

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN  
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM ON  
AUGUST 4, 2021**

This meeting is being held through a virtual meeting platform called ZOOM. The public has been notified and instructed on how to join the meeting.

Mayor Sowden 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. Formica, Mr. Limon, Mr. Postas, Mr. Skellenger, Mr. Zydon and Mayor Sowden.

Absent: Mr. Snyder

Mayor Sowden led the assembly in the flag salute.

Mayor Sowden stated "This Special Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notices of this meeting were sent to the New Jersey Herald and the Sunday New Jersey Herald on July 29, 2021. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk on aforementioned date. Notices on the bulletin board and the Borough website have remained continuously posted."

**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. Formica. All were in favor.

Joanne Tatka, 151 Maple Road, Franklin was granted permission to join the meeting after raising her hand. Mrs. Tatka commented on resolution 2021-74 regarding who will be eligible for the \$200 prescription eyewear reimbursement, resolution 2021-76 asking if the recreation secretary will now be vacant and resolution 2021-78 regarding the usage of the fire department's first response vehicle.

Rachel Heath, 7 Hemlock Drive, Franklin was granted permission to join the meeting after raising her hand. Mrs. Heath commented she attended the first National Night Out and it looked like a great success and commended the Franklin Police Department, Fire Department and everyone else who participated. Mrs. Heath asked what the eyewear reimbursements are for the bargaining units. Mrs. Heath voiced her opinions on the benefits to the Borough when healthcare waivers are taken and prorating the waiver payouts to employees.

There being no one else present who wished to address the Governing Body, Mr. Postas made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Skellenger. All were in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution #2021-73

Mr. Postas made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-73 to retain the services of Phoenix Consulting Group to provide professional services for an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

Mayor Sowden explained resolution 2021-73.

Resolution #2021-74

Mr. Zydon made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-74 modifying the Borough of Franklin employee handbook. Seconded by Mr. Formica.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

## MAYOR & COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 4, 2021

### Resolution #2021-75

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-75 authorizing the hiring of Joseph C. Setticasa as part time Zoning Officer at the rate of \$35.00 per hour, not to exceed an average of 10 hours per week, effective July 26, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

### Resolution #2021-76

Mr. Formica made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-76 authorizing the appointment of Michelle Babcock as Zoning Secretary effective August 9, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

### Resolution #2021-77

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-77 requesting approval of items of revenue and appropriation NJS 40A:4-87 for the body-worn camera grant - \$42,798.00. Seconded by Mr. Formica.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

### Resolution #2021-78

Mr. Formica made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-78 awarding a contract to DFFLM, LLC for the purchase of a 2021 full-size pick-up truck for the Franklin Borough Fire Department through the Morris County Co-op contract #15-C, item #10 in an amount not to exceed \$34,000. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Postas, Skellenger, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: Limon

### Payment of bills for the meeting of August 4, 2021

Mr. Formica made a motion to approve the payment of bills for the meeting of August 4, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Snyder Abstentions: None

### MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Mayor Sowden informed the Council of an interview that took place for a temporary CFO and requested Ms. Bonanno to update the Council on the financial areas.

Administrator Bonanno commented on the anticipated duties that would be done at a rate of \$45 per hour working a maximum of 24 hours per week with a not to exceed amount of \$30,000 to the end of this year.

Mayor Sowden commented he would like to have a resolution to approve this at the August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and requested a census of the Council.

Mr. Skellenger commented on the savings to the Borough.

Mr. Postas asked if anyone has seen the resume'. He wants to see it prior to making any decisions tonight.

Mayor Sowden commented this is a stop gap until August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Limon commented we need to have someone; this person is certified and eligible. Mr. Limon supports this.

Mayor Sowden clarified this discussion will be revisited at the August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Administrator Bonanno commented the new website is up and running. Colleen Little is doing a fantastic job managing it.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 4, 2021**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Skellenger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m., seconded by Mr. Limon. All were in favor.

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John M. Sowden IV, Mayor

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Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk