

MINUTES
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORK-SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020
7:30 PM

(Location Changed to Online Application: Zoom - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83367100775>)

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
Captain Timothy Snyder, Police Department
Dori Parker, South Ridge Community Church

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 September 10, 2020 minutes Work Session/Regular Meeting: Burgess

Second: Homulak

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

Payment of Bills

Motion to approve the Bills List with addendum: Donaruma Second: Burgess

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

Ordinances: None.

Resolutions:

1. Resolution 2020-46: Tax Sale Redemption of Lienholder – Certificate #18-00002 – LIGHT PROPERTIES LLC – 719 Pittstown Road – Block 49 Lot 21 Q0269

Motion to adopt: Burgess Second: Donaruma

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

2. Resolution 2020-47: Tax Sale Redemption of Lienholder – Certificate #18-00003 – LIGHT PROPERTIES LLC – 715 Pittstown Road – Block 49 Lot 23

Motion to adopt: Donaruma Second: Homulak

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

3. Resolution 2020-48: Tax Sale Redemption of Lienholder – Certificate #19-00005 – ROMANY INVESTMENTS, LLC– 708 Pittstown Road – Block 48 Lot 5 Q0269

Motion to adopt: Donaruma Second: Burgess

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

4. Resolution 2020-49: Authorizing Fireworks Display – South Ridge Community Church – 7 Pittstown Road – Harvest Worship Night – October 2020

Mayor Koury explained the event coordination efforts of the municipal staff with South Ridge Community Church and Quakertown Fire Company's request for the resolution. Mayor Koury indicated that the resolution would be subject to the approval of the Fire Department. The Township Attorney explained safety concerns regarding the original intended date of the event and that Captain Snyder had addressed the Police Department's concerns. Upon questioning by the Township Attorney, Captain Snyder explained the concerns addressed by the Police Department. Mayor Koury explained the Township's safety concerns citing current environmental conditions and reports on the wildfires in California and Oregon. Upon questioning by the Mayor, Committeeman Homulak explained that the Fire Department was already scheduled to have several crews on the requested date. Upon invitation by the Township Attorney, Dori Parker, South Ridge Community Church, explained the coordination efforts that had been taken between the Church, the Fire Department, and the Police Department. She further indicated that the Church would do what was necessary to address safety concerns. Mayor Koury expressed the Township's appreciation for the support that South Ridge Community Church has provided to the community.

Motion to adopt: Homulak Second: Donaruma

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

Staff Administrative Reports:

Administrative: The Township Clerk reported that the Clerk's Office had begun preparation for year-end procedures and reported that the Vote-By-Mail Ballot Drop Box located at the Municipal Building had been installed as of 2:00 pm earlier in the day. Upon questioning by the Mayor, the CFO confirmed that the installation of the required surveillance system would take place on September 30th and that the County had already been informed.

CFO: The CFO reported that the three Tax Title Lien Redemptions that were approved earlier in the meeting were from the same party. He further reported on the status of the Tax Sale and explained that the Tax Bills would be mailed the following week. He explained that the Tax Bills were being mailed well in advance of the mailing deadline and that there would be no additional grace period.

Police: Captain Snyder indicated that there had not been much police activity in the past two weeks. He indicated that he had submitted a report with information about radar signs to the subcommittee and reported that the last of the enforcement grants had completed the previous week. Upon questioning by the Mayor, Captain Snyder explained that an advertisement for radar signs supplied by the Mayor had not been located and the CFO explained that neither he nor Captain Snyder had discovered any grants that could be used for the purchase of speed signs. Upon request from Committeeman Homulak, Captain Snyder agreed to supply a police officer at the Fire House on Election day.

Board of Health: None.

Old Business:

Upon questioning by Mayor Koury, the Township Clerk explained that Bi-Weekly Staff Reports for the Administrative staff were due the following day on Friday, September 25th. Cameron Keng, CFO & Human Resources Official, explained his coordination efforts with the Department Heads regarding the requested reports.

New Business: None.

Committee Member Reports:

Committeeman Craig Repmann reported that Movie Night was scheduled for October 24th with a start time of 6:30pm and that gates would open at 5:00pm. He indicated that the Franklin Township School would assist in advertising efforts. Upon questioning by Mayor Koury, Committeeman Repmann explained the refreshment services that would be offered at the event. Upon questioning by Deputy Mayor Burgess, Committeeman Repmann and the Township Attorney explained the scheduled date of the movie and its coordination with the Township's Dodransbicentennial celebration event.

Mayor Philip Koury reported on the previous night's Land Use Board meeting, explaining that the online Zoom meeting had proceeded seamlessly with a public hearing and presentation. He went on to thank James Witkowski, Franklin Township School, for the use of school facilities in relation to the in-person Land Use Board meeting in August. The Mayor proceeded to inform the Committee that the flyers advertising the Dodransbicentennial Road Rally event had been mailed and that residents were beginning to receive the mailing. He further indicated that he had acquired approval from the CFO and Township Attorney to submit for reimbursement after utilizing a personal payment process to expedite the flyer's printing and mailing process. He also reported that the Land Use Board intended to advise the Engineer to review the Township's Wastewater Management Ordinance in response to the details presented at the Land Use Board hearing held the previous evening.

Comments from the Public:

No members from the public came forward to speak. John Benscoter & James Witkowski were invited to speak but chose not to make any comments.

Upon questioning by the Mayor, the Township Clerk explained that the Committee had indicated that meetings were going to be held at online Zoom meetings through October in response to the need to publish the public hearing information for the ordinances. The Mayor proceeded to explain that meetings were still being held remotely due to the Municipal Building's limitations on maintaining the required 6-foot social distancing. The Township Attorney explained the legislative exemption regarding in-person legislative meetings reflects only building capacity and that the required 6-foot distance between attendees remains in effect.

The Township Attorney updated the Committee on efforts to complete a registration form for the Dodransbicentennial Road Rally and that she was coordinating the placement of the registration form on the website with the Deputy Clerk. She further explained the need for the registration form.

Executive Session: None.

Action by the Committee: None.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Repmann Second: Donaruma

All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Prepared by Christine Burke, Township Clerk



Adopted: 10/08/2020