

**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  
January 9, 2018**

Mayor Giordano 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: Ms. Fantasia, Mr. Limon, Mr. Postas, Mr. Rathbun, Mr. Skellenger, Mr. Snyder, and Mayor Giordano.

Absent: None

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, 2018, and posted on the Borough website, which adequate notice has been certified by the Clerk."

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Kate McNamara of Project Self Sufficiency stepped forward and handed out informational folders to the members of the Council. Ms. McNamara explained the history of Project Self Sufficiency from being founded 30 years ago located in a closet to their current location of a four-building campus on Mill Street in Newton, NJ. Project Self Sufficiency helps provide low income families achieve stability, find employment, no cost legal services, parenting and financial management classes. However, there are many families needing those services that aren't able to travel to their Newton campus. Ms. McNamara commented Project Self Sufficiency applied and received a grant from Impact 100 Garden State to create a mobile Project Self Sufficiency (PSS). The mobile unit is a customized RV that will travel to multiple towns within Sussex County and a few in Morris County where residents will be able to get various services offered to them, such as Case Management, counseling, job training skills and a pantry for food, clothing and infant items to name a few. Ms. McNamara commented the goal is to visit each of 9 towns, Vernon, Montague, Sussex, Hamburg, Franklin, Ogdensburg, Hopatcong, Kenvil, Netcong and Jefferson 1 day every 2 weeks, hoping to be on the road by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. McNamara asked the Governing Body for suggestions on groups she can contact that are already successfully in place helping families within Franklin Borough. Those groups can help PSS choose locations that would reach the most in need families possible.

Mayor Giordano suggested to Ms. McNamara various groups within Franklin Borough and recommended speaking with Judy Williams, she has much knowledge that would be helpful. Mayor Giordano also suggested Main Street in front of the Hungarian Church and the Senior Center as possible locations for the mobile unit. Mayor Giordano commented the Borough can also put schedules and other information that may be helpful on the Borough website.

Alison McHose commented she has worked closely with Project Self Sufficiency, this is a much-needed service and congratulated them.

Ms. McNamara thanked the Council for their suggestions and the time they provided her.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Limon had nothing to report.

Mr. Postas had nothing to report.

Mr. Snyder stated Building and Grounds committee met early December with Mr. VanDenBroek who went over details for items to be addressed in 2018. Some of the doors at the DPW garage need to be replaced, repairs to the roof, the A/C condensers, programable thermostats and the wi-fi compatibility. Also discussed were security measures for the Borough Hall, DPW garage and the water department building.

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Mr. Rathbun commented he is hopefully scheduling a Public Safety Committee meeting for this week or early next week. Mr. Rathbun also commented there is an item on the addendum that he encourages the Council to consider. Sergeant Detective Nevin Mattessich worked very hard on the grant program application and it will benefit many departments within the Borough.

Mr. Skellenger had nothing to report. Mr. Skellenger commented he also agrees with Mr. Rathbun regarding the item on the addendum.

Ms. Fantasia commented hopefully at the next meeting we will have final collection numbers for our taxes and water and sewer utilities. Ms. Fantasia spoke with Fire Chief Fred Babcock, Jr. who has formally designated Teddy Lang, Fire Department Secretary, to be the records keeper for LOSAP. Cynthia Lanham will be keeping records for the WVFAS. Ms. Fantasia contacted Monica Miebach, CFO regarding any additional information on the LOSAP process. Ms. Miebach informed her there will be training to come. Ms. Fantasia commented Thursday is the EDC re-organization meeting at 7:00 pm. Ms. Fantasia expressed her pleasure working on the Planning Board and wished Mr. Skellenger luck in the coming year serving on the Planning Board.

Mr. Snyder asked if there was a meeting scheduled for the MSI program information. Ms. Fantasia replied to her knowledge no date yet has been scheduled.

Ms. McHose requested Mayor Giordano add an item to be discussed in executive session regarding a property issue the Zoning Officer has informed her about. Ms. McHose commented on the control of the equipment included in the addendum item.

Mr. Ursin commented the transition is going smoothly, he has had discussions both in person and on the phone with the Administrator and the Clerk.

Mayor Giordano informed the Council and audience regarding a water main break on Fowler Street. The equipment the Borough purchased for the DPW allowed the repairs to be done rather quickly by the DPW. Mr. VanDenBroek advised Mayor Giordano, potentially saving the Borough upwards of \$15,000.00. Mayor Giordano thanked the Council for their support in purchasing the equipment.

There was a discussion on the water main break.

### 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.

Joann Tatka, 151 Maple Road stepped forward. Ms. Tatka asked for the figures from the Tax Sale. Mr. Skellenger provided the figures he received from the CFO. Ms. Tatka questioned if neighbors near the Biscak property will be notified if the property changes from farmland to recreation. Mayor Giordano explained the process on the Borough acquiring the property. Mr. Ursin explained what would happen when and if the property were changed. Ms. Tatka also asked how much has been spent on the Labor Attorney and inquired if the dump truck that was discussed at the last Council meeting was a replacement for the dump truck that caught fire. Mayor Giordano commented on the cost of the Labor Attorney and confirmed the new dump truck that hasn't been delivered yet is a replacement. Ms. Tatka questioned the difference on the cost for the choices for the Borough Attorney.

There being no one else present who wished to address the Governing Body, Mr. Rathbun made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Snyder. 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.

Ms. Fantasia asked for clarification for item 2 of the Consent Agenda, a letter from Sparta Township Land Use Administrator regarding their proposed Master Plan. Ms.

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Fantasia questioned why we and surrounding towns were notified. Mr. Ursin explained the procedure for noticing surrounding towns with a common border.

### **CORRESPONDENCE** (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING ONLY OF THE FOLLOWING):

Mr. Rathbun made a motion to approve the consent agenda of January 9, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Rathbun, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Giordano requested the Ordinance Committee review the ordinance on reinforced grass.

Ms. Fantasia asked Ms. McHose what the owners of DXD need to do regarding signage for their business. Ms. McHose advised Ms. Fantasia DXD should contact the strip mall owners regarding the signage.

Mayor Giordano commented Mr. Crabb is working on the Historic Commission and should have things moving along soon. Also, Mr. Postas has some ideas for the Historic Commission in combination with the EDC.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes for December 26, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Fantasia, Limon, Rathbun, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: Postas

Mr. Postas made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes for January 1, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Rathbun, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

#### Congregate Nutrition Program Shared Service Agreement

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the Shared Service Agreement between the County of Sussex and the Borough of Franklin for the Franklin Congregate Nutrition Programs from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Rathbun, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

### **ADDENDUM**

#### **Resolution 2018-14**

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-14 authorizing the Borough of Franklin through the Franklin Police Department, to File an Application to Participate in the Federal 1033 Program to Enable Said Department to Request and Acquire Excess Department of Defense Equipment. Seconded by Mr. Rathbun.

Mr. Limon questioned if the program will be administered one specific department deciding on what is purchased. Mayor Giordano explained that the program will benefit all departments, each department will have an opportunity to request items. Ms. Fantasia requested if the Council will have final approval on the items to be purchased. Mr. Ursin explained wording in the resolution can be amended if the Council so chooses. A discussion continued on the Federal 1033 Program.

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Mr. Skellenger made a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-14 amendment. Seconded by Mr. Rathbun.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Rathbun, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

All were in favor.

After meeting in closed session, the Governing Body returned to their seats at 8:45p.m. and Mayor Giordano declared the meeting to be reconvened into open public session.

Mr. Limon made a motion to return from executive session. Seconded by Ms. Fantasia. All were in favor.

Mr. Limon made a motion to authorize the administrator to extend an offer for the Deputy Clerk at a salary of \$47,500.00. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Rathbun, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

Mayor Giordano commented he would like to appoint Michael Raperto to the Planning Board as Alternate #4.

Mr. Limon made a motion to confirm the Mayor's appointment. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Rathbun, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

**MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS**

Mr. Skellenger commented he spoke to Freeholder Graham, Franklin Borough is on the list to hold a Freeholder meeting.

Ms. Fantasia commented Freeholder Graham will be attending a Council meeting to discuss potential bus hubs for transportation in Franklin Borough.

Mayor Giordano stated he spoke with Freeholder Lazzaro regarding the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority Board. Mayor Giordano commented there is no Franklin Borough representation on that board and recommends getting information to start that process.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Limon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47p.m. Seconded by Mr. Rathbun. All were in favor.

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Nicholas Giordano, Mayor

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Darlene J. Tremont, Acting Municipal Clerk