

Franklin Borough Planning Board
Reorganization Meeting Minutes for
January 20, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mr. Correale, Mr. Correale led the assembly in the flag salute. Mr. Correale read the Statement of Compliance pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, PL 1975."

Mr. Correale administered the Oath of Allegiance to new appointments to the Planning Board.

Mr. James Affinto
Mr. George Drossel
Mr. Floy Estes
Mr. Formica – Councilman
Mr. Sowden – Mayor
Mrs. Keri Marino
Ms. Sharon Schultz
Mr. Williams

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. John Sowden, Mayor (Present)
Mr. Concetto Formica Councilman (Present)
Wes Suckey (absent)
Mr. James Nidelko (Present)
Mr. Floy Estes (Present)
Mr. Jim Williams (Present)
Ms. Sharon Schultz (Present)
Mrs. Keri Marino (Present)
Mr. George Drossel (Present)
Mr. James Affinto – Alternate #1 (Present)

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Robert Correale, Board Attorney

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Formica nominated Mr. Estes for Chairman.

Seconded by Mrs. Marino

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Sowden, Affinito

NAYS: Schultz, Williams

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

(Approved)

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Drossel nominated Mrs. Marino

Mr. Formica seconded the nomination.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Schultz, Sowden, Williams, Affinito

NAYS: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

(Approved)

ELECTION OF SECRETARY:

Mrs. Marino made a motion to elect Michelle Babcock as Secretary for the Franklin Borough Planning Board. **Seconded by Mr. Nidelko**

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Schultz, Sowden, Williams, Affinito

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

(Motion Approved)

Mrs. Babcock thanked the board.

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APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY:

Mr. Nidelko made a motion to appoint Brady & Correale, L.L.P. as the Attorney group for the Franklin Borough Planning Board.

Mrs. Marino Seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Schultz, Sowden, Williams, Affinito

NAYS: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

(Motion Approved)

APPOINTMENT OF ENGINEER:

Mr. Affinto made the motion to appoint Thomas G. Knutelsky, P.E. of Harold E. Pellow & Associates as the Engineer for the Franklin Borough Planning Board. Seconded by **Mr. Formica**

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Schultz, Sowden, Williams, Affinito

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

(Motion Approved)

APPOINTMENT OF PLANNER:

Mrs. Marino made a motion to appoint Jessica Caldwell & Associates as the Planner for the Franklin Borough Planning Board. Seconded by **Ms. Schultz**

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Schultz, Sowden, Williams, Affinito

NAYS: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

(Motion Approved)

DESIGNATION OF MEETING DATES AND TIMES:

Mrs. Marino made the motion to approve with the correction of the June date being Monday the 15th not the 17th like secretary Babcock stated.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Schultz, Sowden, Williams, Affinito

NAYS: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

(Motion Approved)

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER:

Mr. Nidelko made the motion to designate the New Jersey Herald the official newspaper of the Planning Board.

Seconded by Mr. Drossel

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Schultz, Sowden, Williams, Affinito

NAYS: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

(Motion Approved)

ADOPTION OF THE PROFESSIONAL RESOLUTION:

Mr. Formica made the motion to approve the Professional resolution.

Seconded by Mrs. Marino.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Drossel, Estes, Formica, Marino, Nidelko, Schultz, Sowden, Williams, Affinito

NAYS: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

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(Motion Approved)

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (“TCC”)

Mr. Estes asked if anyone would be interested in being a part of the TCC committee Mr. Estes reminded the board these meetings take place usually 4- 4:30 on Thursdays. Not every Thursday but when needed.

Mrs. Marino stated that she would be interested along with Mr. Drossel and Mr. Formica stated that he would like to be on as an alternate. The board were all in agreement.

RESOLUTION AND ANNUAL REPORT OF FRANKLIN PLANNING BOARD:

Mr. Estes asked if everyone had a chance to read it. If there are no questions or corrections to be made.

Mr. Nidelko made the motion. Seconded by **Mr. Williams**

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Formica, Estes, Sowden, Nidelko, Williams, Nidelko, Schutlz, Marino

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

(Motion Approved)

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Estes asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mrs. **Marino** made the motion and asked for a five-minute recess before starting the regular meeting.

Seconded by **Mr. Nidelko**

All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Babcock
Planning Board Secretary