

**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 21, 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, Ms. Fantasia, Mr. Postas, Mr. Skellenger, and Mayor Giordano.

Absent: Mr. Limon, Mr. Snyder

Mayor Giordano led the assembly in the flag salute.

Mayor Giordano stated the Borough Attorney, John Ursin is joining the meeting by phone this evening.

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 for this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Fantasia commented Administrator McHose requested that she inform the Governing Body that in the new year the Council will need to re-appoint the Recreation Secretary for that position.

Mr. Crabb commented he will be joining the Mineral Museum in a new role as executive committee, this will keep the communication open on potential items the Borough is working on with them. Mr. Crabb also commented on the land donated to the Borough by Steve Phillips and a handshake agreement that was made many years ago regarding the snow clearing of the sidewalks on Buckwheat Road.

Mr. Ursin suggested the Council make a motion to that effect and if a MOA is needed he can draft it for the parties involved.

Mr. Crabb made a motion to have the Borough DPW clear the sidewalks of snow in front of the fence lined property located on Buckwheat Road and have Steve Phillips to keep the entrance to the access road on the Evans Road side to the water tower cleared (of snow). This arrangement will continue into the future unless a future Council chooses to have it changed or modified. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: None

Mr. Postas had nothing to report.

Mayor Giordano commented he is working on the re-organization meeting for next year. Mayor Giordano stated the Police Officers will be sworn in and the Fire Department will not be in attendance, their members will be sworn in at their installation dinner in February.

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 Ms. Fantasia. All were in favor.

Joanne Tatka, 151 Maple Road, Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Tatka commented on the total police overtime for 2018 being available in 2019, the 5 year agreements for the police chief and captain, the Recreation Secretary and the Administrator's

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Assistant position staying as a combined position next year. Ms. Tatka also commented on the current Tax Collector's service ending and questioned the details of the proposed Tax Department Shared Service with Wantage.

Rachel Heath, 2016 Sussex County Senior of the Year, 7 Hemlock Drive, Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Heath thanked Ms. Fantasia for her service to the Borough, wishing her well as Freeholder. Ms. Heath also thanked Mr. Crabb for his service and dedication to the Borough, it was appreciated. Ms. Health wished the Governing Body a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

There being no one else present who wished to address the Governing Body, Mr. Skellenger 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 December 3, 2018 from Blanche Stuckey, Ogdensburg Borough Land Use Secretary to Sussex County Planning Board in regards to the Borough of Ogdensburg Master Plan re-examination report.
2. Resolution from Sandyston Township supporting Assembly bill no. A4037 and Senate Bill S2650 amending N.J.S.A.:14-96, N.J.S.A. 40A:14-98 and P.L. 1940 c. 153 allowing members of junior firefighters' auxiliaries to perform certain fire support duties.

REPORTS (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Littell Community Center Reports – April 2018 – November 2018
2. Police Department Report – November 2018

APPLICATIONS (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. None filed.

RESOLUTIONS (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Payment of bills for the meeting of December 21, 2018.

Mayor Giordano explained a tax appeal on the bills list regarding check #46820 in the amount of \$42,114.22.

Mr. Skellenger requested check #46799 be pulled from the bills list and vote on it separately.

Mr. Crabb requested PO #29997 be pulled from the bills list and vote on it separately.

Mr. Crabb made a motion to approve the consent agenda of December 21, 2018, with check #46799 and PO #29997 removed from the bills list. Seconded by Ms. Fantasia.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: None

Mr. Crabb made a motion to accept check #46799 on the bills list of the Consent Agenda of December 21, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: Skellenger

Mr. Postas made a motion to accept PO #29997, check #46795 on the bills list of the Consent Agenda of December 21, 2018. Seconded by Ms. Fantasia.

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Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: Crabb

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Postas made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes and executive session meeting minutes for December 11, 2018. (Absent:) Seconded by Mr. Crabb.

Ms. Fantasia made a motion to make a correction to the regular meeting minutes for December 11, 2018, on page 9, it states Chief McInerney was promoted to chief in 2007, it should have read he was promoted to acting chief in 2011. Seconded by Mr. Crabb.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: None

Adoption of Ordinance #16-2018

Mr. Postas made a motion to adopt Ordinance 16-2018 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5 REGARDING THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN, COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY". Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to open to the public ordinance 16-2018. Seconded by Ms. Fantasia. All were in favor.

Joanne Tatka, 151 Maple Road, Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Tatka commented on the wording for the title of Public Works Manager, the duties of the Public Works Manager and the starting term required for tenure.

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to close to the public ordinance 16-2018. Seconded by Ms. Fantasia. All were in favor.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: None

Mayor Giordano requested a resolution be drafted to confirm required dates for the Public Works Manager's tenure. Brian VanDenBroek asked if the tenure was from time held as position as Superintendent or from date of certification. Mr. Ursin responded from certification from the state.

Police Chief Agreement

Mr. Crabb made a motion to approve the Police Chief Employment agreement between the Borough of Franklin and Police Chief Gregory Cugliari from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023. (Agreement provided in Council packets) Seconded by Ms. Fantasia.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: None

Police Captain Agreement

Mr. Crabb made a motion to approve the Police Captain Employment agreement between the Borough of Franklin and Police Captain Seamus Geddis from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023. (Agreement provided in Council packets) Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

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Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: None

Tax Collection Department Shared Service with Wantage Township

Ms. Fantasia made a motion to approve the Tax Collection Department Shared Service between Wantage Township and the Borough of Franklin beginning January 1, 2019, ending December 31, 2021 at the of cost of \$30,000 for year 2019, \$30,600 for year 2020 and \$31,212 for year 2021. (Agreement provided in Council packets) Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Mr. Postas commented on the cost savings to the Borough, should the term be less than the 3 years as stated in the agreement if we are training a current employee for tax collector. Mr. Ursin explained the annual opt out clause within the agreement. Mayor Giordano commented the certification for tax collector can take up to 2 years or longer to complete, the employee has just started training. Ms. Fantasia commented on the benefits of the shared service to the employee that is training and the cost savings to the Borough.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Crabb, Fantasia, Postas, Skellenger

Nays: None Absent: Limon, Snyder Abstentions: None

Discussion on Temporary Zoning Officer Shared Service

At this time there was a discussion on a temporary zoning officer shared services agreement with the Borough of Hamburg.

Mr. Ursin commented the Borough of Hamburg has contacted the Borough without much notice explaining they are going to be without Zoning Officer services at the end of this year and asked if we would be interested in a shared service with them. Since it was such short notice there wasn't time for representatives of the Borough to meet with Hamburg to go over specific needs. Mr. Ursin suggested if Hamburg has an immediate need we, the Borough could consider entering into a 60 or 90 day temporary agreement to help them out, with a potential \$900 per month fee paid to the Borough. Mr. Ursin explained the benefits to authorizing the shared services on a temporary basis.

Mr. Crabb commented on whether the Borough's Zoning Officer has been contacted to ask his opinion as to what time he would be available.

Mr. Postas commented before we can move forward the Council needs to get additional information regarding details of what Hamburg is looking for from our Zoning Officer, suggesting we ask the administrator to get more information.

A discussion on the Zoning Officer shared services continued.

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to table the Zoning Officer shared service with Hamburg to the next regular meeting on January 8, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Postas. All were in favor.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Ms. Fantasia thanked former Mayor Crowley and Jim Kilduff who provided an orientation to help understand how government and committees work when being appointed to EDC. Ms. Fantasia commented she learned much from Dave Brady and John Cholminski when on Planning Board. Ms. Fantasia also commented she has also learned a lot from our former Borough Attorney, Tom Prol and our current Borough Attorney, John Ursin. Ms. Fantasia also thanked each Council member for everything, stating it has been a pleasure working with all of you, including Administrator McHose, former Clerk, Robin Hough, current Clerk Darlene Tremont, DPW Supervisor, Brian VanDenBroek and Chief McInerney, who will be missed as well as the entire Police Department, the Fire Department, EMS, the Recreation Department and Mayor Giordano, who set the tone by saying we (the Borough) would not raise taxes and we did not. Ms. Fantasia concluded by stating she is very proud to have been a part of this Governing Body for the past 3 years.

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Mr. Crabb thanked the Council for the privilege of being able to fill in for former Councilman Rathbun. Mr. Crabb congratulated Councilwoman Fantasia on being elected to the Freeholder Board as wishing her much success.

Mr. Postas commented everyone on the Council has been a big help to him this year, learning so much and thanked them. Mr. Postas also thanked the Mayor and the public and wished everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Mayor Giordano thanked Councilwoman Fantasia, hoping the structure she was a part of here in Franklin will be taken with her as she moves on and is proud to have served on a board with her and proud to see another Freeholder coming from Franklin. Mayor Giordano commented the Franklin Police Department is the finest in the County. Mayor Giordano also commented history is very important to us but we also need to temper that with today's needs, that is our greatest accomplishment and our greatest challenge. Mayor Giordano thanked Councilman Crabb, his politics started in the fire department, went to the Borough Council for two and a half months then left to be a Freeholder and now back to the Council. Mayor Giordano also commented he is proud to have been on a council with him and hope that when he is on the Mineral Museum Board that the Borough will be able to continue to work with the Neighborhood House project in conjunction with the Mineral Museum to emphasize what is different from any other place which is our heritage. Mayor Giordano concluded commenting on the firsts that were done this year, all the hard work everyone put in, there will be new faces coming on and looking forward to a new year, hoping there will be no rise in taxes. Mayor Giordano congratulated Mr. VanDenBroek and wished everyone a good Christmas. Mayor Giordano also thanked his wife for standing by him and supporting him this year through illnesses and stress and looking forward to a better year next year.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Ms. Fantasia made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45p.m., seconded by Mr. Skellenger. All were in favor.

Nicholas Giordano, Mayor

Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk