. It is Main Street to High Street that really is the issue. All the other streets municipal ordinance does not allow it; that can be enforced by the police department.

Mayor Crowley commented when they start working on the bridge, Rte 631 will be closed completely to all traffic for about two months. So we are going to have to provide some type of detour for pedestrian and cars.

Mr. Knutelsky commented at that time the County will be in a position to detour traffic where we see fit to detour traffic; that will be an actual detour route. When E-07 was closed the detour route sent everyone out 94 to 23; but because of the system in the Borough and interconnecting roads everyone that knows how to get from Hardyston over by the golf course knew to go back by Davis Road and Maple; that was the way truck and cars came and there was nothing we could do about it because the County said that is not our detour.

There was a discussion on High Street, safety of the school children, safety on truck volume and speed, speed humps, other alternatives other than closing the road down, designating a truck route, truck route signs, adding truck route signs, drafting an ordinance, the only way to amend an existing ordinance is to pass another ordinance and the paving of High Street to begin soon.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Giordano made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45p.m., seconded by Mr. Martinez. All were in favor.

Paul B. Crowley, Mayor

Robin Hough, Borough Clerk