

MINUTES
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2016
7:30 P.M.

The Franklin Township Committee held a regular meeting at 7:30 P.M., Thursday, September 22, 2016 at the Municipal Building. This meeting has been properly noticed in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Susan Soloway called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

Roll Call: Joseph Darocha PRESENT James Fania PRESENT
 Craig Repmann PRESENT Kathryn Blew PRESENT Susan Soloway PRESENT

Also present: Katrina L. Campbell, Municipal Attorney

Some others present: Lt. Timothy Snyder; Diane Laudenbach, CFO; Matt Papenfuhs, Mike Homulak

Comments from the public: None

Consent Agenda

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by on motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

Motion to Adopt all items listed under the Consent Agenda.

Moved Fania

Second Darocha

a. Approval of Bills for Payment

Current Fund Expenditures	\$1,142,755.59
Fair Housing	\$ 1,499.50
Bond & Escrow Account	\$ 312.50
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 2,003.31
Driveway Trust	\$ 1,398.31
Grant Fund	\$ 5,978.94
Open Space	\$ 2,950.00
TOTAL	\$1,156,848.15

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- b. Approval of minutes – August 25, 2016 Regular & Executive Session
- c. **Adoption of Resolution 2016 – 59** Tax Refund
- d. **Adoption of Resolution 2016 – 56** Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over \$5,000.00

Deputy Mayor Kathryn Blew had some questions on revenues regarding delinquent taxes and Energy Receipts. Diane Laudenbach responded that the Energy Receipts don't start til July and the delinquent tax is a journal entry as an anticipated revenue but nothing is posted there until the journal entry and journal ledger are done.

Roll Call Vote: Darocha AYE Fania AYE Repmann AYE Blew AYE Soloway AYE

Motion carried.

Department Head/Subcommittee Reports

- **Finance, Administration, Insurance, HR/Benefits: Blew & Soloway**

Discussion: 2016 salaries for non-contract personnel. Committee Member Repmann asked that this item be placed on the agenda for possible action since funds have been budgeted for an increase. The percentage needs to be determined and it will be retroactive to January 1st. If any salaries fall outside the maximum range as per the salary ordinance, amendments will need to be made. The CFO will prepare a spreadsheet with salary increases ranging from one half of one percent to two percent for the Committee to review.

- **Public Safety (PD, Fire, EMS, OEM, Court, Health): Darocha & Fania**

Lt. Timothy Snyder reported on a very successful drill held at the Franklin Township School. Much positive feedback on this was received. Lt. Snyder and Officer Santoro also participated in a County Pistol Shoot at the range. Officer Santoro finishing third with first and second place taken by someone from the FBI squad and State Police Officer. Committee Member Fania asked about the posting of speed limit signs and Lt. Snyder responded that the DPW posts signs as per municipal ordinances.

One bid for the Dodge Durango was received and opened at this meeting.

Bid received from Jersey One Auto Sales, 495-497 Tonnele Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07307 in the amount of \$1,141.00.

Motion to **Adopt Resolution 2016 – 60** Award Police Vehicle Bid for the 2006 Dodge Durango to Jersey One Auto Sales in the amount of \$1,141.00.

Moved Darocha

Second Fania

All equipment has been removed from the vehicle and the license plates will be removed prior to releasing the vehicle.

Roll Call Vote: Darocha AYE Fania AYE Repmann AYE Blew AYE Soloway AYE

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Motion carried.

Reminder: Public Hearing, Thursday, October 13, 2016 Ordinance 2016 – 09 Towing and Storage of Vehicles.

Motion to [Adopt Resolution 2016 – 58](#) Establishing a Halloween Curfew.

Moved Blew

Second Fania

Roll Call Vote: Darocha AYE Fania AYE Repmann AYE Blew AYE Soloway AYE

- **Department of Public Works: Repmann & Fania**

Committee Member Repmann reported that the 2007 Ford Mason Dump truck needs repairs to be done in the amount of about \$8,000.00. Funds in the amount of \$45,000.00 are in the DPW budget. This vehicle is used on a daily basis and Alan is recommending going forward with the repair.

Alan Dilley and the Municipal Engineer also walked the Spring Hill Road property owned by Barbara Bezpa to review the drainage issue brought to the township's attention by the Bezpas and we are awaiting the engineer's report. At the same time, Twins Court was inspected for some outstanding issues with the development.

The Committee is also in receipt of Alan's monthly report regarding DPW activities. A final 2016 household cleanup day is scheduled for October 1st.

The Committee briefly discussed a grant available for trail clean up.

George Reichert will be contacted for follow up information on 1046 Croton Road. Some cleanup of the property has been done.

- **Land Use (Land Use Board, Open Space, Planning, Zoning, Construction, Environmental: Soloway & Darocha**

The Committee discussed the ordinance prepared by the Municipal Attorney for the Fire District and "Fire Prevention" fees and requirements. There was some discussion about the red light installation for visual notification and it was decided that the ordinance would be introduced to remove this requirement and can possibly be revisited at another time. Committee Member Jim Fania thought it would be easier for either new construction or a new tenant to budget for the funds necessary for the red light installation while current owners/tenants may not have funds for this. Mike Homulak, President of the Quakertown Fire Company, was okay with deleting this at this time and moving forward on the other issues: Knox Box installation and fees. The red light would make it easily visible for any fire company and/or emergency unit to immediately locate the hook up for the water source for fighting a fire. Mayor Soloway offered to contact the Franklin Township School and the Hampton Inn to see whether or not they would be able to do the install voluntarily.

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Motion to [Introduce on First Reading Ordinance 2016 – 11](#) “An Ordinance of the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey to Amend, Revise and Supplement Chapter 182, “Fees,” and Chapter 193, “Fire Prevention,” of the Code of the Township of Franklin to Revise Fees and Requirements for Fire Prevention. Public Hearing scheduled for a meeting to convene at 7:30 P.M., Thursday, October 27, 2016.

Moved Darocha second Fania All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion: Possible fee changes may be coming from George Reichert and the Construction Official.

Reminder: Public Hearing Ordinance 2016 – 10 Construction Records Clearance Certificate scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2016.

Motion to authorize the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor to sign the First Amendment to Municipal Shared Services Defense Agreement for Vicinage 13 – Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties.

Moved Blew Second Fania

Roll Call Vote: Darocha AYE Fania AYE Repmann AYE Blew AYE Soloway AYE

Motion carried.

- **Community, Business, School, Recreation, Seniors: Repmann & Blew**

Committee Member Repmann reminded everyone of the Fall Festival to be held at the Franklin Township School on Saturday, September 14th. This event is sponsored by the Franklin Township Recreation Committee and the Quakertown Recreation Club. He also reported on having attended in High Bridge’s Community Day and participating in a cook off and taking a prize.

8:00 P.M. Board of Health – no need for a meeting this evening.

Comments from the public: At this time Francis Goger, Bethlehem Township member of the North Hunterdon-Voorhees High School Board of Education requested the Township Committee consider adopting a resolution in support of the referendum for a \$9.7 million dollar bond issue on the November 8 ballot. He outlined the need for this bond citing repairs to both Voorhees and North Hunterdon schools. The school will be debt free at the end of this year. Thirty percent matching funds from the State are available for this referendum. The school has taken care of other State grants to do some other repairs needed.

Mike Homulak provided a copy of the Fire District’s 2015 Audit report which is on file in the Clerk’s Office.

Comments from the Committee on non-agenda items and any other business: Committee Member Fania reported on the possibility of employing a new Zoning Officer. Individual will be available on Wednesday evenings for two hours: would like one-half hour for paperwork and one and one-half hours for the public. Inspections can be done on her lunch break from another municipality where she is

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currently employed. Looking at a start date of October 1st and Mr. Fania will speak with George Reichert about a transition period.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There is no need for executive session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 P.M.

Moved Fania

Second Blew

All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Ursula V. Stryker, RMC
Municipal Clerk

DATE OF ADOPTION: 10-27-2016