

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK  
BOROUGH COUNCIL PRE/POST MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023**

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A pre/post meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 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.

Council President John Parks called the meeting to order.

**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

**PRE-MEETING**

**AUDIENCE:** 8 (4 in person and 4 virtually)

**McCANDLESS-FRANKLIN PARK AMBULANCE AUTHORITY** – Chief Chris Dell and Board Chair Marcia Caliendo were invited to attend to answer questions regarding the Borough's upcoming annual contribution to MFPAA. Chief Dell noted that both McCandless and Franklin Park will need to adopt a resolution to amend the Articles of Incorporation to extend the term of existence for another 50 years. Chief Dell passed out the Operations Report and noted that they took delivery of a new ambulance unit that is based at the substation on Brandt School Road. MFPAA will hold an Open House on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. They are working diligently to become nationally accredited by this time next year. Chief Dell thanked Council for considering the \$105,500.00 annual donation to MFPAA. Chief Dell reported that monthly meetings are being held with all five municipalities and progress is being made. All municipalities have verbally acknowledged the need to fund the MFPAA in some way. The other municipalities have requested a separate audit. The finances have improved, but they are still losing money. They plan to have their budget done for August. They will continue to pursue funding and continue to pursue that all municipalities they service are part of the Authority and have a vote. There are very positive things going on at MFPAA. Mr. Parks noted that he is working to have the leadership of the five municipalities meet, without staff, to further the process. Chief Dell, State Representative Venkat, State Representative Mercuri, State Senator Williams and State Senator Robinson will also be invited to attend. Chief Dell then answered questions from Council regarding the second requested audit, the status of the Consultant's report, a recent newspaper article, the new ambulance, the utilization data and costs by municipality, and the new Ross/West View Ambulance Authority funding model.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Taylor Ridge Apartments/LaPlace Point sidewalk concept plan – The developer responded quickly to Mr. Phillips' letter. The original sidewalk plan was very expensive, and the developer wants to make adjustments to lower his costs. If Council is in agreement, the developer will provide more details. LSSE reviewed the concept plan and believes it is a good solution. The developer would own and maintain the sidewalk since there is no HOA, and he would have to provide a public access easement. Council concurred that the developer should move forward with providing design plans.
- Pickleball at Old Orchard Park – Email comments were received from pickleball players asking that the Borough permit some hours for play with the regular pickleballs, and the emails were circulated to Council. The current rules that have been carried over from last year only allow the use of the quiet pickleballs from dawn to dusk. There has been a significant decrease in utilization of the courts because pickleball players do not feel that the quiet ball plays the same as the regular ball. There is a capability of adding additional courts in Blueberry Hill Park in the future when looking at the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan and that should be made a priority. Mr. Brower pointed out that the quiet pickleballs are not available for purchase at this time, and they do not show on the manufacturer's website. Council discussed and agreed that the rules will remain the same, but we may have to look at the long-term options for the courts going forward. A Council Parks & Recreation Committee meeting was then scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**AGENDA REVIEW** - The following April 19, 2023 regular meeting agenda items were discussed:

- Public Comments – Mr. Parks will provide a name, address and summary of each public comment email received prior to the deadline today.
- New hire motion amended – The motion to hire the Building Inspection/Zoning Secretary has been amended to also accept her resignation.
- Lease Agreement – A motion was added to authorize a Lease Agreement for some walk along electronic caddies for the Clover Hill Golf Course.
- SHACOG bids – Council can read the individual award for each commodity or refer to the printed agenda.

**NEW LOGO DESIGN OPTIONS** – Mr. John Miller and Ms. Maureen Rooney of the MarketSpace Agency shared new logo designs and mission statements for the Borough.

The regular meeting was held from 8:00 p.m. to 9:14 p.m.

**POST-MEETING**

**NAMING NEW PAVILION IN LINBROOK PARK** – Council discussed and agreed to name the pavilion as the O'Keefe Pavilion and naming the trail as the Lenzner Trail.

**ADVERTISING FOR BICENTENNIAL** – Tom Rooney had suggested a television ad for the Bicentennial. Council discussed and noted that there will be parking issues and a television advertisement is not necessary.

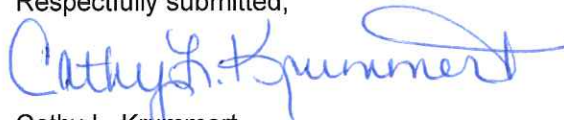
**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS & MAYOR**

- **Mr. Malkin** commented that we have launched the official Franklin Park, PA Facebook page.
- **Mr. Palled** commented that we were named a Banner Community for the second year in a row.
- **Mayor O'Keefe** thanked Council for naming the new pavilion in his honor.
- **Mr. Schwartzmier** requested to discuss the logo designs that were presented in the pre-meeting this evening. Council reviewed the designs and suggested changes will be provided to the company for redesign. Mr. Schwartzmier noted that some Council Members and the Mayor had attended the ALOM Conference and should share information with all Council Members. This will be added to the May work session.
- **Mr. Parks** reminded everyone of the spring road tour on Saturday and suggested that the last stop be in Linbrook Park to participate in the tree planting. He spoke to Projex at the ALOM Conference regarding cyber insurance. Staff indicated that they had previously looked into cyber insurance, but the insurance companies will not provide a quote until the Borough implements dual factor authentication. The premium for this coverage is also very expensive. Council and staff discussed and will proceed to take the necessary steps to meet the cyber insurance requirements. Mr. Parks asked if there was any update on cell tower proposals from additional providers, and Mr. Ebner responded that there was no update.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held to discuss a Police grievance and Yochus litigation.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert  
Borough Secretary