

**MINUTES FOR THE ORGANIZATION MEETING OF 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 3, 2012**

Mayor Crowley will call the meeting to order.

Mayor Crowley will state “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 2011 Borough Council Members

Mayor Crowley requested a roll call of the 2011 Governing Body:

Present: Mrs. Gardell, Mr. Giordano, Mr. Kulsar, Ms. Miller, Mr. Snyder, and Mayor Crowley

Absent: Mr. Zschack

Mayor Crowley asked if any current Council members had any comments.

Ms. Miller thanked everyone for having her represent the Borough as this year’s Council President. Ms. Miller commented it has been a very interesting experience, she has learned so much about municipal government and she is sad to leave.

Mayor Crowley thanked Ms. Miller for her three years of service as a Council person. At this time Mayor Crowley presented Ms. Miller with a plaque.

Mayor Crowley recognized at this time Freeholder, citizen of Franklin and past Fire Chief Phil Crab.

Mr. Crab thanked Mayor Crowley. Mr. Crab encouraged everyone to attend the stake holders meeting concerning the Viaduct Bridge. Mr. Crab thanked Franklin Borough on the shared service the Borough provided with Sussex County.

Mayor Crowley recognized at this time Assemblywoman Alison Littell McHose. Assemblywoman McHose, 76 Buckwheat Road, commented she was present on behalf of Steve Oroho and Assemblyman Chiusano. Mrs. McHose congratulated Mark Zschack and Joe Limon and thanked them for their service.

Oaths of Office

Ms. Hough read the “Statement of Determination” of the Board of County Canvassers.

Ms. Hough administered the Oath of Office to Mayor-elect Paul B. Crowley for a four-year term as Mayor of the Borough of Franklin.

Ms. Hough will administer the Oath of Office to Councilman-elect Joe Limon for a three-year term as Councilman of the Borough of Franklin.

Roll Call of 2012 Borough Council Members

Mayor Crowley requested a roll call of the 2012 Governing Body.

Present: Mrs. Gardell, Mr. Giordano, Mr. Kulsar, Mr. Limon, Mr. Snyder, Mayor Crowley

Absent: Mr. Zschack

Council Appointment: Council President

Mayor Crowley opened the floor for Council nominations to the position of Council President for 2011.

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Mr. Snyder nominated Mark Zschack to the position of Council President for 2012. Mr. Giordano seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Gardell, Giordano, Kulsar, Snyder, Limon
Nays: None Absent: Zschack Abstentions: None

Fire Department Chief and Line Officers

Mayor Crowley recognized the Chief of the Franklin Fire Department for 2011, Frederick J. Babcock Jr.

Ms. Hough administered the Oath of Office to the Chief of the Franklin Fire Department for 2012, Frederick J. Babcock Jr.

Mayor Crowley recognized Fire Chief Frederick J. Babcock Jr. who introduced the 2012 Line Officers of the Franklin Fire Department. Line Officers present: Assistant Chief Jeff Snyder, Assistant Lieutenant Brian Doyle, President Jim Williams, Treasurer Jim Nidelko and Secretary Marty Swiss.

Ms. Hough administered the Oath of Office to the Line Officers present of the Franklin Fire Department for 2012.

Mayor's Appointments

Mayor Crowley presented his nominations for appointment to the various positions of Borough Government for the year 2011.

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
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
Judge (3yr.)	James Devine, Esq.

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

Ayes: Gardell, Giordano, Kulsar, Limon, Snyder,
Nays: None Absent: Zschack Abstentions: None

Appointments: Planning Board

Mr. Snyder made a motion to nominate Thomas Kulsar as representative to serve on the Planning Board as a Full Member Class III (1 yr.) Mr. Limon seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Gardell, Giordano, Kulsar, Limon, Snyder
Nays: None Absent: Zschack Abstentions: None

Mayor Crowley made the following appointments to the Planning Board:

Alternate #2 (2 yr. term)	Nathan Foulds
Fire Safety Class II (1 yr. term)	Wes Suckey

Mrs. Gardell made a motion to accept Mayor Crowley's Planning Board Appointments. Mr. Limon seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Gardell, Giordano, Kulsar, Limon, Snyder
Nays: None Absent: Zschack Abstentions: None

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Appointments: Boards and Commissions

Mayor Crowley made the following appointments for the various Boards and Commissions of the Borough of Franklin for 2011. Mayor Crowley informed the Council to refer to an addendum to the agenda with changes to the Local Emergency Planning Council.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Member	4 year term	Mark Correal
Member	4 year term	Louise Murphy
Alternate #1	2 year term	Ethel Alexander
Alternate #2	2 year term	Joseph Martinez (new member)

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Member	3 year term	John Friend
Member	3 year term	JoAnne Tatka

FRANKLIN/HARDYSTON JOINT RECREATION COMMITTEE

All current Board of Recreation Commissioners 1 year term

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RECREATION COMMISSION

Member	5 year term	Mike Gunderman
Member	5 year term	Mark Risko
Alternate #1	5 year term	Vacant

BOARD OF HEALTH

No expired or new appointments

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COUNCIL

Mayor	1 year term	Paul Crowley
Deputy	1 year term	Eugene McInerney
Member	1 year term	Jim Williams
Member	1 year term	Brian Vandenbroek
Member/FFD	1 year term	Frederick Babcock Jr.
Member/WVFAS	1 year term	Ryan Sickels
Member	1 year term	Scott Rogoff
Member	1 year term	Monica Miabech
Member	1 year term	Jim Kilduff
Member	1 year term	Steve Sluka
Member	1 year term	Dayne Hill
Member	1 year term	Richard L. Border
Member	1 year term	James Nidelko

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Member	1 year term	Renee Smith
Member	1 year term	Suzanne Weeks
Member	1 year term	John Postas
Member	1 year term	Steven Oroho
Member	1 year term	Steve Zydon
Member	1 year term	Judy Williams
Alternate #1	1 year term	Vacant
Alternate #2	1 year term	Vacant

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RENT LEVELING BOARD

Member	5 year term	Donna Miller (new member)
Alternate #1	1 year term	Bonnie Holland
Alternate #2	1 year term	Glen Soules

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

Ayes: Gardell, Giordano, Kulsar, Limon, Snyder
Nays: None Absent: Zschack Abstentions: None

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mayor Crowley requested that all present review the consent agenda. If any member of the Council or public wishes an item on the consent agenda to be discussed and considered separately, a motion to this effect shall be made at this time.

After all persons present have had an opportunity to review the consent agenda and offer requests for changes, Mayor Crowley requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve the consent agenda of January 3, 2012 as submitted. Mrs. Gardell seconded the motion.

Ayes: Gardell, Giordano, Kulsar, Limon, Snyder,
Nays: None Absent: Zschack Abstentions: None

Mr. Kilduff reported items from the following administrator's report which is also on file in the Clerk's office.

2011 was a very busy year in the Borough. Franklin, like many other communities, was forced to continually adapt to changing conditions in a very depressed world economy with a war raging in Afghanistan.

I would like to thank outgoing Council President, Donna Miller for her service to the Borough. I have remarked the Public is often unaware of the countless hours invested by Council members in the performance of their duties. Ms. Miller had a particularly busy year as chairperson for the Personnel Committee and served on other committees including the rent leveling board and Economic Development Committee. Ms. Miller's dedication and helpfulness throughout the year was a great asset to the Borough. Thank you Ms. Miller.

The remainder of the governing body: Mayor Paul Crowley, Ms. Susan Gardell, Mr. Nick Giordano, Mr. Thomas Kulsar, Mr. Gilbert Snyder and Mr. Mark Zschack, also spent many long hours on behalf of the Borough, attending meetings and working on various issues. I take great satisfaction in assuring the public that your Council is working for you. My thanks to the entire governing body for their effort in 2011.

Two members of our governing body, Mayor Paul Crowley and Councilman Mark Zschack are to be congratulated on their bids for re-election. Both these individuals are returned to their respective positions with the mandate of Franklin Borough voters. I would also like to congratulate and welcome back to the Council Mr. Joseph Limon. Councilmember Limon returns to the Council after a short break and I look forward to working with another experienced Councilmember and dedicated volunteer in 2012. Welcome back Mr. Limon.

2011 was marked by sea changes in the Borough. Doing more with less became a reality in 2011. Job movement and retirements led to changes in the Borough's staffing patterns. This made it possible for the Borough to implement new strategies for greater efficiencies. Moving forward, the benefit of these changes will become apparent in cost containment and higher productivity. The Council continually sought ways to reduce Borough expenses and ultimately was successful in adopting a budget aimed at

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maximizing operating efficiencies. With an eye on the economy, the Council spent long hours refining operations, consolidating and downsizing wherever possible.

The Borough's greatest resources are its volunteers and employees without whom we could not function. Over and over we depend upon our firefighters, first aiders, community leaders, churches, schools, public works, police, Borough employees, board members, American Legion and countless volunteer groups to help make Franklin work and in doing so, provide a sense of community pride. For me, it is a privilege to work with these individuals; Franklin is much indebted to you.

Much of the groundwork put into place in 2011 will serve the Borough well as we address the challenges of a New Year. I look forward to accepting those challenges and to working with the Mayor and Council implement their policies and to make 2012 the best year ever.

Mayor's Statement

Mayor Crowley addressed the Council and the public with remarks concerning the priorities and goals for the Borough of Franklin in 2012. Mayor Crowley thanked his wife Mrs. Carol Crowley who was instrumental in having him run for this position. Mayor Crowley also thanked his family, all of the Council members and the people in the Borough. Mayor Crowley said the committees he will have for the next meeting. Mayor Crowley mentioned he talked to Gilbert Snyder he will be taken over as Chairman of the personnel committee. Mayor Crowley informed the Council Mark Zschack could not be present because with his job as administrator of Sussex Borough they are also having their reorganization tonight.

Council Comments

Mayor Crowley invited each member of the Council to offer remarks concerning the 2011 Council's goals and priorities.

Mrs. Gardell welcomed back Joe Limon. Mrs. Gardell commented the upcoming year will be a challenging one, she hopes the times for the community will change. The economy has been tough for a lot of people in the area and she is hopes there will be an end to this soon.

Mr. Giordano thanked Councilwoman Miller for mentoring him through his first year; he was sorry to see she didn't run but I'm glad to see Joe back on the Council and is looking forward to working with him this year.

Mr. Snyder wished everyone a Happy New Year; also the reelection of Joe and Mayor Crowley good luck to both of you and also Mark Zschack who is not here tonight. Mr. Snyder commented our priorities are stabilizing the taxes; he thinks over the course of this year he thinks they have been able to do that. Going forward he hopes we continue to keep the tax structure where it is leveled. Mr. Snyder commented some of those areas on Main Street that look to be taken care of he hopes the Council can get something done with that this year. Mr. Snyder informed the Council he would not give up on the length of service rewards program for the First Aid Squad and the Fire Department. He would like to get the committee looking into that to help the community with regards to volunteers.

Mr. Limon stated he was happy to be back; a year off refreshes you. Mr. Limon recognizes all the volunteers. Mr. Limon commented he is all for the residents and business in town. Mr. Limon thought maybe look into only having 4 Council members instead of 6.

Mr. Kular congratulated to Joe and the Mayor on his reelection. Mr. Kular thought everyone worked well this year; we have some challenging things coming ahead. Mr. Kular commented we had a lot of changes in our shared services and he would like to take a hard look on the shared services that remain, zoning and construction would be one. Mr. Kular said he doesn't want to see the Joint Recreation Commission die out there was one meeting and the next one got cancelled. Mr. Kular said he is still concerned what Franklin pays for the use of the Littell Center.

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Adjournment

Mr. Snyder motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM. Mr. Giordano seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Paul B. Crowley, Mayor

Robin Hough, Acting Borough Clerk