

**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 23, 2021**

This meeting is being held in person adhering to the CDC guidelines and through a virtual meeting platform called ZOOM. The public who attended through ZOOM has been notified and instructed on how to join the meeting and participate during the public session.

Council President Snyder 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. Formica, Mr. Limon, Mr. Postas, Mr. Skellenger, and Mr. Snyder.

Absent: Mr. Zydon and Mayor Sowden

Council President Snyder led the assembly in the flag salute.

Council President Snyder 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 6, 2021, and posted on the Borough website, which adequate notice has been certified by the Clerk."

PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Jackie Espinoza from JCP&L gave a progress report from when she was here two months ago. Work has been completed to identify any issues that would or might cause outages. Cutouts were placed on poles, lightening arresters, animal deterrents and more tree trimming is being done. Mr. Williams and Ms. Espinoza went out to Davis Road to identify trees that could be a potential hazard. Preparing for winter season at substations and the helicopter inspections of the transmission lines have been completed. Ms. Espinoza would like to schedule regular updates to the council.

Council President Snyder suggested that Ms. Espinoza return quarterly for updates.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Skellenger had nothing to report.

Mr. Formica commented that the tree lighting is this Saturday (November 27, 2021).

Mr. Limon commented that he met with Brian VanDenBroek. The road projects are completed and the curbing work is completed on Scott Road and Evans Street. Well B rehabilitation is continuing.

Mr. Snyder commented that we should look into updating the Christmas Lights.

Mr. Postas commented that he has nothing to report other than the two agenda items for this evening.

Mr. Snyder commented that Lori Spirito is retiring and Lori Mitchener has accepted the court administrator position. Mr. Snyder commented that he will not go into any details as this will be voted on at the December 14, 2021 meeting.

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. Skellenger. All were in favor.

Joanne Tatka, 151 Maple Road Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Tatka commented on the speed limit ordinance. Ms. Tatka questioned the duties and start date of the new CFO/Administrator. Ms. Tatka asked if the tax sale notice was published in the New Jersey Herald.

Rachel Heath, 7 Hemlock Drive Franklin stepped forward. Ms. Heath commented that we only received 100 doses of rabies vaccines for the November 6, 2021 Franklin/Hardyston free rabies clinic. Ms. Heath thanked Andrew, Greg and Nikolai from the DPW.

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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

Council President Snyder 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. None filed.

REPORTS (ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Police Department Report – October 2021
2. Sussex County Board of Health Report – October 2021

APPLICATIONS (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. None filed.

RESOLUTIONS (APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING):

1. Payment of bills for the meeting of November 23, 2021.

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the consent agenda of November 23, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes for November 9, 2021. (Absent: None) Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Resolution #2021-106

Mr. Limon made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-106 2021 budget transfers in the amount of \$52,000. Seconded by Mr. Formica.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Resolution #2021-107

Mr. Postas made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-107 confirming contract price of \$1.62600/DTH for 36 months from December 2021 through November 30, 2024 submitted by the winning bidder UGIES, LLC for the retail gas supply service through participation in the Passaic County Energy Regional Cooperative Pricing System. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Resolution #2021-108

Mr. Postas made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-108 amending the responsibilities and compensation for the Borough Clerk. Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

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Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Resolution #2021-109

Mr. Formica made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-109 Appointing Wayne Dietz, Skylands Risk Management, Inc. Franklin Borough's Risk Management Consultant and Borough Clerk, Darlene J. Tremont as the authorized representative of the public entity is hereby authorized to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement for the year 2022. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Risk Management Consultant's Agreement

Mr. Formica made a motion to approve the 2022 Fund Year Statewide Insurance Fund Risk Management Consultant's Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Limon.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Introduction of Ordinance #14-2021

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to introduce ordinance 14-2021 entitled "SETTING RANGE FOR SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN, COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY. Seconded by Mr. Formica.

Public Hearing will be held on December 14, 2021

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Introduction of Ordinance #15-2021

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to introduce ordinance 15-2021 entitled "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY REPLACING SECTION 259-8, SPEED LIMITS, to include the entire length of Maple Road as having a speed limit of 25 mph. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Mr. Limon questioned why this ordinance was being introduced.

Mr. Formica commented that we want to drop the speed limit on Cork Hill Road from 35 to 25 to reduce the speed of the dump trucks coming out of Braen.

Public Hearing will be held on December 14, 2021

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: Limon Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Tax Collection Department Shared Service with Wantage Township

Mr. Limon made a motion to approve the Tax Collection Department Shared Service between Wantage Township and the Borough of Franklin beginning January 1, 2022, ending December 31, 2024 at the of cost of \$31,837 for year 2022, \$32,474 for year 2023 and \$33,124 for year 2024. (Agreement provided in Council packets) Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

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Franklin Quilters request

Mr. Postas made a motion to approve the Franklin Recreation Committee Sponsored, "Franklin Quilters" request to waive the fees to use the Senior Center for their meetings on the 3rd Saturday of every month for year 2022. (request and application provided in Council packets) Seconded by Mr. Skellenger.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Special Event Request

Mr. Formica made a motion to approve a special event request from Elaine Tizzano and Mary Burns, for their eighth annual walk in conjunction with the Center for Prevention and Counseling to be held on August 6, 2022, to bring awareness and treatment for substance use disorder contingent upon submitting a special event permit application. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

Resolution #2021-110

Mr. Skellenger made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-110 authorizing additional funds in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 for the temporary CFO services through Phoenix Consulting. Seconded by Mr. Postas.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

ADDENDUM

Resolution #2021-111

Mr. Limon made a motion to adopt resolution 2021-111 awarding 2 contracts for Emergency Well Improvements for Well "B" to Samuel Stothoff Co., Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 and to Vincent Uhl Associates in the amount not to exceed \$8,000.00. Seconded by Mr. Formica.

Upon roll call vote:

Ayes: Formica, Limon, Postas, Skellenger, Snyder

Nays: None Absent: Zydon Abstentions: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

The Council wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for discussion by the Mayor and Council, Mr. Postas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32p.m., seconded by Mr. Skellenger. All were in favor.

Gilbert Snyder, Council President

Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk