

MINUTES
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORK-SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2020
7:30 PM

(Location Changed to Online Application: Zoom - <https://zoom.us/j/92216478165>)

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Koury at 7:30 pm. Mayor Koury read the OPMA Statement and led the flag salute.

Roll Call: Mayor Philip Koury (present) Deputy Mayor Diane Burgess (present)
Sebastian Donaruma (present) Mike Homulak (present) Craig Repmann (present)

Also present: Katrina L. Campbell, Municipal Attorney
Christine Burke, Municipal Clerk
Cameron Keng, Chief Finance Officer

Comments from the Public on Agenda Items Only:

No one from the public spoke regarding Agenda Items.

Presentation: None.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the April 9, 2020 minutes Work Session/Regular Meeting: Donaruma

Second: Burgess

Roll call: Burgess (Aye) Donaruma (Aye) Homulak (Aye) Koury (Aye) Repmann (Aye)

Payment of Bills

Motion to approve the Bills List: Burgess Second: Repmann

Roll call: Burgess (Aye) Donaruma (Aye) Homulak (Aye) Koury (Aye) Repmann (Aye)

The CFO explained the billing methods of Animal Control Solutions, the Township's animal control services provider, upon questioning by Deputy Mayor Burgess.

Ordinances:

1. Introduction & First Reading of Ordinance 2020-06: Ordinance Revising Chapter 220 of the Code of the Township of Franklin to Amend and Enhance Parking Regulations, to Eliminate Outdated Affordable Housing References and Regulations, to Clarify Regulations Related to Electronic Signage, to Permit Live-Work Units as a Conditional Use, and to Permit Wind Energy Systems as an Accessory Conditional Use.

Motion to Introduce: Burgess Second: Donaruma

Roll call: Burgess (Aye) Donaruma (Aye) Homulak (Aye) Koury (Aye) Repmann (Aye)

The Mayor explained that the public hearing for Ordinance 2020-06 had been scheduled to take place on May 21st. The Attorney explained the Ordinance's connection to the Master Plan.

The Mayor explained that the Public Hearing for Ordinance 2020-05: "Ordinance to Create Chapter 185 "Filiming," of the Code of the Township of Franklin to Regulate Filming in the Township", had been scheduled to take place on May 7, 2020 and not May 14th as previously noted at the April 9th meeting of the Town Committee.

Resolutions:

1. Resolution 2020-25: Bid Award – Joint Bid for Delaware, Franklin and Kingwood Townships – Road Maintenance Materials

Motion to adopt: Donaruma Second: Burgess

Roll call: Burgess (Aye) Donaruma (Aye) Homulak (Aye) Koury (Aye) Repmann (Aye)

2. Resolution 2020-26: Authorize the Combination of Various Bond Ordinance Obligations Into a Single Issue of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2020 in the Aggregate Principle Amount Not to Exceed \$269,000.

Mayor Koury and the CFO explained the purpose and benefits of combining the Township's various bond obligations into a single issue general obligation bond series.

Motion to adopt: Burgess Second: Donaruma

Roll call: Burgess (Aye) Donaruma (Aye) Homulak (Aye) Koury (Aye) Repmann (Aye)

Staff Administrative Reports:

Police: None.

Administrative: The Township Clerk reported on efforts to assist the Land Use Board in utilizing an online meeting format for Land Use Board meetings. She further reported that she and the Deputy Clerk had been working on the update to the Township Website with the new vendor, Proud City. Upon questioning by the Committee, she explained that the Township Newsletter had been delayed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic decreasing sponsor participation. The Newsletter articles will be adjusted to accommodate the new publishing date which is anticipated to be released in the Fall.

CFO: The Chief Finance Officer reported on the completion of the adopted CY2020 Municipal Budget and explained that the CY2019 Municipal Audit was nearly complete. Deputy Mayor Burgess requested that the CFO seek the Auditor's guidance on appropriate procedures should the Township not collect the appropriate amount of taxes for the School.

Board of Health: None.

Old Business:

1. Repairs at the Franklin Township Elementary School.

The Municipal Attorney updated the Committee on the status of a Shared Service Agreement between the Franklin Township Elementary School and the Township of Franklin for repair work to be done by the Department of Public Works.

Upon prompting by the Mayor, James Witkowski, Board of Education, indicated that the Board of Education did not have any updates to provide the Committee.

New Business:

1. Approval of Kevin Haggerty, member of the Quakerdown Fire Company (and eligible family members), to participate in the Tuition Waiver Program.

Motion to approve: Burgess Second: Donaruma All in favor. Motion carried.

Committee Member Reports:

Deputy Mayor Diane Burgess reported that the residents of Locust Grove Road & Wolverton Road had indicated that they were happy with the Police Department's response to the speeding complaints on those roads. She further reported that, in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the County had frozen the tax rate and would not push costs to the municipalities. She went on to provide COVID-19 Pandemic resources for residents that needed food and other assistance and updated the Committee on FEMA's disaster declaration for the region and the number of reported COVID-19 cases for Hunterdon County.

Mayor Phil Koury reported that the Land Use Board had held their first online meeting on April 22nd. There were no issues and the LUB met to pay bills and have a discussion on how applicants could present their cases on a virtual meeting. He further reported on his phone calls with other New Jersey mayors and State officials, particularly addressing efforts made by the United State Congress that seem to support only larger municipalities.

Comments from the Public:

No one from the public spoke.

Mayor Koury offered an opportunity for James Witkowski, Board of Education, to speak on any additional matters. Mr. Witkowski declined.

Executive Session: None.

Action by the Committee: None.

Mayor Koury thanked the Committee for their efforts and support. He also indicated that restaurants are providing free meals for First Responders to thank them for their efforts during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

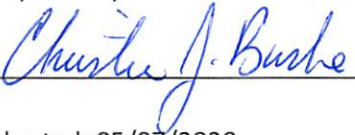
Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Repmann Second: Donaruma

All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Prepared by Christine Burke, Township Clerk



Adopted: 05/07/2020