

**MINUTES**  
**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017**  
**7:30 P.M.**

The Franklin Township Committee held a regular meeting at **7:30 P.M., Thursday, October 26, 2017** at the Municipal Building. This meeting has been properly noticed in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Kathryn Blew called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

Roll Call: Diane Burgess PRESENT      Craig Repmann PRESENT      Susan Soloway PRESENT  
Joseph Darocha PRESENT      Kathryn Blew PRESENT

Also present: Katrina L. Campbell, Municipal Attorney

Others present in the public: Numerous members of the Police Department, Quakertown Fire Department fire fighters and emergency service personnel, Debbie Nace

**Comments from the public on agenda items:** None

**Consent Agenda**

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one 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 Darocha      Second Burgess

a. Approval of Bills for Payment

Current Fund Expenditures 7-01	\$1,582,731.62
Fair Housing	\$ 175.00
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 4,562.55
Driveway Trust	\$ 3,215.00
Grant Fund	\$ 562.43
Dog Regulation Account	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,592,746.60</b>

Twp. Comm. Regular Meeting  
Thursday, October 26, 2017

Additional:

FTS Board of Ed. – wired funds                    \$1,032,380.00

**GRAND TOTAL**    **\$2,625,126.60**

- b. Approval of minutes – October 12, 2017 Work Session & Executive Session
- c. Adoption of Resolution 2017 – 71 Refund of Taxes, Block 14 Lot 1.01
- d. Adoption of Resolution 2017 – 72 Corporate Authorization, Unity Bank, all accounts
- e. Adoption of Resolution 2017 – 74 Refund Duplicate Tax Payment Block 31 Lot 10.07
- f. Adoption of Resolution 2017 – 73 Release Performance Bond, Block 42 Lot 4

Roll Call Vote:                    Burgess AYE                    Repmann AYE                    Soloway AYE

Darocha AYE                    Blew ABSTAIN on 2017-73 only

**Swearing in Officer Steven Beam:** Pastor Nathan Tuckey from South Ridge Community Church was invited to this meeting for the swearing in of newly hired Police Officer Steven Beam and for honoring Quakertown Fire Company’s emergency responders. Pastor Tuckey offered prayers and kind words to Steven Beam and all those who serve and protect the community. He stressed the importance of caring for one’s neighbor and he commented on occupational hazards for emergency responders along with the challenges they face and need to deal with this on a daily basis. They see a lot of brokenness in peoples’ lives. Pastor offered prayers for flourishing as a person.

**QFC/EMS Awards Presentation:** At this time Mayor Blew swore in Steven Beam who took the Oath of Office as a Police Officer. Many expressed words of encouragement and congratulations to Officer Beam and welcomed him to the Franklin Township Police Department.

Bradley Patkochis, Fire Chief, made the QFC/EMS Exceptional Service Awards presentation to Lt. Dylan Desaulniers and Lt. Cein Strange for their actions in responding to an incident on Quakertown Road on September 20, 2017. A patient became combative and was attacking Lt. Timothy Snyder of the Police Department and Lt. Desaulniers and Lt. Strange assisted in subduing the patient. Brad also commented on the fatal accident on Pittstown Road and Race Street on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Fire fighter Dagone Emerson had just completed his certified first responder training and had been travelling 2 vehicles behind the vehicle involved in the accident and he provided immediate emergency assistance. Dagone was nominated for an award and he is being named the First Responder of the Year in the State of New Jersey for his actions that day. The award will be presented on November 10<sup>th</sup> at the State of NJ EMS Awards in Atlantic City.

A brief recess was taken in order for photographs to be taken.

The Committee returned to the agenda at 8:07 P.M.

### Department Head/Subcommittee Reports

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

**Discussion: Animal Control Officer services for year 2018.** The Township is in receipt of 2 quotes for ACO services in 2018. It was suggested that Catherine Innella prepare analysis for the Committee and Committee Member Burgess offered to assist.

**Discussion: November and December meeting schedule.** The Township Committee suggested advertising for a meeting on Thursday, November 30, 2017. December meetings will remain as scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> and the CFO will be notified that the Committee would like to do their year-end meeting with all checks for payment on that date, the 28<sup>th</sup>.

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

Rich Dziminski, **Fire Marshall**, has provided the Township Committee with **ordinance amendments** to cover new Division of Fire Safety fees. He is also requesting a \$25.00 re-inspection fee if a property fails inspection and requires a re-inspection. The Municipal Attorney will prepare the ordinance for first reading at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Committee Member Susan Soloway reported that she, Diane Burgess and Catherine Innella met with a representative from **Planet Civic** regarding a citizen engagement platform. This would allow another method of engaging the public on various topics and getting their input. It was suggested he, Javier Guardo, be invited to a meeting to make a presentation to the full Committee.

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

Committee Member Repmann reported on some of the DPW's monthly activities: repairs and maintenance to vehicles, working on drainage, finished paving Old Franklin School Road, took care of illegally dumped items on a couple of township roads, snow fencing will be installed next month, and also met with ATON about the re-wiring of the Municipal Building.

Deputy Mayor Joseph Darocha recommended contacting Alan Dilley to change the locks in the Municipal Building.

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

The Municipal Attorney updated the Committee on the Foster Farm and a need to amend the survey to move the exception area. The township can authorize the work and will be reimbursed 50% of the cost.

Motion to approve the additional survey work for the Foster Farm, Block 28 Lot 24 at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00.

Moved Soloway

Second Repmann



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

Motion carried.

**Discussion: Pittstown Inn 26/15** – Committee Member Soloway reported on the building previously rented as a pool supply store. The property owner was notified in January, 2017 by the Zoning Officer regarding the disrepair of the structure located at 351 Pittstown Road. A maintenance plan was required to be implemented. Apparently the electrical for the septic system is contained in the building. The owner and the Construction Official have had some discussions to allow for more time to repair or restore.

Committee Member Diane Burgess reported on having received bronze status with **Sustainable New Jersey**. She and Committee Member Susan Soloway will attend the luncheon at the League conference for receipt of the award. The township is eligible to apply for various grants and will look into one for a possible assessment of Rogers Pond.

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

Trunk or Treat is scheduled for tomorrow night, Friday, October 27, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Elks. The township has also set a Halloween curfew.

**Comments from the public:** Alex Rogovin, Quaker Hill Drive resident, asked if there would be any further meetings regarding the group home. Committee Member Soloway said she could set something up for the residents to meet again with the home's administrator, Kevin Kelly. Mr. Rogovin will poll the neighborhood to see if a meeting is warranted. The Municipal Attorney informed Mr. Rogovin that the township has not heard anything from the State's licensing agency on any investigation, if any, since providing them with information regarding the last incident.

**Comments from the Township Committee, non-agenda items and any other business:** None

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion to adopt a resolution to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to ATON contract for IT services, update on Mid-American Salt litigation, and personnel. No action is anticipated upon return to open session.

Moved Burgess

Second Soloway

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

Motion carried.

#### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Motion to return to open session for adjournment.

5

Twp. Comm. Regular Meeting  
Thursday, October 26, 2017

Second Soloway

Second Burgess

All present in favor. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

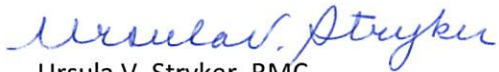
Motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

Moved Soloway

Second Burgess

All present in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Ursula V. Stryker, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

**DATE OF ADOPTION:** 12-14-2017