

**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  
JULY 16, 2024**

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: Mrs. Carnes, Mr. Formica, Mr. Limon, Mr. Skellenger, Mr. Snyder and Mayor Sowden.

Absent: Mrs. Heath

Mayor Sowden led the assembly in the flag salute.

Mayor Sowden 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 7, 2024, and posted on the Borough website, which adequate notice has been certified by the Clerk."

**PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations for tonight's meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Limon commented that a meeting will be set up for the public works and buildings and grounds committees. Mr. Limon commented that the paving repairs and patchwork is being worked on throughout the town. Working on various road improvements, drainage and catch basins are being fixed before paving begins. The baseball dug out has been reroofed and new trim.

Mrs. Carnes commented that the next pond side market is scheduled for the last Saturday in July from 10am-2pm and the next ones will be the end of September and October.

Mr. Snyder had nothing to report.

Mr. Formica commented that he met with two representatives from Congressman Gotheimer's office, and we discussed looking for federal money. Mr. Formica commented that he is going to look in to getting a grant writer.

Mr. Skellenger commented that the MVC Mobile Unit will be coming to Franklin on August 12<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm. All the REALID appointments are taken. There are 16 appointments for registration renewal and 8 appointments for duplicate titles. There are walk up services such as surrendering license plates and handicapped, veterans or purple heart placards. The ordinance committee met and discussed a few different ordinances that will most likely be on the August meeting agenda.

Mr. Ursin commented that he will write a default letter for the contract issue that is on the addendum.

Ms. Little had nothing to report.

Mayor Sowden had nothing to report.

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

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

Mrs. Joanne Tatka asked if seating will be placed in the gazebo.

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. Skellenger. All were in favor.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JULY 16, 2024**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Sowden 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. Township of Green resolution opposing the proposal by the Delaware River National Park and Lenape Preserve alliance to change the designation of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation area to a national park and preserve.
2. Township of Green resolution supporting assembly resolution AR133 and Senate Resolution SR93 opposing all proposals to change the designation of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to a National Park and Preserve, including proposal by the Delaware River National Park and Lenape Preserve Alliance.
3. County of Sussex resolution establishing the Sussex NJ 250 Committee and designating the logo and catchphrase for the Sussex NJ 250 Committee.
4. County of Sussex resolution opposing the proposal by the Delaware River National Park and Lenape Preserve alliance to change the designation of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation area to a national park and preserve and support for assembly bill AR133 and Senate Bill SR93 opposing all proposals to change the designation of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to a National Park and Preserve, including proposal by the Delaware River National Park and Lenape Preserve Alliance.
5. Township of Hampton resolution supporting assembly resolution AR133 and Senate Resolution SR93 opposing all proposals to change the designation of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to a National Park and Preserve, including proposal by the Delaware River National Park and Lenape Preserve Alliance.
6. Township of Hampton resolution opposing the proposal by the Delaware River National Park and Lenape Preserve alliance to change the designation of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation area to a national park and preserve.
7. Email and attachments from the Mayor of Long Beach Township in re: A call to action for the Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project.

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

1. Registrar Report – April through June
2. COH Report – June 2024
3. Permit List – June 2024
4. Permit Activity Report – June 2024
5. Municipal Court Report – June 2024

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

1. None filed.

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

1. Resolution #2024-82 to authorize the Borough Clerk to renew the following liquor licenses for the 2024-2025 licensing term.

1906-33-005-008 Franklin Silver Ducat II, LLC Inactive/Pocket

2. Payment of bills for the meeting of July 16, 2024.

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the consent agenda of July 16, 2024 with the removal of PO #38182 and 38236. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Carnes, Formica, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Heath Abstentions: None

Mrs. Carnes made a motion to approve PO #38182 and 38236. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Carnes, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Heath Abstentions: Formica

**MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JULY 16, 2024**

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approval of the Minutes**

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to approve the regular meeting and executive session meeting minutes for June 25, 2024. (Absent: Limon) Seconded by Mr. Snyder.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Carnes, Formica, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Heath Abstentions: Limon

**Resolution 2024-83**

Mr. Snyder made a motion to adopt resolution 2024-83 authorizing disbursements of performance bond funds as recommended by Thomas Knutlesky in his June 24, 2024 letter. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Carnes, Formica, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Heath Abstentions: None

**Resolution 2024-84**

Mr. Limon made a motion to adopt resolution 2024-84 authorizing the award of a required disclosure contract with Montague Tool and Supply Co. for the Department of Public Works. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Carnes, Formica, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Heath Abstentions: None

**Introduction of Ordinance 13-2024**

Mr. Limon made a motion to introduce Ordinance 13-2024 entitled "AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN REPEALING AND REPLACING THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADOPT A NEW CHAPTER 128, ENTITLED FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT AND REGULATIONS TO ADOPT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS; TO DESIGNATE A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE." Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Mayor Sowden announced that the public hearing will be held August 13, 2024.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Carnes, Formica, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Heath Abstentions: None

**Introduction of Ordinance 14-2024**

Mr. Formica made a motion to introduce Ordinance 14-2024 entitled "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 161, LAND DEVELOPMENT, TO ADD THE 520 ROUTE 23 INCLUSIONARY ZONE." Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Mayor Sowden announced that the public hearing will be held September 10, 2024.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Carnes, Formica, Limon, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Heath Abstentions: None

**ADDENDUM**

**Resolution 2024-85** authorizing the award of Hemlock, Catlin and Junction Road Improvements Bid to AA Berms.

**THERE WAS NO ACTION TAKEN ON THIS ITEM.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JULY 16, 2024**

**MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS**

There were no miscellaneous comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Formica made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22p.m., seconded by Mr. Skellenger. All were in favor.

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John M. Sowden IV, Mayor

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Colleen L. Little, Deputy Municipal Clerk