

**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
NOVEMBER 13, 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: Mr. Crabb (via phone), Ms. Fantasia (via phone), Mr. Limon, Mr. Postas, Mr. Skellenger (via phone), 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

There were no presentations

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Limon commented that there was an EDC Meeting last Thursday. Cheryl Krouse was there and she will be applying to become a member of the EDC for next year and also Concetto Formica. There is a new liquor store in the Shoprite Plaza and one on Route 517 in the Sterling Plaza, 4-Chix is going in across from the Hardyston School and the Easter Seals building on Main Street is in review for a medical supply building. The meeting dates were set for next year and there was also discussion on pop-up retail stores.

Mr. Postas commented that he was unable to attend the last Recreation Committee meeting. The tree lighting will be held at the pond on December 1st at 5:00pm. Mr. Postas gave a brief committee report on the neighborhood house at the request of Mr. Crabb. Mr. Sluka rendered a drawing for the neighborhood house and we have also invited three new members onto the committee, Concetto Formica, Shane Hrbek, a Board of Education Member and Keri Marino from SBOne Bank. We are still working out funding for this project with Congressman Gottheimer's office. We are trying to fund this project without much cost, if any, to the tax payer. We are also looking to make some strides with Hardyston and Hamburg, Hardyston has already said if we are no longer in the Littell Center they would come to our new neighborhood house. Mr. Postas thanked Judy Williams and Jenna Houghtaling for decorating the tree. Mr. Postas would like to set up a town hall meeting sometime in January at the School to show architectural drawings and budgets for the neighborhood house.

Mr. Snyder commented that the outside security cameras are in place at the Borough Hall, Police Station and DPW.

Mr. Crabb commented that he has a meeting with Patrick Sheean from Congressman Gottheimer's office to discuss funding possibilities for the neighborhood house. The Mineral Museum would like to meet the week after Thanksgiving.

Mr. Skellenger had nothing to report. Mayor Giordano asked Mr. Skellenger how things are going with Brian's tenure for the DPW Superintendent and asked that Mr. Skellenger work on that for the next meeting and get a report on Newton Street. Mr. Skellenger commented that Newton Street is going to be worked on next year.

Mr. Crabb asked if the DPW has a small camera for the sewer systems. Mayor Giordano commented he does not believe the Borough owns one, he believes that service is contracted out.

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Ms. Fantasia commented that she attended some good sessions while at the League of Municipalities in Atlantic City. Finance Committee met on November 7th with Monica Miebach and went over the collection rate and we are at 97.27. Ms. Fantasia commented that Monica asked to curtail discretionary spending from now to the end of the year so that we are sure to hit our collection rate for the year. Ms. Fantasia is asking permission for Monica to send out an email to Alison, Chief McInerney and Brian VanDenBroek stating that the Council wishes to limit discretionary spending from this point moving forward so that we are sure to hit our collection rate for the year.

Mayor Giordano commented that the tree lighting is December 1, 2018 at 5:00pm. Santa Claus will be there, as well as Franklin Band and the Scouts will have photos with Santa. There will be an ugly sweater and hat contest.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Postas made a motion to open the meeting to the public for anyone wishing to address the Governing Body. Seconded by Mr. Limon. All were in favor.

Dick Durina, 23 Lozaw Road, Franklin stepped forward. Mr. Durina asked about the request from the Concerned Citizen's group for the use of Senior Center. Mayor Giordano stated that the schedule is being worked on for the use of the Senior Center. Mr. Durina commented that sometime in the early 90's the Easter Seals building received a grant from the state to put in an elevator and windows and some facial improvements. Mr. Durina asked Mr. Ursin when somebody receives a grant like that and the property is sold from a charitable to a private organization is any of that grant money recouped, do we have any interest in the building is the bottom line. Mr. Ursin commented if it did have restrictions it would have been recorded as lien against the property which would have come up at the closing or would have gone into the deed. Mr. Durina asked about the land swap and if it could be put on a future agenda for discussion.

JoAnn Tatka, 151 Maple Road, Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Tatka asked if the pond was a success this year by the attendance. Mayor Giordano commented that in his unabashed opinion is that in the first time in almost 30 years kids were able to swim in the pond and up until the point where there was an incident at the pond, which was something that was beyond everyone's control and sad that it happened, it was a very good success. Ms. Tatka asked if the carnival made a profit. Ms. Tatka asked if there was a grant for the senior building also for seniors.

Rachel Heath, 7 Hemlock Drive, Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Heath commented with all do respect, I think the plans are beautiful and talking about moving the seniors to Main Street, where will the nutrition site be, you have a gymnasium and offices. Ms. Heath suggested to build a police department on Main Street and upstairs where the police department is now that could be recreation and leave the seniors downstairs.

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

1. Letter dated October 25, 2018 from Anthony Carlos of the State of New Jersey Division of Purchase & Property Contract Compliance and Audit unit to Mayor Giordano advising that the Borough is in compliance.
2. Ordinance of the Township of Hardyston to amend various chapter of the Township of Hardyston combined Land Use Chapters in order to establish standards for outdoor lighting for residential properties.

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3. 2018 Certification of the table of equalized valuations.
4. Letter dated October 23, 2018 from Mark Valli of NORWESCAP to Darlene Tremont advising that NORWESCAP does not intend to renew their lease for office space for next year.

REPORTS (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. COH report – October 2018
2. Construction Permit Activity Report – October 2018
3. Construction Report – October 2018
4. Zoning Officer's Report – October 2018
5. Board of Health Report – October 2018

APPLICATIONS (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. None filed.

RESOLUTIONS (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Payment of bills for the meeting of November 13, 2018.

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the consent agenda of November 13, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: Snyder Absent: None Abstentions: None

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for tonight's portion of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the executive session meeting minutes for October 23, 2018. (Absent: None) Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the special meeting minutes for November 2, 2018 (Absent: Postas, Snyder, Mayor Giordano). Seconded by Ms. Fantasia.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Limon, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: Postas, Snyder

Resolution 2018-93

Mr. Limon made a motion to adopt resolution 2018-93 regarding Estell Manor. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Mayor Giordano commented that Hardyston has agreed and they will be plowing Estell Manor.

Upon roll call vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

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Resolution 2018-94 and 2018-99

Mr. Postas made a motion to table resolutions 2018-94 and 2018-99 until the next regular scheduled Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Crabb.

Upon roll call vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

Resolution 2018-101

Mr. Snyder made a motion to adopt resolution 2018-101 authorizing membership in a national cooperative: Sourcewell formerly called NJPA (National Joint Powers Alliance). Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

Resolution 2018-102

Mr. Snyder made a motion to adopt resolution 2018-102 authorizing the tax collector to release a tax lien for the property located at 136 Buckwheat Road, also known as Block 1006, Lot 6. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

Resolution 2018-103

Mr. Snyder made a motion to adopt resolution 2018-103 authorizing the transfer of appropriations. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

Resolution 2018-104

Mr. Postas made a motion to adopt resolution 2018-104 accepting the project as complete for proposed improvements to Wildcat Road-Section III. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: Skellenger

Approval of conditional police department hire

Ms. Fantasia made a motion to approve a conditional police department hire. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Mayor Giordano commented that for the public's knowledge there was a special meeting for the conditional police department hire however that candidate accepted another position.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: Snyder

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Introduction of Ordinance #12-2018

Ms. Fantasia made a motion to introduce ordinance 12-2018 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 60 REGARDING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN, COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY". Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Mayor Giordano explained the ordinance.

Mr. Postas commented that we would like to take the numbers of lieutenants, sergeants and patrolman out of this ordinance.

Mr. Crabb commented that he had a conversation with Chief McInerney and with Borough Counsel this afternoon and he is not sure what these numbers mean.

Ms. Fantasia commented that we had a situation where our concern was that there was no supervising officer for some of the shifts.

Mr. Postas commented that there are two things that we don't want to do, we do not want to micro manage the police department but more importantly we don't want to give the impression to our taxpayers that we're looking to go from a force of 16 to 21.

After some discussion on the verbiage of the ordinance under the organization section, Mr. Skellenger made a motion to amend the verbiage under the organization section of ordinance 12-2018 to read a Chief of Police and the positions of Captain, Lieutenant, Sergeant and Patrolman in numbers approved by the Mayor and Council. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll vote to amend:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Limon, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: Snyder

Upon roll call vote as amended:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: Limon Absent: None Abstentions: Snyder

Mr. Postas made a motion to have Ordinance 13-2018 regarding the Recreation Commission placed on the agenda for the November 27, 2018 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Crabb.

Upon roll call vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstentions: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session requested.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION II

Mr. Crabb 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.

Dick Durina, 23 Lozaw Road, Franklin stepped forward. Mr. Durina commented that he thought Roberts Rules stated that once a motion is tabled it can only be brought back on the table by the person that tabled it.

Mr. Ursin commented that your belief is to be true. Your belief is true if something is tabled without further direction and in this situation the item was tabled until the next council meeting.

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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. Postas. All were in favor.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Mayor Giordano congratulated Council President Fantasia for elevating to freeholder and also congratulations to those who were on the ballot.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Limon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m., seconded by Mr. Postas. All were in favor.

Nicholas Giordano, Mayor

Darlene J. Tremont, Acting Municipal Clerk