

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

**(Location Changed to Online Application: Zoom - <https://zoom.us/j/91671323476>)**

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 (arrived 7:36 pm.)  
Craig Repmann (present)

Also present: Richard W. Wenner, Municipal Attorney  
Katrina L. Campbell, Municipal Attorney (arrived 7:52 pm.)  
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 23, 2020 minutes Work Session/Regular Meeting: Burgess

Second: Donaruma

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

Payment of Bills

Motion to approve the Bills List: Repmann Second: Donaruma

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

Ordinances:

1. Public Hearing & Final Adoption of Ordinance 2020-05: Ordinance to Create Chapter 185 "Filming," of the Code of the Township of Franklin to Regulate Filming in the Township.

Motion to open Public Hearing: Donaruma Second: Repmann All in favor. Motion carried.

No one from the Public came forward to speak.

Motion to close Public Hearing: Donaruma Second: Repmann All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to adopt: Donaruma Second: Burgess

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

**Resolutions:**

**1. Resolution 2020-27: Green Team Advisory Committee**

Deputy Mayor Burgess explained the resolution's connection to the Township's recertification in the Sustainable Jersey Program. She further questioned if wording regarding the Township's Green Team Advisory Committee's connection to the school's Green Team Advisory Committee should be altered due to lack of contact with the school. The Clerk explained the generic nature of the resolution allowed flexibility. No alterations were made to the resolution.

Motion to adopt: Burgess Second: Donaruma

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

**2. Resolution 2020-28: Contract Award – Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council – Paving & Guiderail Construction in Connection to NJDOT FY2020 Improvements of West Sidney Road.**

Mayor Koury explained the resolution's connection to the NJDOT FY2020 Improvements to West Sidney Road grant. He further questioned if a timeline had been provided for starting the work. The Clerk explained that no timeline had been provided to her.

Motion to adopt: Burgess Second: Repmann

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

**Staff Administrative Reports:**

**Police:** None. The Mayor explained that Captain Snyder had forwarded a report to the Committee earlier in the week.

**CFO:** The Chief Finance Officer reported that the receipt of resident tax payments seemed to be going well. He further reported that, in response to numerous inquiries from Township residents, information had been placed in multiple locations on the Township website regarding the due date of taxes and the grace period. He explained why it was important to maintain a normal schedule during the COVID-19 Pandemic. He further explained the Township's obligations to make its payments on time and, upon questioning from Deputy Mayor Burgess, explained the process and penalties involved in delaying school payments. Mayor Koury explained the Governor's Executive Order to allow municipalities to extend the grace period for payment of taxes did not account for the municipalities' obligations to pay the school and county tax levies.

**Administrative:** The Township Clerk reported on the progress made to remediate the mold in the Township's Archives. She explained that the remediation company had taken the affected records offsite for cleaning and that the process of doing so had spread the mold spores into the adjacent hallway. Efforts to clean the affected area were being scheduled. She further updated the Committee on the efforts to update the Township website.

**Board of Health:** None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. Authorize Engineer to Submit NJDOT FY2021 Local Aid Grant Application – Improvements on Oak Grove Road from Route 615 East to the Stream Bridge.

Deputy Mayor Burgess explained that the Engineer was requesting permission to start the process for a grant application.

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

Mayor Koury updated the Committee on a CARES Grant information package that he had forwarded to the Township staff for review. He further updated the Committee on a remote meeting with the NJDEP regarding government relations and offered to forward that information to interested members. Mayor Koury explained the progress that had been made on the Shared Services Agreement with the school for repair work to be performed by the Department of Public Works. He indicated that the DPW might also be asked to assist in the repairs to the track at the school by putting down stone instead of mulch. Efforts would be coordinated with the School Administrator.

Committee Member Reports:

Deputy Mayor Diane Burgess provided a corrected number of COVID-19 cases for the Township, pointing out that it was lower than initially reported.

Committeeman Mike Homulak reported on the success of the Quakertown Fire Company's first free Barbeque for the public and indicated that they would be hosting another one. He further reported on the Fire Company's accreditation as an NJDOH EMS provider and the benefits the company receives for that distinction.

Mayor Philip Koury reported on the efforts taken to address drainage runoff concerns on Sidney School Road and explained that the Land Use Board would hold its next online meeting the following week. He further reported on his phone calls with other mayors from Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties and the Hunterdon County Freeholders.

Comments from the Public:

No one from the public spoke.

Executive Session: None.

Action by the Committee: None.

Mayor Koury thanked the Committee for their efforts and support.

Due to scheduling confusion, the Municipal Clerk explained that the next Town Committee meeting was currently scheduled to take place on May 21<sup>st</sup>. The Township Attorney explained the process for changing the meeting date. The Committee chose not to change the meeting date as currently

scheduled. The Municipal Clerk apologized for misreading the May calendar when creating the Annual Meeting Notice.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Repmann    Second: Burgess

All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Prepared by Christine Burke, Township Clerk

  
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Adopted: 05/21/2020