

Twp. Comm. Work Session  
Thursday, April 12, 2018

**MINUTES**  
**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018**  
**7:30 P.M.**

The Franklin Township Committee held a work session at **7:30 P.M., Thursday, April 12, 2018** at the Municipal Building. This meeting has been properly noticed in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Craig Repmann called the meeting to order and led the flag salute

Roll Call: Joseph Darocha PRESENT Philip Koury PRESENT

Susan Soloway PRESENT Diane Burgess ABSENT Craig Repmann PRESENT

Also present: Katrina L. Campbell, Municipal Attorney

Some others present: Lt. Timothy Snyder, CFO Cameron Keng, OEM George Reichert, Liz Shaw

**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.

Moved Darocha

Second Koury

- Approval of Bills Presented for Payment

Current Fund Expenditures 8 – 01	\$1,059,107.36
Fair Housing	\$ 6,313.75
Land Use Board Escrow	\$ 5,846.00
Dog Regulation Account	\$ 500.00
Grant Fund	\$ 389.88
Driveway Trust	\$ 1,503.75
Land Use Board Escrow	\$ 16,719.64
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,090,380.38</b>

Approval of minutes March 29, 2018 Regular Meeting & Executive Session

Committee Member Soloway asked about the check to Craig Repmann for recreation reimbursement. These funds were used for prizes at the Easter Egg Hunt. She also commented on mileage reimbursement for the Construction Office inspectors. The CFO said he receives documentation and authorization from Mark Fornaciari for the inspectors and he will contact him to discuss this issue.

Roll Call Vote: Darocha AYE Koury AYE Soloway AYE Burgess ABSENT Repmann AYE

Motion carried.

### Department Head/Subcommittee Reports

- **Administration, HR/Benefits: Koury/Darocha**

No report.

- **Finance, Insurance, IT: Repmann/Burgess**

Cameron Keng, CFO, reported on still working on budget. It may be ready for introduction at the next meeting. He's also been in contact with several banks and has been negotiating for better rates. He's awaiting paperwork to firm up details with Unity Bank.

Motion to **Adopt Resolution 2018 – 23** Tax Sale Redemption of Lien Holder, Block 50, Lot 27.

Moved Soloway

Second Koury

Roll Call Vote: Darocha AYE Koury AYE Soloway AYE Burgess ABSENT Repmann AYE

Motion carried.

Motion to **Introduce on First Reading Ordinance 2018 – 09** An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank. Public Hearing to be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at a previously noticed meeting.

Moved Soloway

Second Koury

All present in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to **Introduce on First Reading Bond Ordinance 2018 – 10** Providing for the Acquisition of Equipment for the Department of Public Works By and In the Township of Franklin, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; Appropriating \$270,945 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$258,042 Bonds or Notes of the Township to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof. Public Hearing to be held at 7:30 P.M., Thursday, April 26, 2018 at a meeting previously noticed.

Moved Koury

Second Darocha

All present in favor. Motion carried.

- **Public Safety (PD, Fire, EMS, OEM, Court, Health): Darocha/Koury**

Lt. Snyder is delayed on a police call and will be arriving shortly to discuss OEM matters.

- **Department of Public Works: Burgess/Repmann**

The Mayor attended cleanup day at the Municipal Garage and said it was very well intended. He also reported there are 4200 hours and not 3000 hours on the backhoe being traded in.

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

Committee Member Soloway reported on the Land Use Board meeting held last night. The Board took care of some routine paperwork and the Land Use Board Attorney, Roger Thomas, prepared the annual report.

**"78/22 Coalition":** Mrs. Soloway also reported on Mark Saluk from the County putting together a sub group from several municipalities in the Routes 78/22 corridor so they may meet with potential developers/companies interested in coming into the area for the purpose of promoting their towns. She will forward contact information to the Township Committee should someone else be interested in participating.

Funding for the Master Plan and Storm water management has been included in the proposed municipal budget. There will be a joint meeting set up between the Township Committee and the Land Use Board to discuss open space and financial implications on the township's budget. In the last year 10 year period, 25 homes have been constructed in the township. There is a need for revenue and a need in balancing the rural character of the township along with growth. There was discussion about whether or not a new water study would need to be requested to see if water conditions have changed since last rezoning. Committee Member Darocha reported on the water table and the State monitoring some wells and asking for 60% less water usage in some areas.

Cameron Keng, CFO, addressed the Township Committee on amending the township's **foreclosed/abandoned property ordinance**. He believes we should be generating revenue by assessing a registration fee. The Committee discussed how the township would enforce the ordinance and handle the program. The Municipal Attorney provided a sample ordinance to the Committee and will look into fees that could be charged.

- **Public Safety (PD, Fire, EMS, OEM, Court, Health): Darocha/Koury**

Lt. Tim Snyder arrived and reported on March activities of the Police Department along with training completed for some of the officers. Officer Beam will complete his training in the next couple of months.

**OEM discussion:** Committee Member Darocha led the discussion on how communications can be improved between OEM and other municipal departments. The Township Committee discussed OEM reporting during the last two storms (Riley & Quinn). While George Reichert, OEM Coordinator, was



providing notifications to the County, in most instances the information wasn't passed on to the Franklin Township Police Department. He commented on the conditions in the township regarding trees down, wires down, road closures. Moving forward any emergency notifications will be provided to the Franklin Township Police Department. While the County is receiving emergency notifications, they are getting information for the entire County and may not be getting information to all 26 municipalities. George also notifies JCP&L of the status of trees down on various roads. He also made visits to those having medical needs and providing portable generators when available. There was discussion about getting a list of those who have medical needs so they may be contacted during emergencies and power outages. The thought was that something can be put in the next newsletter asking people to register with the township if they have a special medical need for OEM and/or the police to be aware of during any emergency situation. It was suggested that Lt. Snyder be included on any email notifications which George is sending in to the County. The County hasn't yet had a full review of the past two storms. Committee Member Darocha would like to get a copy of their report when it's available. Committee Member Koury asked Mr. Reichert what equipment he would need if funds were available in the budget. He requested a laptop, printer, a small designated area for office space in the Municipal Building with a desk and file cabinet. Committee Member Darocha asked if the township was eligible for reimbursement on any overtime incurred. George said these storms were not FEMA declared emergencies and the township really didn't have any property damage or loss of equipment.

**BOARD OF HEALTH** – No applicants for septic waiver at this time.

- **Community, Business, School, Recreation, Seniors: Soloway/Repmann**

Mayor Repmann reported on the science fair being held this evening at the Franklin Township School. The fishing derby is scheduled for May 12 with a May 19 rain date. Officer Kevin Bollaro is assisting the Recreation Committee with this event to be held in Alexandria Township this year.

The Township Committee would like to try another format for their agenda hoping things will run more smoothly and keep everyone on task. The Municipal Attorney prepared a sample and the Municipal Clerk will use it for the next meeting.

**Comments from the public:** The Mayor called upon Liz Shaw to bring the Township Committee up to date on working with the State on the "peach exchange" current MCI property at Pittstown and Quakertown Roads. The State is interested in purchasing the property because Fish Game & Wildlife is interested in using it for the purpose of parking at the trail head along the Capoolong Creek which is part of the State's inter-connected trails. The State has made an offer on the property and since it's in a Historic District they can't demolish the buildings on the property. They were trying to find a way for the State, Township and a non-profit to do something with the property and buildings. This didn't work out for a variety of reasons. About two months ago the State resolved some of their policy issues to make it more appealing to enter into a partnership. A meeting is set up for Monday at the Municipal Building with several parties to discuss this matter. At that time we will see what the State is proposing. The State had an appraisal done on the property and it came in high and they asked the township to contribute \$300,000.00 but there was no interest in doing this. But now we're back to possibly getting the property for \$1.00. Also the seller would be responsible for septic repairs. The State also changed their policy allowing renting it to other than a non-profit.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to adopt a resolution to enter executive session at 8:55 P.M. for discussing matters pertaining to COAH.

Moved Koury

Second Soloway

Roll Call Vote: Darocha AYE Koury AYE Soloway AYE Burgess ABSENT Repmann AYE

Motion carried.

### RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion to return to open session at 9:18 P.M. for adjournment.

Moved Darocha

Second Soloway

All present in favor. Motion carried.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:18 P.M.

Moved Soloway

Second Koury

All present in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Ursula V. Stryker, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

DATE OF ADOPTION: 5-10-2018