

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN
HELD AT THE FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
46 MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN, NJ
March 24, 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. Babcock, Mr. Giordano, Mr. Limon, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Snyder, and Mayor Crowley.

Absent: Mr. Dabinett

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."

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Martinez had nothing to report.

Mr. Babcock reported there was a Planning Board meeting, they are reviewing plans for rezoning on the Highway and signage was discussed.

Mr. Limon reported the administrator has some employee maintenance on [the agenda.]

Mr. Giordano reported recreation is working on bringing the Carnival back. We are going to be having a Spring Fling on April 11 at 12 noon.

Mr. Snyder reported we will be introducing the 2015 Budget tonight.

Ms. Hough, Borough Clerk had nothing to report.

Mr. Ursin, Borough Attorney had nothing to report.

Mrs. McHose reported there was an emergency meeting held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, to approve the appropriation of funds to repair the water tank located off of High Point Circle, servicing Franklin Meadows and the surrounding area. Water service should not be interrupted work is going on this week to repair the tank, pressure might be less than usual. The repairs should be completed early next week. Mrs. McHose thanked the DPW staff and engineer professionals.

Mrs. McHose reported she met with the Planner to discuss projects in town. Mrs. McHose commented she attended the Planning Board meeting; they discussed the proposed amendment to the Borough's Master Plan Re-examination and information on changing the sign ordinance.

Mrs. McHose reported on behalf of the Borough she applied for DCA Planning Services Assistants with regards to Franklin Business Redevelopment and Main Street Redevelopment.

Mrs. McHose commented she forwarded information from the Ordinance committee and the Zoning Officer to the Municipal Attorney to review potential changes to the existing ordinance to address vacant and abandoned properties. We will have an amended ordinance coming forward soon.

Mrs. McHose reported she forwarded information language on the lease for the Hungarian Church. The change is required for the Historical Society to move forward with regards to refinancing and for exploration of private donations. They would like the Council to consider these changes on April 14.

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Mrs. McHose reported she addressed internet and fax issues.

Mrs. McHose reported she received a resignation letter from Fred Babcock Sr., who has worked for the Borough for 44 years. His retirement will be effective July 1, 2015 and we thank him for his dedication and service. He will be recognized at a future Council meeting.

Mrs. McHose commented specs for the Garbage bid was sent to the Attorney for review. As soon as it is finalized and reviewed by the committee, we will place an ad in the paper and get moving on that process.

Mrs. McHose reported Mike Gunderman was appointed to the recreation committee again, we thank Mike for his time and welcome him back to the committee. His appointment will appear on the next agenda.

Mrs. McHose commented the Walkkill Valley Recreation Baseball organization is in receipt of a 4 by 8 new sign to replace the existing sign that is no longer functioning. Lakeland Bank donated the sign to Walkkill Valley Recreation. A no Zoning Application is needed and we hope to have it installed and operational by opening day for festivities in early April after the construction and inspection is done.

Mrs. McHose reported Chief McInerney informed her two officers recently received certification in Hostage and Crisis negotiations. Sergeant Craig Cugliari and Detective Nevin Mattessich completed a five day course which was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Congratulations to them and that a big kudos to us, we could possibly be relied upon by other towns and the County Prosecutor.

Mrs. McHose commented she had attended a briefing of the New Jersey Government Records Council with Clerk Robin Hough regarding OPRA requirements. It was a useful presentation. Mrs. McHose commented she is working with Senator Loretta Weinberg on Legislation that would help reduce the number of commercial OPRA requests which are designed to mine information for monetary gain.

Mrs. McHose reported she received notification that Sergeant Leo Kinney has retired from the Borough of Franklin Police Department as of March 1, 2015. We wish him the best and we will also recognize him at future Council meeting.

Mrs. McHose commented she reached out to the Franklin Borough School and the Immaculate Conception School to ask them to participate with the Borough in distributing and planting trees as part of NJ Community Tree Recovery Campaign. This is done in conjunction with the division of New Jersey Parks and Forestry. Trees will be planted to replace trees destroyed in natural disasters. We will also advertise availability for up to four variety of trees for Borough residents to pick up.

Mayor Crowley reported he took a ride up to the water tank and they were working very hard, this is going forward at a fast pace. Saturday, April 11 at 12 noon at the Franklin Fire House is the Spring Fling for our seniors.

Mayor Crowley reported on the consent agenda there is a letter from Jamie Fox, from the State of New Jersey regarding a \$330,000 grant for the Safe Routes to School that was given to Franklin to put in sidewalks. That was a much needed Grant and we are very happy to have been picked out of the many applicants for that Grant.

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Mayor Crowley commented two of our Officers helped save a life by administering the narcan to somebody that was overdosing on a drug problem.

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. Martinez. All were in favor.

Dick Durina, 23 Lozaw Road, Franklin, stepped forward. Mr. Durina asked for an update on the DPW negotiations. Mr. Durina commented on an article regarding documents on websites.

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. Martinez. All were in favor.

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.

CORRESPONDENCE (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING ONLY OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Letter dated March 3, 2015 from Jamie Fox, Commissioner, NJDOT to Mayor Paul B. Crowley Re: Safe Routes to School Grant.
2. Letter dated March 5, 2015 from Alison Littell McHose, Administrator to Council on Affordable Housing Re: Franklin Borough, 2014 Trust Fund Monitoring Report.
3. Resolution 2015-036 from Stillwater Township regarding the restoration of funding to State Parks Programs which will suffer cuts due to diversion of corporation business tax funds due to public approval of New Jersey Ballot Question 2.
4. Resolution 2015-51 from Andover Township Opposing the settlement agreements regarding the Solar Project for Sussex, Morris and Somerset Counties.
5. Resolution 2015-31 from the Township of Fredon Opposing the settlement agreements regarding the Solar Project for Sussex, Morris and Somerset Counties.
6. Resolution 2015-83 from Hopatcong Borough regarding the restoration of funding to State Park Programs which will suffer cuts due to diversion of corporation business tax funds due to public approval of New Jersey Ballot Question 2.
7. Resolution 53-2015 from the Township of Byram Opposing the settlement agreements regarding the Solar Projects for Sussex, Morris, Somerset Counties and calling for a full investigation for the project and the settlement.
8. Resolution 54-2015 from the Township of Byram in support of Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority's opposition to a proposed amendment to the Sussex County solid Water Management Plan.

REPORTS (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Police Department report for February, 2015.
2. Municipal Court report for February, 2015

APPLICATIONS (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Application for Peddler/Solicitors permit for Felipe Diaz Carvente to sell hot dogs, tacos and burritos.

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RESOLUTIONS (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Payment of bills for the meeting of March 24, 2015.

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the consent agenda of March 24, 2015.
Seconded by Mr. Martinez.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Limon asked for an update on the building across from Sit N Chat [the old Ski Shop building]

Mrs. McHose gave an update on the demolition of the buildings.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes and executive session meeting minutes for March 10, 2015. (Absent: Mr. Martinez) Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Ms. Hough commented there was no executive session March 10.

Mayor Crowley this is for the regular minutes there was no executive session that day.

Mr. Limon excepted the second on that.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: Martinez

Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve the emergency meeting minutes for March 18, 2015. (Absent: None) Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve the workshop meeting minutes for March 18, 2015. (Absent: None) Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Resolution 2015-30 Repair to Franklin Meadow Water Tank

Mr. Martinez made a motion to adopt resolution 2015-30 approving the emergency repairs for the Franklin Meadow Water Tank. Seconded by Mr. Babcock.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

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Resolution 2015-32 Amend the Temporary Water/Sewer Budget

Mr. Martinez made a motion to adopt resolution 2015-32 amending the 2015 temporary Water/Sewer Capital Budget. Seconded by Mr. Babcock.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Introduction Ordinance #04-2015

Mr. Martinez made a motion to introduce an ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING A NOT TO EXCEED SUM OF \$85,000.00 FROM RESERVE FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY, RESERVE FOR WATER/SEWER EQUIPMENT AND THE RESERVE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO WATER DISTRIBUTION BY THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY." Seconded by Mr. Babcock.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Public hearing will be held April 14, 2015.

Introduction Ordinance #03-2015

Mr. Martinez made a motion to introduce an ordinance entitled "CALENDAR YEAR 2015 TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A.40A:4-45.14). Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: Giordano Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Public hearing will be held April 14, 2015.

Resolution 2015-22 Authorizing Participation in Self-Examination Program

Mr. Martinez made a motion to adopt resolution 2015-22 Authorizing Participation in Self-Examination Program of the Municipal Budget for the 2015 Budget Year. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Introduction to the CY Municipal Budget

Mr. Martinez made a motion to adopt resolution 2015-31 introducing the CY 2015 Municipal Budget for the Borough of Franklin. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: Giordano Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Public hearing April 28, 2015

Resolution 2015-28 Sarcoidosis Awareness Month

Mr. Martinez made a motion to adopt resolution 2015-28 declaring April of each year "Sarcoidosis Awareness Month". Seconded by Mr. Giordano.

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Mayor Crowley explained the resolution.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Land Use Secretary Karen Osellame

Mr. Martinez made a motion to confirm the approval from September 9, 2014 meeting the salary increase of \$.50 per hour for Land Use Secretary Karen Osellame after a satisfactory performance review and recommendation of Alison McHose, Borough Administrator. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Department of Public Work Jesse Bogart

Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve a step increase for Department of Public Work employee Jesse Bogart from \$14.00 per hour to step 1 \$16.36 per hour after a satisfactory performance review and recommendation of Brian VanDenBroek, Department of Public Works Manager. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

Memorial Day Parade

Mr. Martinez made a motion to accept the request from the American Legion Post 132 to hold a parade on Memorial Day, May 25, 2015; parade line up at the Legion Post at 10:00 A.M. and starts at 10:30 A.M. Seconded by Mr. Babcock.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Babcock, Giordano, Limon, Martinez, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Dabinett Abstentions: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Mr. Giordano asked about bringing Jesse Bogart up to scale, step one, will this entail back pay.

Mrs. McHose explained.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Babcock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22p.m., seconded by Mr. Giordano. All were in favor.

Paul B. Crowley, Mayor

Robin Hough, Borough Clerk