

**REGULAR AGENDA**  
**FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**  
**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN,**  
**HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 46 MAIN STREET**  
**FRANKLIN, NEW JERSEY AT 7:00 P.M. ON**  
**OCTOBER 26, 2021**

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- A. **Mayor Sowden** will call the meeting to order; Clerk will call the roll.
- B. **Mayor Sowden** will invite all present to salute the flag.
- C. **Mayor Sowden** will state that "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."

D. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – IF REQUESTED**

**Mayor Sowden** will request a motion to adopt a resolution to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss certain items excluded from the public.

- Personnel Matters

THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ALLOWS THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC FROM A PORTION OF A MEETING IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN, THAT THE PUBLIC SHALL BE EXCLUDED FROM DISCUSSION OF MATTERS ALLOWED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES WILL BE PLACED ON FILE IN THE BOROUGH CLERK'S OFFICE, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AS PROVIDED FOR BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

Be further advised this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

- E. **PRESENTATIONS**  
There are no presentations this evening.
- F. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** **Mayor Sowden** will allow each member of the Council, Borough Administrator, Borough Clerk, and Borough Attorney to present their respective committee report.

**Mayor Sowden** will offer the Mayor's Report.

- G. **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:** **Mayor Sowden** will request a motion to open the meeting to the public, for any questions or comments concerning the good and welfare of the Borough. **All comments should be directed to the Mayor and kept to a 3-minute maximum per person.**

After giving all persons present an opportunity to address the Governing Body, **Mayor Sowden** will request a motion to close the meeting to the public and return to the regular order of business.

- H. **CONSENT AGENDA:** **Mayor Sowden** will request that all persons present review the consent agenda. If any member of the Council or public wishes an item on the consent agenda to be discussed and considered separately, a motion to this effect shall so be made, at this time.

## REGULAR AGENDA – MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING, 2021

After all persons have had an opportunity to review the consent agenda and offer requests for changes, Mayor Sowden will request a motion to approve the consent agenda.

I. OLD BUSINESS:

J. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the Minutes

- a. A motion is in order to approve the regular meeting minutes and executive session meeting minutes for October 12, 2021. (Absent: Postas)
- b. A motion is in order to approve the workshop meeting minutes for October 20, 2021. (Absent: None)

2. Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts Troop Pack 90 Request

A motion is in order to approve the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts Troop Pack 90 request to waive the fees for using the Senior Center.

3. Resolution #2021-100

A motion is in order to adopt resolution 2021-100 authorizing Darlene J. Tremont to continue to provide administrative duties at the added rate of \$25.00 per hour.

4. Resolution #2021-101

A motion is in order to adopt resolution 2021-101 endorsing the “Election Integrity” bill package pending in the legislature in support of free and fair elections untainted by fraud.

5. Resolution #2021-102

A motion is in order to adopt resolution 2021-102 supporting a 2021 bear hunt.

6. Discussion on CFO/Administrator Position

At this time there will be a discussion on the CFO/Administrator position.

K. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS: **Mayor Sowden** will allow each member of the Governing Body to offer any miscellaneous comments which they may have at this time.

L. ADJOURNMENT: **Mayor Sowden** will request a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN  
COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
RESOLUTION NO. 2021-100**

**AUTHORIZING TO CONTINUE  
ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES**

**WHEREAS**, Darlene J. Tremont has been authorized to provide additional administrative duties due to the resignation of the Administrator; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough is continuing to interview to fill the position of Administrator;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council is satisfied with her performance and is in need to have her continue to provide additional support for administrative duties;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Franklin agree to have Darlene J. Tremont continue to provide additional administrative duties at an added rate of \$25.00 per hour in addition to her role as Municipal Clerk, the status of such appointment to be reviewed no later than November 23, 2021;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Franklin that the Borough authorizes the payment of additional compensation to Darlene J. Tremont to continue to provide additional administrative support in addition to her role as Municipal Clerk at the additional rate of \$25.00 per hour effective immediately;

**CERTIFICATION:** I, Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Franklin, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Franklin at a regular meeting held on October 26, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

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Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES				
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYES	NAYES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONCETTO FORMICA				
JOSEPH LIMON				
JOHN POSTAS				
STEPHEN SKELLENGER				
GILBERT SNYDER				
STEPHAN ZYDON JR.				
MAYOR SOWDEN (Tie Only)				

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN  
COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION 2021-101**

**ENDORISING THE “ELECTION INTEGRITY” BILL PACKAGE PENDING IN THE  
LEGISLATURE IN SUPPORT OF FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS UNTAINTED BY FRAUD**

**WHEREAS**, governmental legitimacy is derived from the consent of the governed; and

**WHEREAS**, to maintain its legitimacy, the American experiment in self-government requires confidence in free and fair elections untainted by fraud; and

**WHEREAS**, certain current New Jersey election procedures; failing to require photo identification to vote, mass mailing of unsolicited mail in ballots, and resistance to regular review of voter rolls undermine confidence in the legitimacy of elections, and thus, the legitimacy of our elected governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Franklin is dedicated to the proposition that every election must be conducted free of fraud, and to the principle that every legal vote must be counted; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Franklin is equally dedicated to the proposition that inducements to electoral fraud must be eliminated, and to the principle that illegitimate votes must not be counted; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Franklin supports the right of all citizens to cast a legal vote in all elections that is then counted, without regard to race, sex, political orientation, or any other non-disqualifying factor; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Steve Oroho and Assemblymen Parker Space and Hal Wirths have sponsored an “Election Integrity” bill package in the New Jersey Legislature that consists of constitutional, common sense measures to ensure honest elections and protect voter rights, and includes:

S-185/A-119 (removing 48-hour provision for acceptance of ballots postmarked by Election Day; increases penalties for violation of ballot messenger and bearer limits and candidate prohibition)

S-3393/A-134 (requires certain documentation as proof of voter identity to vote; updates procedures for challenging voters regarding proof of identity)

S-2653/A-161 (repeals the “Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote”)

S-3395/A-553 (provides for agreement between Secretary of State and Administrative Office of the Courts to match information in Statewide voter registration system with certain jury records in order to identify and remove ineligible non-citizen voter registrants from system)

S-2858/A-1670 (requires electronic voting system vendors disclose financial ties prior to electronic voting system approval by Secretary of State. A-1670 has passed the Assembly without opposition)

S-3391/A-2028 (requires voter who wishes to vote by mail to complete application for mail-in ballot each calendar year; repeals automatic vote by mail designation)

S-3392/A-3994 (prohibits mail-in ballot outer envelope from containing political affiliation or designation visible to public)

S-3109/A-5092 (requires Secretary of State to create website for voters to report irregularities regarding mail-in ballots; establishes "Vote by Mail Study Commission")

S-3297/A-5097 (requires Secretary of State to establish voter list maintenance and crosscheck program and to include certain voter registration data in annual report to Governor and Legislature)

S-2936/A-5099 (requires commissioner of registration to move voters with undeliverable mail-in ballots to inactive file; removes such inactive voters from Statewide voter registration system following failure to vote in two consecutive federal general elections)

S-3053/A-5205 (requires Attorney General to create a voting fraud task force)

S-3300/A-5206 (prohibits approval of voting machine or voting system if vendor is a foreign company, if domestic vendor exports technology overseas, or due to major non-citizen ownership)

S-3353/A-5259 (transfers Division of Elections from Department of State to Department of Law and Public Safety; designates Attorney General as chief election official and requires two bipartisan co-directors)

SCR-136/ACR-197 (proposes constitutional amendment to provide registered voters with the right to cast ballot in person at polling place on election day; requires mail-in ballot request before voter receives mail-in ballot); and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Franklin fully endorses and supports the Election Integrity bill package in its entirety, and the principles underlying the same; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Franklin notes the ready availability of governmental issued identification, which is required for multiple mundane daily transactions, such as to enter federal buildings, rent a car, board an airplane, etc., and that requiring voter identification is neither onerous nor burdensome and cannot discern any viable reason why any person would oppose such measure, other than to foment electoral fraud; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Franklin holds that the regular review and refreshing of voter lists is prudent and appropriate, and likewise cannot discern any viable reason why any person would oppose such measure, other than to foment electoral fraud; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Franklin further holds that requiring a voter to personally request an absentee or vote-by-mail ballot each year is not onerous or burdensome, and likewise cannot discern

any viable reason why any person would oppose such measure, other than to foment electoral fraud;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Franklin further holds that the reforms contemplated by the Election Integrity bill package will ensure that all legal votes are counted, and assure citizens that their elected officials have in fact been elected via a fair, non-fraudulent election, and thus maintaining the legitimacy of our democratically elected governments:

**RESOLVED** that the Borough of Franklin fully endorses and supports the Election Integrity bill package currently pending in the New Jersey Legislature, so our elections are secured, and the governments' legitimacy maintained; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Borough of Franklin calls on Governor Phil Murphy and the New Jersey State Legislature to pass and sign into law the Election Integrity bill package as soon as possible, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Philip D. Murphy, N.J. Secretary of State, Tahesha Way, the Sussex County Clerk, the Sussex County Board of County Commissioners, Legislative District 24 Representatives, and the Mayors of all Sussex County Municipalities.

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John M. Sowden, IV, Mayor

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Darlene J. Tremont, RMC

**CERTIFICATION:** I, Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Franklin, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Franklin at a regular meeting held on October 26, 2021.

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Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES				
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYES	NAYES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONCETTO FORMICA				
JOSEPH LIMON				
JOHN POSTAS				
STEPHEN SKELLENGER				
GILBERT SNYDER				
STEPHAN ZYDON JR.				
MAYOR SOWDEN (Tie Only)				

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-102**

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY  
OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN  
SUPPORTING A 2021 BEAR HUNT IN NEW JERSEY**

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey State Division of Fish and Wildlife and Governor Murphy have determined that there will not be a hunting season for black bear in New Jersey in 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, residents have raised concerns to the Borough of Franklin Mayor and Council about the increased incidents of bear encounters and the desire for the State to provide for a bear hunt within Sussex County; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Fish and Game Council unanimously approved an emergency order to reestablish a black bear hunt in the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council desire to voice their support for a bear hunt in 2021.

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** that the Borough of Franklin Mayor and Council, County of Sussex, and State of New Jersey, strongly support the hunting of black bears in order to protect resident and property and control the black bear population. The support includes the hunting methods authorized by the Division of Fish and Wildlife to kill black bears, namely, by bow, shotgun or muzzle loader in order to control the bear population in Northwest New Jersey; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough of Franklin Mayor and Council will ask Governor Murphy and Environmental Commissioner Shawn LaTourette to reconsider their decision not to conduct a fall black bear hunting season in 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Clerk is authorized to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Philip Murphy, Environmental Commissioner Shawn LaTourette, State Senator Steven V. Oroho, State Assemblyman Parker Space and Harold J. Wirths, and to all Clerks of each Sussex County municipality.

**CERTIFICATION:** I, Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Franklin, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Franklin, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey at a meeting of said Governing Body held on October 26, 2021.

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Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES				
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYES	NAYES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
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MAYOR SOWDEN (Tie Only)				