

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL PRE/POST MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023**

A pre/post meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, May 17, 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 Lipresent
Brian S. Malkinpresent
Lucas R. Myslinski, Vice Presidentpresent
Uday Palledpresent
John P. Parks, Presidentpresent
Thomas C. Schwartzmier, Second Vice Presidentpresent
Junior Councilperson Ava DiGiacomopresent
Mayor Dennis E. O'Keefepresent

BOROUGH ENGINEER:

Shawn Wingrove, Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc.present

SOLICITOR:

Harlan Stone, Babst Callandpresent

STAFF:

Zach Brower, Recreation Program Directorpresent
Gary Bucuren, Superintendent of Public Works.....present
Cindy Crain, Finance Director/Borough Treasurer.....present
Rege Ebner, Borough Managerpresent
Walt Healy, Police Chiefabsent
Jim Huff, Manager of Golf Course & Parks Facilitiespresent
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretarypresent
Andy Nock, Assist. Bldg. Insp./Fire & Tech Official.....present
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer.....present
Sam Snyder, Police Lieutenant.....present

PRE-MEETING

AUDIENCE: 9 (7 in person and 2 virtually)

OLD BUSINESS

- Cell/radio service update – Mr. Ebner recommended putting out an RFP to find a consultant who would look out for the Borough's interest. The consultant will review the previous study and make recommendations on how to fix the cell and radio service problems in the Borough. The Borough would then put out an RFP to the tower providers based on the Borough's needs and best interests.
- Wedgewood Drive sidewalk request – Years back, the Borough had installed a sidewalk on one side of Wedgewood Drive but not on the other side. At that time, the HOA had agreed to maintain the sidewalk in the winter, but the Borough would be responsible if the sidewalk needed repair. A resident is now requesting that the Borough install a sidewalk on the other side of Wedgewood, which is a blind bend. Mr. Ebner reached out to the resident regarding the previous agreement with the HOA for winter maintenance, and the resident then reached out to the HOA. The resident believes that the HOA will be agreeable to the winter maintenance for the new sidewalk, but they will have a discussion later this week. Council concurred.

AGENDA REVIEW

- Mr. Stone briefly reviewed several items on the agenda.
- Bliss Residential Land Development – Mr. Junker negotiated an Addendum for a one-year extension for completion, and the Security has been increased by 10% per year. The developer is expected to submit another request for reduction that the Borough will consider prior to requiring the amended Security.

MANAGER'S REPORT DISCUSSION ITEMS

- DCNR Grant Application – The Borough submitted an application to the DCNR requesting \$400,000.00 in funding for the improvements to the Blueberry Patch Playground. The DCNR would like to submit this application through the Land and Water Conservation Fund through the National Parks Service. The requirements would include the Borough providing a cash match, and it is included in the preliminary budget. The park would also have to be deeded as outdoor recreation in perpetuity. The park includes six separate parcels. We would have to combine them into one parcel, but we would have to carve out the Activity Center and the supply piles (millings, mulch, topsoil and the yard waste site) because they are not considered outdoor recreation.
- MS4 Ramblewood Project – The Ramblewood detention pond is a very large detention facility located in the Barrington Plan off Pine Creek Road. The pond is on private property, and we have an access easement that comes out of the Ramblewood Plan between two houses and down a steep hill that could not be accessed by tri-axle trucks. We have to work with the property owner in order to access the pond from his property in the Barrington Plan. The property owner has been willing to work with the Borough, and he has asked that we carve out part of the detention facility as a wet pond. We were able to do that and get both the Conservation District and DEP to sign off and confirm that we will get all of our credits. The property owner is also asking that we approach the pond from the rear by cutting a road back to the rear of the pond. The problem is that there may be red beds in that location. We obtained a proposal from our engineer to do the soil testing at a cost of \$26,000.00. Mr. Ebner will be meeting with the property owner Friday morning to discuss accessing the pond from the front. He will let the owner know that we cannot pay for the road as he requested. The owner could say no, and our only option would be to seize the access to go in and do the work to complete the project. The owner has been working with us so far, but we will have to see where it goes to avoid seizing the property for access.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS & MAYOR

- Mr. Malkin asked about scheduling a Land Use Committee meeting, and it was confirmed that the Committee will meet on June 7th at 6:00 p.m.
- Mr. Schwartzmier will be participating in the June 7th committee meeting and work session via Zoom since he will be on vacation. He discussed the veterans' event for the Bicentennial and noted that he had spoken with Howard Pfeifer, a 100 year old veteran who was part of the invasion of Normandy.
- Mr. Myslinski reminded everyone of the following upcoming events: Festival in the Park/Bicentennial Celebration on June 24th, the Scholarship Golf Outing on July 24th and National Night Out on August 1st.

- **Mr. Parks** noted that Taps Across America is an annual national moment of remembrance that asks Americans, wherever they are at 3:00 p.m. local time on Memorial Day, to pause for a duration of one minute to remember those who have died in military service to the United States. He received a call from a resident asking if Council would consider having a North Allegheny student bugler play taps at this time. Council discussed and concurred to have the bugler play in front of the veterans' memorial at Franklin Elementary. Mayor O'Keefe will reach out to North Allegheny for permission. If not, the bugler could play in front of the municipal building. The Borough will publicize, and it may also be live streamed.

The regular meeting was held from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

POST-MEETING

As there was no further business, no post meeting was held.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert
Borough Secretary