

**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  
March 12, 2019**

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. Limon, Mr. Skellenger, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Zydon and Mayor Giordano.

Absent: Mr. Postas, Mr. Soules

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 4, 2019, and posted on the Borough website, which adequate notice has been certified by the Clerk."

**PRESENTATIONS**

None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Limon commented Recreation Committee met on March 7, 2019, the new committee seems to be working very well. Events coming up is Movie Night on March 23, 2019, April 7, 2019 is Spring Trout Derby, April 27, 2019, Senior Spring Fling. Mr. Limon commented since many have expressed concerns over the conflict with the date of the garage sale day and the Senior Spring Fling, he will address it at the next Recreation Committee meeting to see if it can be changed to another day. Miss Franklin Pageant is May 18, 2019, Mrs. Sanchez hasn't heard on the availability for the use of the Franklin School for the pageant, plan "B" would be possibly using the pavilion at the pond. Mr. Limon stated recreation is waiting to hear if the FOP is going to donate a \$1,000 scholarship for the winner. A field use application was approved for Boy Scout Troop 90 for a Pet Expo on June 8, 2019, from 9:00AM – 3:00PM. Mr. Limon also commented other items discussed were the Fluorescent 5K, talent show and items that were unanimously supported is leasing out the concession stand and the opening of the pond again for this year.

Mr. Snyder commented Buildings and Grounds met on Wednesday, with Glenn Soules, Brian VanDenBroek, Stephen Skellenger, Tamara Contreras, Renee Hennings and Cheryl Krouse discussing a potential grant from FFA (Forward Franklin Alliance) for playground equipment, possible locations for the placement of the equipment and a letter of support, from the Borough would be needed expressing interest in the project.

Mr. Skellenger commented the Finance Committee has been meeting regarding the budget, they will meet again tomorrow and Saturday with the CFO.

Mr. Zydon commented there haven't been any meetings since our last Mayor & Council meeting, the Ordinance Committee will be meeting on March 18, 2019 and the DPW meeting will be on March 21, 2019.

Mayor Giordano commented on pop up zoning, it would be applicable to Main Street and will try to get information at the next Planning Board meeting.

Administrator McHose commented she will be meeting with Cheryl Krouse, EDC Chair to discuss improving communication between EDC, Council and other boards. Administrator McHose also commented Miller's Nook, located at 47 Church Street, is trying a pop-up like concept, bringing various outside vendors into one space. Administrator McHose updated the Council on the new recreation committee, she is working with the recreation secretary, recreation committee and Tom Ferry, Auditor to brief everyone on what their responsibilities will be and procedures to be followed under the new committee form. Administrator McHose stated the budgeting process

## MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 12, 2019

is moving along, some delays have been experienced because of new on-line filing mandates.

Mr. McBriar had nothing to report.

Mayor Giordano commented there was a joint meeting with the Council and Planning Board discussing the Main Street Redevelopment Plan. This is on the agenda tonight, but is going to ask to have it tabled to the next meeting since Mr. Postas and Mr. Soules aren't here this evening. The Planning Board Chairman has requested a target date to get through the approvals for June. Mayor Giordano also commented he received a suggestion, to have quarterly or semi-annual meetings with the chair persons of all boards in a joint meeting, which he agrees could be beneficial and would like to try to attempt during the second half of April. This would help progress move forward all together. Mayor Giordano stated he was approached by a few residents regarding street lights. He has gotten some information from Jackie Espinoza from JCP&L and the cost to the Borough would be minimal. Mayor Giordano requested residents, Council and the Police Department to identify areas in need. Lastly, Mayor Giordano commented on the Governor reaching an agreement with legislature on the legalization of adult recreational use of marijuana, voicing his concerns and opinions, stating there will be a need to address this in the short-term future.

### OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Limon 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.

Joanne Tatka, 151 Maple Road, Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Tatka commented on street light locations, the marijuana problem causing car insurance premium increases and the fees paid from Hamburg for the Zoning Officer Shared Services. Ms. Tatka complimented the road department on the improvement of the snow plowing since the beginning of the season, although less salt being used would be beneficial to residents who have wells.

Dick Durina, 23 Lozaw Road, stepped forward. Mr. Durina complimented the Franklin Police Department on the quick response and apprehension of the criminals at the Verizon Store. Mr. Durina commented on a budget workshop meeting and salaries and wages. Mr. Durina questioned the use of time clocks. Mr. Durina stated the State is cutting school aid and Sussex County is losing over 5 million dollars, unfortunately now our taxes will increase. Mr. Durina also commented on the possibility to form a sub-committee for the Neighborhood House. Mr. Durina questioned the need for a separate administrator position in Franklin Borough.

Dawne Rowe, 140 Munsonhurst Road, Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Rowe suggested when the discussion on street lights is addressed, keep in mind the brightness of the lights on Main Street to be installed.

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. Zydor. 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. Resolution from the Borough of Stanhope in Support of Path to Progress Recommendations Made by New Jersey Economic and Fiscal Policy Workgroup.
2. Adoption of Ordinance 2019-01 from the Township of Hardyston to amend and supplement Chapter 185, Zoning, Section 185-58(S), resort oriented housing in connection with a golf course of the revised general ordinances in order to amend the bulk requirements for single-family detached dwelling units permitted as a conditional use in accordance with Article XVI, Regulations Governing Conditional Uses.

## MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 12, 2019

3. Resolution 2019-27 from the Borough of Hamburg supporting the 2019 UDrive. UText. UPay. Distracted driving crackdown April 1-21, 2019.

### **REPORTS** (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Zoning Officers Report – February 2019
2. Construction Permit Activity Report – February 2019
3. Construction Report – February 2019
4. Construction COH – February 2019

### **APPLICATIONS** (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. None filed.

### **RESOLUTIONS** (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Payment of bills for the meeting of March 12, 2019.

Mr. Durina questioned if correspondence, item 2, Adoption of Ordinance 2019-01 from the Township of Hardyston effects the Black Bear Golf Course that runs through Franklin Borough.

Mayor Giordano commented it refers to Crystal Springs Golf Course.

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the consent agenda of March 12, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Limon, Skellenger, Snyder, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Postas, Soules Abstentions: None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Snyder questioned if the Borough is going to re-apply for the TAP (Transportation Alternative Program) Grant and if the road work improvements, Buckwheat Road, Washington Avenue and School Plaza is on schedule for this year. Mr. Snyder also questioned if the Franklin School is putting in natural gas and the location of it.

Mr. Zydon commented he understands they (gas company) are, but has no knowledge of the location.

Mr. Snyder commented he has concerns with the gas company digging up the roadway that may be newly paved.

Administrator McHose commented the gas company should notify the residents similar to when they brought natural gas into Ogdensburg Borough.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes and executive session meeting minutes for February 26, 2019. (Absent: None) Seconded by Mr. Snyder.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Limon, Skellenger, Snyder, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Postas, Soules Abstentions: None

#### Discussion on the Recommended Main Street Redevelopment Plan Resolution from the Planning Board.

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to table the discussion on the Resolution from the Planning Board entitled "RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE HISTORIC MAIN STREET REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE ZINC MINE REDEVELOPMENT AREA AND THE MAIN STREET REHABILITATION AREA". Seconded by Mr. Limon.

## MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 12, 2019

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Limon, Skellenger, Snyder, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Postas, Soules Abstentions: None

Mayor Giordano informed the public they can view the Historic Main Street Redevelopment Plan on the website.

### Discussion on Bid Specifications for 2019 Services for the Pond

At this time there will be a discussion on bid specs for 2019 services for the pond.

Administrator McHose commented the Recreation Committee has discussed going out to bid for the operation of the concession stand this year, also for the kayak, paddle board and paddle boat operation and possibly the beach area as well. During a discussion with our insurance company last year, they stated many ponds, lakes and pools in the area use outside companies to manage all aspects of operations. Administrator McHose explained necessary lifeguard compliance, the costs associated and asked the Council to give authorization to explore getting bid specifications for all services mentioned.

Mr. McBriar commented on RFQ process and competitive contracting process.

Administrator McHose commented she does have a few bid samples and will have more information available for the next meeting.

Mayor Giordano commented on gathering other options and shared services for lifeguards with Ogdensburg Borough.

Administrator McHose stated advertising will need to be done soon if we plan on opening on May 25, 2019.

Mr. Skellenger requested to have for the next meeting a final cost analysis on the pond from last year, it will give the Council a comparison to decide if bidding out those services will be beneficial.

### National Poison Prevention Week Proclamation

Mr. Zydon made a motion to adopt the Proclamation proclaiming the third full week in March to be National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW). Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Limon, Skellenger, Snyder, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Postas, Soules Abstentions: None

### Tax Lien Releases

Mr. Zydon made a motion to adopt resolutions 2019-24 through 2019-28 authorizing the tax collector to release tax liens and that the Mayor and Clerk endorse the original certificate for the properties listed as follows:

Resolution 2019-24, 43 Fowler St., Block 903 Lot 4.

Resolution 2019-25, 19 Sgt. Dennis Premock Rd., Block 1504, Lot 13.

Resolution 2019-26, 66 High St., Block 1005, Lot 10.

Resolution 2019-27, 64 Church St., Block 1301, Lot 5.

Resolution 2019-28, 40 John Wilton St., Block 605, Lot 18.

Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Limon, Skellenger, Snyder, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Postas, Soules Abstentions: None

### Resolution 2019-29

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-29 authorizing the Borough of Franklin through the Franklin Police Department to file an application to participate

## **MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 12, 2019**

in the Federal 1033 Program to Enable Said Department to Request and Acquire Excess Department of Defense Equipment. Seconded by Mr. Zydon.

Mayor Giordano explained resolution 2019-29.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Limon, Skellenger, Zydon

Nays: None Absent: Postas, Soules Abstentions: Snyder

### **Discussion on Disposition of the Old Franklin Fire Truck**

At this time there will be a discussion on the disposition of the old Franklin fire truck.

Mayor Giordano commented he received a letter from the Franklin Fire Department requesting the Borough donate or sell the old fire truck to them for a dollar, giving the fire department the opportunity to sell it to offset the cost of equipping the new fire truck.

Mr. McBriar commented this could be done by way of a formal resolution.

Mayor Giordano explained the process the Borough must follow when disposing or selling surplus equipment.

Administrator McHose questioned the legal required procedures when selling surplus property.

Mr. McBriar stated it depends on the recipient and explained the procedures when selling surplus property through on-line public auctions.

Mr. Skellenger requested Mr. Ursin to draft a resolution for the next meeting to donate the old fire truck to the Franklin Fire Department to outfit the new fire truck.

Mr. Limon commented on a discussion the Mayor had with the Ogdensburg Mayor regarding Ogdensburg acquiring the old Franklin fire truck.

Mayor Giordano commented his discussion with the Ogdensburg Mayor included possibly selling or donating the truck to them and if Ogdensburg could accommodate the size of the truck.

Mr. Zydon commented on appraisals.

### **Discussion on Additional Street Lights in Franklin Borough**

At this time there will be a discussion on additional street lights in Franklin Borough.

Mr. Zydon commented on the brightness of the street lights, requesting if LED lights can be installed.

Mayor Giordano requested the administrator to send a memo to the Chief of Police and Captain Geddis to provide the Council with a list of suggested locations needing street lights.

Mr. Limon commented he is happy this is moving forward. He has been approached in the past many times regarding 67-69 Corkhill Road being very dark and in need of lighting.

Mayor Giordano explained the process to install new lights.

A discussion continued on street lights.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session requested.

### **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION II**

**MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 12, 2019**

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.

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

**MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS**

Mayor Giordano announced he will not be running for re-election. He is placing his family matters and own well-being first. He does appreciate everyone who supported him in the past. It was a very difficult decision and hopes whomever is running for Mayor continues to keep the best interest of Franklin in their mind. The job of Mayor is not a fun one, the benefits aren't the best and the position has a lot of responsibility. Mayor Giordano commented it may seem to some that I joke around at times, but I do take the job very seriously.

Administrator McHose thanked Mayor Giordano and congratulated his courage to publicly state his intentions. It's not always easy, public service is important and if people don't run for office the process doesn't work. Administrator McHose thanked Mayor Giordano for his many years of service.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Snyder made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03p.m., seconded by Mr. Skellenger. All were in favor.

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Nicholas Giordano, Mayor

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Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk