

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK  
BOROUGH COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024**

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The reorganization meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2344 West Ingomar Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15237. The meeting was also held virtually via remote audio and video conferencing.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dennis O'Keefe.

Pledge of Allegiance

Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary called the roll:

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Laura Czekaj .....present  
Jiang Li .....present  
Brian S. Malkin .....present  
Lucas R. Myslinski.....present  
Uday Palled .....present  
Thomas C. Schwartzmier .....present  
Junior Councilperson Julia O'Keefe .....present  
Mayor Dennis E. O'Keefe .....present

**BOROUGH ENGINEER:**

Dave Kovac, Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc. ....present

**SOLICITOR:**

Robert Max Junker, Babst Calland .....present

**STAFF:**

Zach Brower, Recreation Program Director .....present  
Gary Bucuren, Superintendent of Public Works.....absent  
Rege Ebner, Borough Manager .....absent  
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary .....present  
Aron Leach, Police Chief.....present  
Gina Leibach, Finance Director/Treasurer .....present  
Andy Nock, Assist. Bldg. Insp./Fire & Tech Official.....present  
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer.....present

**OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS** – The Honorable Judge Lisa G. Middleman administered the Oath of Office to the following newly elected officials:

Laura Czekaj, Council Member  
Jiang Li, Council Member  
Brian S. Malkin, Council Member

**NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Mayor O'Keefe accepted nominations for the office of President of Borough Council.

Mr. Malkin moved Uday Palled be nominated as President of Borough Council.

Mr. Schwartzmier moved Luke Myslinski be nominated as President of Borough Council.

Mr. Myslinski moved nominations for President of Borough Council be closed, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried.

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A roll call vote was then taken:

Laura Czekaj .....Mr. Palled  
Jiang Li .....Mr. Palled  
Brian S. Malkin .....Mr. Palled  
Lucas R. Myslinski.....Mr. Myslinski  
Uday Palled .....Mr. Palled  
Thomas C. Schwartzmier .....Mr. Myslinski

Mr. Palled was elected President of Council.

**NOMINATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Mayor O’Keefe accepted nominations for the office of Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Palled moved Jiang Li be nominated as Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Schwartzmier moved Luke Myslinski be nominated as Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Malkin moved nominations for Vice President of Borough Council be closed, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

A roll call vote was then taken:

Laura Czekaj .....Dr. Li  
Jiang Li .....Dr. Li  
Brian S. Malkin .....Dr. Li  
Lucas R. Myslinski.....Mr. Myslinski  
Uday Palled .....Dr. Li  
Thomas C. Schwartzmier .....Mr. Myslinski

Dr. Li was elected Vice President of Council.

**NOMINATIONS FOR SECOND VICE PRESIDENT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Mayor O’Keefe accepted nominations for the office of Second Vice President of Borough Council.

Dr. Li moved Laura Czekaj be nominated as Second Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Myslinski moved Tom Schwartzmier be nominated as Second Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Myslinski moved nominations for Second Vice President of Borough Council be closed, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried.

A roll call vote was then taken:

Laura Czekaj .....Ms. Czekaj  
Jiang Li .....Ms. Czekaj  
Brian S. Malkin .....Ms. Czekaj  
Lucas R. Myslinski.....Mr. Schwartzmier  
Uday Palled .....Ms. Czekaj  
Thomas C. Schwartzmier .....Mr. Schwartzmier

Ms. Czekaj was elected Second Vice President of Council.

Mayor O’Keefe then turned the meeting over to Council President Uday Palled.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR** - None

**REORGANIZATION BUSINESS**

**AUTHORIZE PROPER OFFICERS TO SIGN CHECKS** – Mr. Malkin moved the President of Council be authorized to sign checks, and in his absence the Vice President of Council or Second Vice President of Council be authorized to sign checks, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**DESIGNATE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES** – Ms. Czekaj moved the official depositories for the Borough funds for the year 2024 be: Charles Schwab Institutional, First National Bank, Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust, Pennsylvania Treasurer's INVEST Program, and West View Savings Bank seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

**RETAIN ROBERT MAX JUNKER AND THE FIRM OF BABST, CALLAND, CLEMENTS & ZOMNIR, P.C. AS SOLICITOR FOR 2024** – Mr. Myslinski moved Council retain Robert Max Junker and the firm of Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir, P.C. as Borough Solicitor for the year 2024 at a retainer of \$6,900 per year, which shall remain in effect until superseded by future Borough Council action, seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier and carried.

**APPOINT LENNON, SMITH, SOULERET ENGINEERING, INC. AS BOROUGH ENGINEER FOR 2024**  
Dr. Li moved Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc. be appointed Borough Engineer for the year 2024 at a retainer of \$3,600 per year, which shall remain in effect until superseded by future Borough Council action, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**APPOINT CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC. AS STORMWATER ENGINEER FOR 2024** – Mr. Schwartzmier moved Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. be appointed Stormwater Engineer for the year 2024, which shall remain in effect until superseded by future Borough Council action, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**RATIFY EXPENDITURE POLICY** – Dr. Li moved to ratify Resolution No. 987-2010, adopted September 15, 2010, setting forth a municipal expenditure policy to safeguard borough resources and prevent unauthorized expenditure of borough funds, and to authorize the administrative staff to distribute the policy to borough boards/commissions, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1354-2024 RECOGNIZING THE FRANKLIN PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1 FOR 2024** – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1354-2024. Mr. Myslinski moved to adopt Resolution No. 1354-2024 recognizing the Franklin Park Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 as the fire company for the Borough of Franklin Park for the year 2024, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1355-2024 APPOINTING FIRE POLICE OFFICERS FOR 2024** – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1355-2024. Dr. Li moved to adopt Resolution No. 1355-2024 appointing Fire Police Officers for the year 2024, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

**DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER** – Ms. Czekaj moved the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette be designated as the official newspaper of the Borough, seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier and carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1356-2024 AMENDING & REVISING THE SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR 2024** – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1356-2024. Dr. Li moved to adopt Resolution No. 1356-2024 amending and revising the schedule of fees for 2024 per Borough ordinances, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

**REAPPOINT BERNARD P. MROZEK TO THE BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS** – Mr. Schwartzmier moved Bernard P. Mrozek be reappointed to the Building Board of Appeals for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2028, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

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**REAPPOINT PHILIP WILKINSON JR. TO THE BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS** – Mr. Myslinski moved Philip Wilkinson Jr. be reappointed to the Building Board of Appeals for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2028, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**REAPPOINT WAYNE CHANG TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION** – Mr. Malkin moved Wayne Chang be reappointed to the Planning Commission for a four-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2027, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**REAPPOINT MERRILL M. JONES TO THE RECREATION BOARD** – Ms. Czekaj moved Merrill M. Jones be reappointed to the Recreation Board for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2028, seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier and carried.

**REAPPOINT LINDSAY STACK TO THE SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE** – Mr. Schwartzmier moved Lindsay Stack be reappointed to the Scholarship Selection Committee for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2028, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**APPOINT WAYNE CHANG TO THE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** – Dr. Li moved Wayne Chang be appointed to the Technology Advisory Committee for a four-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2027, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**REAPPOINT RAYMOND A. OJERHOLM TO THE VACANCY BOARD** – Mr. Myslinski moved Raymond A. Ojerholm be reappointed to the Vacancy Board for a one-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2024, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1357-2024 REAPPOINTING SAILESH KAPADIA TO THE ZONING HEARING BOARD** – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1357-2024. Mr. Malkin moved to adopt Resolution No. 1357-2024 reappointing Sailesh Kapadia to the Zoning Hearing Board for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2028, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RATIFY POLICE CONTRACT** – Dr. Li moved to ratify the Police Contract for the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027, in a form acceptable to the Solicitor, seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier and carried.

**HIRE DEANNA DATTILO AS FINANCIAL COORDINATOR** – Mr. Myslinski moved to hire DeAnna Dattilo as Financial Coordinator effective January 5, 2023 at a salary of \$62,500.00, contingent upon satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH GREGORY KARABIN & PENNEY KARABIN** – Mr. Malkin moved to enter into the necessary easement agreement with Gregory Karabin and Penney Karabin for the restoration of a portion of an un-named tributary (“UNT”) to Bear Run located within the Lowries Run Watershed for the UNT to Bear Run Stream Enhancements/Restoration (Lowries Run) Project as part of the Borough’s MS4 Program, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH SPIRIT REALTY LP** – Ms. Czekaj moved to enter into the necessary easement agreement with Spirit Realty LP for the restoration of a portion of an un-named tributary (“UNT”) to Bear Run located within the Lowries Run Watershed for the UNT to Bear Run Stream Enhancements/Restoration (Lowries Run) Project as part of the Borough’s MS4 Program, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR** - None

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**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Mr. Myslinski moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert  
Borough Secretary

Audience Present: 24