

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL PRE/POST MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2022**

Council President John Parks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Jiang Li present
Brian S. Malkin present
Lucas R. Myslinski, Vice President present
Uday Palled present
John P. Parks, President present
Thomas C. Schwartzmier, Second Vice President present
Junior Councilperson Jackie DiGiacomo present
Mayor Dennis E. O'Keefe present

BOROUGH ENGINEER:

Kevin Brett, 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 present
Cindy Crain, Finance Director/Borough Treasurer present
Rege Ebner, Borough Manager present
Walt Healy, Police Chief present
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary present
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer present

PRE-MEETING

AUDIENCE: 0

OLD BUSINESS - None

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN UPDATE – The state requires the Borough to have an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), and it is the obligation of Council and the Mayor to protect the citizens of the Borough. The state also requires that the EOP be updated every two years. Mr. Parks, Dr. Stein and staff have completed the required update, and Council will vote on the updated EOP during the regular meeting this evening. Dr. Tom Stein, Emergency Operations Coordinator, was present to provide a brief summary of what may be required during an emergency, and he strongly urged Council members and the Mayor to take the Incident Command Courses recommended by Mr. Parks prior to the scheduled emergency drill on March 2nd.

AGENDA REVIEW - The following January 19, 2022 regular meeting agenda items were discussed:

- **Review of resolutions by Solicitor** – Mr. Junker briefly reviewed when resolutions are required, and he reviewed the resolutions on the regular meeting agenda this evening.
- **Motions** – Mr. Parks inquired if the President of Council could make motions, and Mr. Junker stated that the President could make a motion if he would yield the gavel to the Vice President to conduct the meeting. The President of Council may vote on all motions.
- **Trucking services** – Mr. Parks asked for clarification regarding the motion to advertise for trucking services. Mr. Bucuren stated that the motion is to seek bids from trucking companies to haul asphalt during paving.

MANAGER'S REPORT DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Community Garden - Jackie DiGiacomo, Junior Council person, had approached the EAC about establishing either a vegetable or pollinator community garden in the Borough. Miss DiGiacomo has been working with the EAC and has come up with wording for an announcement to be placed on the website and sent out via website notification this week. The announcement would introduce the concept to residents and ask them to respond if they are interested in volunteering their time. Miss DiGiacomo and the EAC would then schedule a meeting with interested residents to work through the details before establishing a location.
- Bliss Land Development – A meeting was held today with the developer, Mr. Ebner, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Parks, and Mr. Wingrove. The developer was asked to clearly mark the property line with stakes rather than just pins so people can visually see what is there. They also discussed the concerns for safety along Washington Lane and suggested that the developer put in an earthen mound along the lane. The developer indicated that if the Borough is willing to provide the soil, he would be willing to place the earthen mound and the residents could buy the trees. The developer will provide as-built drawings showing exactly where the right of way is located and where the property line is located to determine how the earthen mound may fit. It may require that the residents move the cartway over from its current location. The next step is for the developer to provide the drawing and bring the residents in for a meeting to explain what we would like to do. Council discussed.

PUBLIC INTERACTION WITH ADVISORY COMMITTEES – Mr. Parks discussed challenges with the public interface with Borough boards and committees. This happened recently with the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee meeting, and it is also happening currently with another committee that is being dominated by a few residents. As a result, there is not a true representation for all residents of the Borough. Mr. Parks had spoken with Mr. Junker regarding the possibility of developing a policy to deal with the issue on an overall basis but decided that the best approach may be to deal with it on an individual basis with each committee as it occurs. A suggestion was also made that each advisory committee/board provide a public comment portion on each meeting agenda for non-committee members to speak. Mr. Parks and Mr. Myslinski will sit down with the committee that is currently having an issue and have a discussion. Council discussed.

ALOM SPRING CONFERENCE – Each year the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM) holds a spring conference at Seven Springs Resort. The conference provides education regarding municipal government, and it also provides networking opportunities. Council members and the Mayor have participated in the past, and Mr. Parks asked everyone to let Mrs. Krummert know by February 2nd if they plan to attend the conference so she can register those who plan to participate.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS & MAYOR

- Mr. Palled reviewed the discussions at the Planning Commission meeting last night regarding the wireless communication ordinance, proposed revisions to the zoning ordinance for farmers markets and a pre-application for a Giant Eagle Wet Go Car Wash. Council discussed and asked questions.
- Mayor O'Keefe has received several inquiries regarding the old house on the Deerfield Estates Plan property that is now visible since construction of the development began.

POLICE DEPARTMENT CUSTODIAN – Chief Healy noted that he had interviewed a potential custodian for the Police Department, and he will include the information in his monthly report

The regular meeting was held from 8:00 p.m. to 8:32 p.m.

POST-MEETING

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An executive session was held to discuss the Public Works/Parks CBA and a potential property purchase.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert
Borough Secretary