

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK  
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023**

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The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 8:00 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.

Council President John Parks called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Cathy Krummert called the roll:

**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 Ava 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.....absent  
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary .....present  
Andy Nock, Assist. Bldg. Insp./Fire & Tech Official.....present  
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer.....present  
Sam Snyder, Police Lieutenant.....present

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**OATH OF OFFICE, NEW POLICE OFFICER RYAN DUNNE** – Mayor O'Keefe administered the Oath of Office to Officer Ryan Dunne.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following attended the meeting in person and commented:

Glenn Sovich – Introduced himself as a candidate for District Magistrate.

Thaddeus Popovich, 1654 Stone Mansion Drive – Commented regarding an upcoming virtual Town Hall on April 27<sup>th</sup> focusing on preparing for rail disasters like the one that recently occurred in East Palestine, Ohio. Mr. Parks noted that the Borough has an Emergency Operations Plan, and we are acutely aware of that scenario given that there are two interstates that split the Borough in half.

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Lorraine Dimond, 1801 Big Sky Lane – Commented regarding pickleball in Old Orchard Park and asked Council to reconsider allowing pickleball players to use regular pickleballs and not the quiet balls to come to a better compromise.

Mr. Parks noted that Council discussed this issue earlier this evening in the pre-meeting, and they have received emails from residents advocating for the use of regular pickleballs in Old Orchard Park. Council has asked the Parks and Recreation Committee to meet for further review and to discuss possible options. In the meantime, the Borough will continue the requirement of the quiet pickleballs in Old Orchard Park. Mr. Myslinski commented that a comprehensive sound study was performed, and it addressed that there were no viable options to reduce the pickleball noise due to the topography.

Dave Moore, 1644 Oakleaf Lane – Asked for clarification of when the pickleball matter may be reconsidered. Mr. Parks noted that Council has asked the Parks & Recreation Committee to review the matter. The Committee will meet on May 17<sup>th</sup> and will make a recommendation to Council after that time.

Sheryl Johnson, 2300 Salem Drive – Commented regarding pickleball in Old Orchard Park and noted that they are trying to come up with a community compromise. She asked Council to represent the community.

Dave Johnson, 2300 Salem Drive – Commented regarding the proposal submitted by pickleball players, the sound study and pickleball noise. He asked all Council Members to get involved and do their due diligence. Mr. Junker clarified that if a quorum of Council attends a meeting, it must be advertised. They can attend information sessions to receive information, but they cannot go back and forth or deliberate outside of public meetings.

Mr. Parks announced that the following written comments were submitted via email prior to this meeting in support of lifting the quiet pickleball requirements in Old Orchard Park, and they had been distributed to Council:

Joanne Dunmyre, 2022 Karen Drive  
Nick & Ana Hartner, 1622 Oakleaf Lane  
Kevin and Suzette Foody, 1610 Oakleaf Drive  
Henry and Leighann Marquiss, 1609 Oakleaf Lane  
Harvey and Nicki Saini, 1612 Oakleaf Lane  
Sanjeev and Surya Shroff, 1620 Oakleaf Lane  
Suzanne Girard, 1646 Farmington Court  
Alyssa Johnson (no address provided)

Kevin Wozniak, 2427 Bellwood Drive – Commented regarding the deer population and the damage they cause to residential properties. He asked Council to make decisions to protect the community. Mr. Parks noted that Council is looking into options to address the deer population since we ended the relationship with Whitetail Deer Management.

Mark Pruckner – Participated via Zoom to speak on behalf of his parents, Glenn and Hazel Pruckner of 1528 Sandhurst Drive, regarding wireless communication towers. Mr. Junker informed Mr. Pruckner that since he is not a resident or taxpayer, he would not be permitted to provide public comment during the meeting. He was advised that his parents could comment in writing if they are not able to participate in the meeting or they could submit specific questions to staff.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** – Mr. Myslinski moved the minutes of the March 15, 2023 pre/post meeting, the March 15, 2023 regular meeting, and the April 5, 2023 work session, be approved, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried.

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**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT** – Mrs. Crain summarized the March Treasurer's Financial Report. The General Fund revenues for the month of March totaled \$760,028.00. Year-to-date total revenues are \$1,851,933.00, which represents 16% of the 2023 total budget. The General Fund expenditures for the month of March totaled \$559,712.00. Year-to-date total expenditures are \$1,877,071.00, which represents 14% of the 2023 total budget. Mr. Malkin moved the March Treasurer's Financial Report be accepted as read, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**POLICE REPORT** – Mayor O'Keefe read the Police Report and activity report for the month of March 2023. The police responded to 736 calls for service. Mr. Schwartzmier recommended the Police Report be filed with the Police Secretary.

**FIRE COMPANY REPORT** - Mr. Myslinski read the Fire Company Report for March 2023. Mr. Myslinski indicated that the fire company responded to 23 calls for the month and the manpower for the month totaled 530 volunteer hours.

**BUILDING INSPECTION REPORT** - Mr. Phillips read the Building Inspection Report for March 2023. Mr. Phillips issued 25 permits and collected \$27,340.00 in fees. Total value of construction was \$1,687,519.00.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Mr. Parks announced that Borough Council held an executive session on March 15, 2023 to discuss Bliss potential litigation and a police grievance, and the Personnel Committee held an executive session on April 19, 2023 to discuss the FMLA Policy, Caregiver Leave Policy, Employee Handbook amendments and the General Employees' Pension Plan amendments.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS** – Dr. Li moved Council authorize the payment of the bills, which have been reviewed and approved since the last meeting, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1326-2023, DCNR GRANT APPLICATION FOR COMPREHENSIVE RECREATION, PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN UPDATE** – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1326-2023. Mr. Schwartzmier moved to adopt Resolution No. 1326-2023, for the submission of a DCNR Grant Application to Update the 2015 Borough Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1327-2023, DCNR GRANT APPLICATION FOR LINBROOK DISC GOLF IMPROVEMENTS & EXPANSION** – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1327-2023. Mr. Myslinski moved to adopt Resolution No. 1327-2023 for the submission of a DCNR Grant Application for the Linbrook Disc Golf Improvements and Expansion, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1328-2023, DCNR GRANT APPLICATION FOR BLUEBERRY PATCH PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT** – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1328-2023. Mr. Malkin moved to adopt Resolution No. 1328-2023 for the submission of a DCNR Grant Application for the Blueberry Patch Playground Replacement, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1329-2023, DCNR GRANT APPLICATION FOR BLUEBERRY HILL PARK PROPERTY ACQUISITION** – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1329-2023. Dr. Li moved to adopt Resolution No. 1329-2023 for the submission of a DCNR Grant Application for the Blueberry Hill Park Property Acquisition, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

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**INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 676-2023, REPEALING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 19 IN THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK, "CLAIMS, MUNICIPAL,"** - Mr. Junker introduced Ordinance No. 676-2023, repealing and restating Chapter 19 in the Code of the Borough of Franklin Park, "Claims, Municipal," adopting a schedule of attorney fees in connection with the collection of taxes, tax claims, tax liens, municipal claims, and municipal liens pursuant to Act 1 of 1996 and Act 20 of 2003, adopting a schedule of charges, expenses and fees pursuant to the Municipal Claims and Tax Liens Law, and repealing any other ordinances inconsistent herewith. This ordinance will be advertised for potential enactment at the May 17, 2023 regular meeting.

**HIRE CATHRYN MANNERINO AS RECEPTIONIST/GENERAL ASSISTANT** – Mr. Myslinski moved to ratify the hiring of Cathryn Mannerino as Receptionist/General Assistant, effective April 17, 2023, at a rate of \$42,000.00 per year, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**ACCEPT NOTICE OF RETIREMENT FROM TARA A. ROTH, BUILDING INSPECTION/ZONING SECRETARY** – Mr. Schwartzmier moved to accept the notice of retirement from Tara A. Roth, Building Inspection/Zoning Secretary, effective May 31, 2023, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**HIRING/RESIGNATION OF ARIANE RESTELLI, BUILDING INSPECTION/ZONING SECRETARY** – Dr. Li moved to ratify the hiring of Ariane Restelli as Building Inspection/Zoning Secretary, effective April 17, 2023, at a rate of \$42,000.00 per year, and accept her resignation effective April 18, 2023, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried.

**PROMOTE DONNA PLATT TO ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE BOROUGH MANAGER** – Mr. Palled moved to ratify the promotion of Donna Platt to Administrative Assistant to the Borough Manager, effective April 17, 2023, at a rate of \$59,000.00 per year, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

**PURCHASE GREENSPRO 1260 ROLLER FOR CLOVER HILL GOLF COURSE** – Mr. Schwartzmier moved to authorize the purchase of a GreensPro 1260 Roller for Clover Hill Golf Course from EH Griffith Inc. of Pittsburgh, PA 15218, under Omnia National Contract #2017025 at a cost of \$16,812.90, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried.

**PURCHASE JACOBSEN HR600 ROTARY MOWER FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT** – Mr. Malkin moved to authorize the purchase of a Jacobsen HR600 Rotary Mower for the Parks Department from Baker Vehicle Systems of Macedonia, Ohio, under Omnia National Contract #20470, at a cost of \$92,862.75, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**ANNOUNCE THE 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS** – Mr. Myslinski moved to announce the 2023 Scholarship Recipients, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried. Miss DiGiacomo announced the 2023 Scholarship recipients:

1. Ryan Day, North Allegheny High School
2. Liam Ellis, Aquinas Academy
3. Sophia Huwar, North Allegheny High School
4. Sophia Kollitz, North Allegheny High School
5. Brayden Kushner, North Allegheny High School
6. Sofia Mianzo, North Allegheny High School
7. Sierra O'Neil, North Allegheny High School
8. Anshul Shah, North Allegheny High School
9. Taylor Susich, North Allegheny High School
10. Eric Toledo, North Allegheny High School

**NORTHLAND LIBRARY SECOND QUARTER PAYMENT** – Dr. Li moved the Treasurer's office be authorized to prepare a check in the amount of \$90,784.75 payable to Northland Library for the second quarter payment of 2023, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried.

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**PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK 2023** – Mayor O’Keefe read the Proclamation for National Library Week 2023. Mr. Schwartzmier moved to proclaim the week of April 23-29, 2023 as National Library Week, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

**APPOINT GREG GORMAN TO THE RECREATION BOARD** – Mr. Myslinski moved Greg Gorman be appointed to the Recreation Board to fill the unexpired term of Christine Huweart, which term will expire December 31, 2024, seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier and carried.

**AWARD SHACOG SPRING COMMODITIES BIDS** – Mr. Palled moved the following 2023 spring commodities bids be awarded as submitted to the SHACOG Purchasing Alliance for its bid opening on March 16, 2023:

Bituminous Surfacing Materials (asphalt).....	Lindy Paving, Inc., New Galilee, PA
Precast Concrete Inlets & Risers.....	Wine Concrete Products, Inc., Sewickley, PA
Corrugated Plastic Pipe.....	Stephenson Equipment Inc., Prospect, PA
Frames & Grates .....	Neenah Foundry Company, Neenah, WI
Liquid Asphalt.....	Russell Standard, Valencia, PA
Road Aggregates (limestone).....	Amerikohl Aggregates, Inc., Stahlstown, PA
Traffic Signs & Posts .....	Chemung Supply Corporation, Elmira, NY
Thermoplastic Markings .....	Ennis-Flint, Inc., Greensboro, NC,

seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier and carried.

**BLISS LAND DEVELOPMENT, SET-ASIDE AGREEMENT INCREASE** – Mr. Myslinski moved the Set-Aside Agreement in the amended amount of \$230,320.00 for the Bliss Residential Land Development, be increased by \$18,560.00 to \$248,880.00, in accordance with the letter from Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc. dated April 11, 2023, seconded by Mr. Palled. Mr. Brett explained that the developer had requested a reduction. However, after review based on the Development Agreement, it was noted that the development has not been completed over the last two years, so the security was increased by 10% for each year, thereby increasing the amount of the security. Mr. Malkin recused himself from voting on this matter and filed an abstention form with the Secretary. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1330-2023, SALE OF POLICE VEHICLE ON THE MUNICIBID ONLINE AUCTION -** Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1330-2023. Mr. Schwartzmier moved to adopt Resolution No. 1330-2023 declaring a 2017 Ford Interceptor SUV (last four digits of VIN # are 6681) as surplus personal property; declaring the estimated fair market value over \$2,000; authorizing the sale and disposition by electronic auction sale on Monday, May 22, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. prevailing local time on the Municibid Online Auction, (<https://municibid.com>), and directing the Secretary to advertise the sale, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**LEASE AGREEMENT FOR TWO (2) CLUB CAR TEMPO WALKS ELECTRONIC CADDIES –** Mr. Palled moved to enter into a Lease Agreement with DLL Finance LLC to lease two (2) Club Car Tempo Walks Electronic Caddies during the months of May through October for the Clover Hill Golf Course at a cost of \$338.00 per month for a four-year period, seconded by Mr. Myslinski and carried.

**APPOINT DAVID SWITZER TO THE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** – Mr. Malkin moved to appoint David Switzer to the Technology Advisory Committee to fill the unexpired term of Craig Dean, which term will expire December 31, 2024, seconded by Mr. Palled and carried.

**HIRE JIM BENNER AS ASSISTANT TO THE GOLF COURSE MANAGER** – Mr. Myslinski moved to hire Jim Benner as Assistant to the Golf Course Manager, effective April 28, 2023, at a rate of \$65,000.00 per year, pending successful completion of all required testing, seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier and carried.

**INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 677-2023, AUTHORIZING THE CONDEMNATION, BY EMINENT DOMAIN, OF REAL PROPERTY FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES** - Mr. Junker introduced Ordinance No. 677-2023, authorizing the condemnation, by eminent domain, of real property for municipal purposes. This ordinance will be advertised for potential enactment at the May 17, 2023 regular meeting.

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**SOLICITOR** – Congratulated Tara Roth on her well-earned retirement, and congratulated Donna Platt on her well-earned promotion.

**MAYOR O'KEEFE** – Congratulated Tara Roth and Donna Platt and welcomed Officer Ryan Dunne. The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and participating this evening.

**MR. PALLED** – Congratulated Tara Roth and Donna Platt and welcomed Officer Ryan Dunne. Mr. Palled wished Brainstone Learning the best of luck at the World Robotics Championships.

**MR. MALKIN** – Congratulated Tara Roth and Donna Platt.

**MR. MYSLINSKI** – Thanked Tara Roth for her years of service and wished her a wonderful retirement. Congratulated Donna Platt on her promotion and welcomed Officer Ryan Dunne.

**MR. SCHWARTZMIER** – Thanked the Public Works Department and the Fire Company for all of their work during and after the recent storms.

**SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

- Wished Tara Roth well on her retirement.
- Thanked Mr. Schwartzmier for his comments.
- They finished brush chipping that took longer this year because of the recent storms.

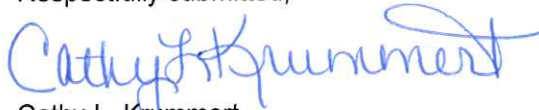
**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR** - None

**BOROUGH MANAGER** - Mr. Ebner announced a planting that will take place in Linbrook Park this Saturday from 9-12 along Big Sewickley Creek. This is a project through the Penn State Extension Master Watershed Steward Program of Allegheny County. The coordinator of the program is a Franklin Park resident. A Stream Smarts Program was created that included a series of four webinars and three field days. The Parks Department will fence in the 251 plants that will be planted this Saturday and will place at least one sign along the riparian buffer to thank the Penn State Extension for their effort and to thank the Foundation for Clean Water.

**MR. PARKS** – Announced that Council will hold a post meeting following this meeting this evening. He will be asking Council to plant a tree following the road tour on Saturday.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Mr. Myslinski moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert  
Borough Secretary

Audience Present - 29 (25 in person/4 virtual)