

**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  
December 12, 2017**

Mayor Giordano called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and requested the Borough Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the Governing Body were present: Mr. Dabinett, Ms. Fantasia, Mr. Limon, Mr. Skellenger (*via phone*), Mr. Snyder, and Mayor Giordano.

Absent: Mr. Rathbun

Mayor Giordano led the assembly in the flag salute.

Mayor Giordano stated "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et sequentes. It has been properly advertised by posting in Borough Hall, and printed in the New Jersey Herald/Sunday New Jersey Herald on January 5, 2017, and posted on the Borough website, which adequate notice has been certified by the Clerk."

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Giordano commented there are no presentations tonight as stated on the agenda, Ms. McNamara had to cancel.

Mayor Giordano apologized, we are changing the agenda around and will be going into executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Ms. Fantasia made a motion to adjourn into closed executive session to discuss personnel and attorney client privilege matters. Motion seconded by Mr. Dabinett. All were in favor.

After meeting in closed session, the Governing Body returned to their seats at 8:29 p.m. and Mayor Giordano declared the meeting to be reconvened into open public session.

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to return from executive session. Seconded by Mr. Dabinett. All were in favor.

Mayor Giordano commented discussions on personnel and potential shared service took place in executive session, action will be taken on a personnel matter in new business.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Limon commented he wasn't at the recreation meeting last week, on personnel items, he will wait for the second item under new business on the agenda to comment.

Mr. Dabinett commented during our first snow storm on Saturday all went well with the plowing and salting, there were no break downs. There was a PEOSHA inspection everything was in compliance. The new dump truck should be in shortly.

Mr. Snyder commented there will be a meeting with the buildings and grounds committee, tentatively scheduled for Thursday night at 7:00p.m. Mayor Giordano commented he will not be available. Mr. Snyder will check with Mr. Rathbun to see if he can be available. He would like to have discussions on buildings and grounds for 2018.

Mr. Skellenger commented he had nothing to report. He would like congratulate the Fire Department on their venison dinner on Saturday.

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Ms. Fantasia commented EDC will meet this Thursday night at Borough Hall at 7:00p.m. On tonight's agenda the Council will be voting on the selection of Lincoln Financial and Lincoln National Life Insurance as our provider for our LOSAP program accounts. The state gives us a list of qualified providers for the Borough to choose from. The New Jersey League of Municipalities is offering a seminar entitled "Budgeting for the Elected Official" on Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the conference center at Mercer in West Windsor. It includes a lot about budgeting law. Mayor Giordano encouraged anyone who hasn't taken this seminar to do so, it is very beneficial. Ms. Fantasia also commented efforts are being made by the office staff to collect revenues for taxes and water/sewer outstanding balances.

Mrs. McHose had nothing to report. She would like to congratulate the recreation commission on the wonderful tree lighting ceremony. There was a great turn out and the decorations were beautiful. Mrs. McHose also thanked the DPW for the work they did on putting up all the decorations.

Mr. Prol commented the Franklin Borough Recreation Commission has signed up again this year to be a charter organization with the Boy Scouts of America.

Mayor Giordano thanked the Franklin Fire Department for having a great venison dinner. Mayor Giordano commented the recreation commission did a fantastic job with the tree lighting. Mayor Giordano thanked Jeff Korger and Carrie Burgos for a job well done. This year there were some changes, there was delicious food that came from the Brick and Brew as well as letters from Santa. It was a great turn out. Mayor Giordano also thanked the Williams Family for their family tradition of placing the lights on the Christmas trees and the bridge, it is very much appreciated. Mayor Giordano commented recreation will be purchasing approximately 6 lighted ornaments for Main Street. Mayor Giordano also stated recreation is looking for new members.

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Skellenger 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.

Dawn Rowe, 140 Munsonhurst Road, Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Rowe thanked Mr. Dabinett for his service to the town and stated she knew he always had his best interest of Franklin at heart.

Mr. Dabinett thanked Ms. Rowe for her comments. Mr. Dabinett commented it has been a labor of love on his part. *(Audience applauded)*

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 Ms. Fantasia. All were in favor.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Giordano 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):

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the consent agenda of December 12, 2017. Seconded by Ms. Fantasia.

Upon roll call vote:

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Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: None

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Limon commented the recreation chairperson requested to attend the buildings and grounds committee meeting. Mayor Giordano commented yes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approval of the Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes for November 14, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Dabinett

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Skellenger, Snyder  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: Limon

Ms. Fantasia complimented Darlene Tremont on the style of the minutes as written, they were very easy to follow.

**Appointment of Acting Municipal Clerk**

Mr. Limon made a motion to Appoint Darlene Tremont as Acting Municipal Clerk, effective December 15, 2017 at the rate of \$55,000.00 a year. Upon receiving her Clerk's certification, she will receive an additional \$5,000,00. Seconded by Mr. Dabinett.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: None

**Resolution #2017-75**

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-75 correcting an overbill amount, and authorizing the Water and Sewer Collector to remove \$43,315.25 for the property located at 66 Sterling Street. Seconded by Mr. Dabinett.

Mayor Giordano explained the reason for the correction.

Ms. Fantasia commented this was a key stroke error.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: None

**Resolution #2017-76**

Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-76 Appointing Wayne Dietz, Skylands Risk Management, Inc. Franklin Borough's Risk Management Consultant and the Franklin Administrator, Alison Littell McHose, as the authorized representative of the public entity is hereby authorized to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement for the year 2018. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: None

**Risk Management Consultant's Agreement**

Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve the 2018 Fund Year Statewide Insurance Fund Risk Management Consultant's Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

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Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: None

Resolution #2017-77

Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-77 authorizing the transfer of appropriations (2017 Municipal Budget) in the amount of \$30,000.00 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A4-58/59. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Mayor Giordano explained the transfer of appropriations from the police budget to the legal budget.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: Snyder

Resolution #2017-78

Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-78 adopting a Length of Service Award Program deferred plan provided by the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company and Lincoln Financial Group. Seconded by Mr. Dabinett.

Mayor Giordano explained the procedure on choosing the provider.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Skellenger, Snyder  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: Limon

Shared Service Agreement for Deer Carcass Removal

Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve the Shared Service Agreement between Space Wild Animal Farm Inc. and the Borough of Franklin for deer carcass removal from Municipal road right-a-way at a fee of \$31.00 per deer. Seconded by Mr. Dabinett.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: None

**ADDENDUM**

Resolution #2017-79

Mr. Dabinett made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-79 authorizing the Tax Collector to refund an overpayment of property taxes in the amount of \$2,168.25 to Diane Fink. Seconded by Mr. Limon

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder  
Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: None

Employment of Senior Nutrition Center Attendant

Ms. Fantasia made a motion to approve the part-time employment of Anna Fisher to assist at the Franklin Senior Nutrition Center 20 hours per week at the rate of \$10 per hour. Sussex County will be supplementing Ms. Fisher's salary in the amount of \$3,000 per year. Seconded by Mr. Dabinett.

Mrs. McHose explained Ms. Fisher's experience, her salary and the supplement to her salary from Sussex County.

Mayor Giordano commented this is not a lot of money and Ms. Fisher came highly recommended by the county.

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Ayes: Dabinett, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Mr. Rathbun Abstentions: None

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Skellenger 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.

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. Dabinett. All were in favor.

**MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS**

Mayor Giordano commented the Council is available for the next Mayor and Council meeting scheduled for December 26, 2017 if needed.

Mrs. McHose commented she will not be here for the December 26, 2017 meeting. Mrs. McHose thanked Councilman Dabinett, enjoyed working with him, many good things have been accomplished together and wished him all the best.

Mr. Dabinett thanked Mrs. McHose for her kind words.

Mayor Giordano commented he hopes Mr. Dabinett will continue to be on our public utilities committee next year.

Mr. Limon commented he would like to confirm the Mayor and Council Re-organization meeting is still scheduled for January 1, 2018 at 12 noon.

Mayor Giordano commented he considers Mr. Dabinett a friend and is proud to have served with him on the council. Mr. Dabinett has been an asset to the town and all the work he has done for the town is appreciated.

Mr. Dabinett thanked the Mayor.

Mr. Snyder thanked Mr. Dabinett for all his help and work with the town.

Mr. Dabinett commented he enjoyed working with each and everyone of the Council and wished everyone all the best in the future.

Ms. Fantasia commented Mr. Dabinett is one of the reasons she is a councilperson, he is an amazing mentor. She enjoyed working with him.

Mr. Dabinett commented on his years in Franklin, raising his family here and thanked everyone.

Mr. Snyder wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr. Skellenger also thanked Mr. Dabinett, he has learned a lot, especially his knowledge with the public utilities. Mr. Skellenger hopes Mr. Dabinett stays on the committee for many years to come.

The Council wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Snyder made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Dabinett. All were in favor.

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Nicholas Giordano, Mayor

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Darlene J. Tremont, Acting Municipal Clerk