

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022**

A work session of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 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 Jackie DiGiacomopresent
Mayor Dennis E. O'Keefepresent

ENGINEER:

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

SOLICITOR:

Robert Max Junker, 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 Chief.....present
Jim Huff, Manager of Golf Course & Parks Facilitiespresent
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretarypresent
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer.....present

AUDIENCE: 4 (0 in person and 4 via Zoom)

REVIEW OF BOROUGH PENSION PLANS – Jason Staley of Schneider Downs provided investment reports and reviewed the performance of the General Employees' and Police Pension Plans through May 26, 2022.

INTERVIEW CANDIDATES FOR 2022/2023 JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON POSITION – Borough Council interviewed Rajat Reddy and Ava DiGiacomo for the Junior Council Person position for the 2022/2023 school year. Council will discuss the candidates and make a final decision at the July work session.

SUMMER FIELDS PLAN SIDEWALKS – Mr. and Mrs. Merolillo of 2523 Brandt School Road discussed their opposition to the installation of a sidewalk in front of their property, which is one of five lots in the Summer Fields Plan. Council discussed the matter, and it was noted that the plan was approved with sidewalks. The developer was aware of the requirement and has refused to install the sidewalks. The Borough will move forward with the installation of the sidewalks.

OLD BUSINESS - None

AGENDA REVIEW - The following June 15, 2022 regular meeting agenda items were discussed:

- **James Hartman Conditional Use** – Mr. Junker briefly reviewed the application for a barn style garage that is over 1,000 square feet. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022**

- Ordinance 668-2022 – The ordinance is for the acceptance of the dedication of additional right-of-way along Brandt School Road for the installation of the sidewalks in the Summer Fields Plan of Lots.

STAFF REPORTS:

Report by Finance Director/Borough Treasurer

Mrs. Crain provided the following report:

- Over the next few weeks, she will be working on financial projections through the end of the year. She will also be working with the department directors on the 5-year Capital Plan to project out through 2024. The mid-year budget review will be held at the July work session starting at 6:00 p.m.
- It was brought up that Council had discussed moving up the budget process this year. Mrs. Crain and Mr. Ebner will revise the budget timeline.

Report by Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Bucuren provided the following report:

- He has been notified that the cost for the truck body and accessories for the 2023 International cab and chassis has increased. He should be receiving the additional cost information in the near future and an amended motion will be added to the regular meeting agenda.
- They have started backfilling in Franklin Towne, on Crestview Drive and on Wood Acres Court.
- In the next week or so, Mele will start milling the next group of streets which include Franklin Fields, Valley Brooke and West Gate.
- They are continuing to do basin work in Nicholson Woods and Northmont Farms.
- The electric is on at the O'Keefe/Lenzner Pavilion in Linbrook Park.
- The calls regarding stormwater issues have been constant, and he expects them to continue.
- They have a few items to complete on the White Oak Court Project.

Report by Building Inspector/Zoning Officer

Mr. Phillips provided the following report:

- The Planning Commission will hold the Joint Comprehensive Plan kick-off meeting on June 7th.
- In June, the Planning Commission will continue the review of the applications for the WetGo Car Wash and the Nicholson Heights Plan that were tabled in May. There was a brief discussion regarding these applications.
- The Zoning Hearing Board and Building Board of Appeals will consider applications submitted by Tracy Odorisio
- Mr. Malkin asked about the really old outstanding violations, and he asked if there is a plan to clean them up. Mr. Phillips discussed and noted that they are working on the list.

Report by Recreation Program Director

Mr. Brower provided the following report:

- The Linbrook Park gate at the bottom of the hill is closed and locked every night at dusk by the police. The parks crew or police then unlock the gate in the morning. The question came up as to why we are locking the park at night. Chief Healy indicated that the officers go through the park at night, and there is no reason to lock the gate other than during the winter months. Council concurred that the gate will no longer be locked at night except during the winter months.
- The Recreation Board has asked if the Festival in the Park 50/50 raffle winner could be drawn and awarded the night of the Festival. Mr. Brower pointed out several issues with drawing the winner that night. Council discussed and concurred that the winner will not be drawn this year until the Monday after the Festival. It was also noted that Mrs. Crain is looking into digital payments and will report back with more information on June 15th.
- Additional fencing is needed at Field #4 in Blueberry Hill Park for safety reasons. Mr. Brower received a proposal for a 12 ft fence at a cost of \$12,860 under State Contract pricing. Council concurred to move forward, and a motion will be added to the regular meeting agenda.

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022**

Report by Manager of Golf Course & Parks Facilities

Mr. Huff provided the following report:

- The construction of the Community Garden is moving forward, and the fence posts will be installed soon. Dave Graff has offered manure to mix in with the topsoil. Nine of the ten plots have been reserved.
- Mr. Huff was asked if they had sold any quiet pickleballs at the golf course, and he indicated that they have not. There was discussion regarding making the quiet pickleballs available on site in Old Orchard Park for use. Mr. Brower will set out a closed container of balls inside the courts for use.

Report by Borough Engineer

Council had previously received a written report from LSSE. Mr. Wingrove reviewed the following items:

- The 2023 Curb and Gutter Replacement Program is on pace to start soon.
- The Deerfield Estates Plan is slowly moving through their curb work, and they have a few more weeks of curb work remaining before they start to pave. The process has been slow, and they have had issues getting concrete.
- They did a follow up walk through today for the Maintenance Bonds that are expiring for the Estates at Franklin Fields Phase I and Phase II. The developer has taken care of approximately 70% of the items on the initial list. A draft letter was sent to staff for review and an updated punch list will be issued.
- The Borough sent a notice to LaPlace Pointe/Taylor Ridge Apartments regarding the upcoming expiration of their bond. Mr. Wingrove received a call from them today to set up a meeting next week to hopefully move forward to close out this development.
- Mr. Junker indicated that an email was received from the attorney for the Bliss Development regarding the replenishment of their inspection escrow, and they have also challenged a couple of the fees charged. They do intend to move forward with the development.

Report by Chief of Police

Chief Healy provided the following report:

- Dr. Li mentioned the delay in response to the recent school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, and he asked how we can learn from the situation and what we could do better. Chief Healy indicated that the officers walk through the schools 2-3 times per day, and they also participate in active shooter training. They are trained to enter the building immediately to stop the threat. The police have keys to the schools and work with the school district personnel.

All staff members and Mr. Wingrove left the meeting at this time.

MANAGER'S REPORT DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Dinah Bailey, Intern – Mr. Ebner noted that the internship is not quite what she was looking to do, but she will stay through June 17th. She has been gathering samples of logos from other communities, and she is setting up surveys for parks and recreation and communications with residents. She is designing a post card to be mailed to residents that will include the links to both surveys as well as QR codes. Donna Platt has already set up the E-Newsletter, and she is designing a multi color magazine style Borough Newsletter in house using Publisher. We will ask the TAC to provide some guidance regarding policies and procedures for social media.
- Municipal Garden update – Mr. Junker reviewed the manual and application, and he made many changes. They should be ready next week. The garden should be completed by next Friday, weather permitting.
- Green Infrastructure Grant Program update – Mr. Junker is working on the agreements with the homeowners. In the meantime, we have our first four property owners in the pilot program. They are four consecutive houses on Royal Oak Drive. Mr. Ebner will be meeting with Upstream Pittsburgh and the property owners tomorrow.

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022**

- Property purchase and grant application update – Amy Scott from the Babst Calland Real Estate Department is starting to work on the agreement for the property purchase. Financing options and other contingencies need to be included in the agreement. Mr. Ebner noted that the grant application deadline is two weeks from today, and they want to see the agreement submitted as part of the grant application.

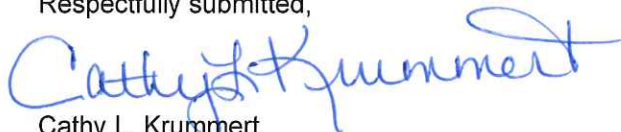
REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Mr. Malkin indicated that he did a seminar today through Brightly Software (formerly Dude Solutions) regarding permitting and applications. He indicated that he was very impressed with the software.
- Mayor O'Keefe and Mr. Palled attended a tour of the Waste Management recycling facility that was very educational.
- Dr. Li attended the North Hills COG meeting, and he asked them how to deal with PennDOT regarding the condition of Nicholson Road. They suggested contacting State Representative Rob Mercuri or State Senator Lindsay Williams to ask them to reach on to PennDOT. Mr. Ebner will contact Rob Mercuri's office.
- Mr. Palled provided an overview of the Waste Management recycling facility tour. He noted that glass is being collected and is being sorted and sifted several times to prevent contamination of other materials. They now have distinct buyers for glass. They are also recycling #1, #2 and #5 plastics.
- Mr. Schwartzmier was ill and missed the road tour, but he drove all of the streets independently and provided his report. He asked about the number of completed Comprehensive Plan surveys and some discussion followed. The neighbor that is renovating the home near him is making great progress.
- Mr. Myslinski was approached about serving on the Strategic Planning Board of the Northern Allegheny Heritage Foundation that operates the small history museum in McCandless.
- Mr. Parks noted that Andy Nock's report indicates concerns regarding the conditions of the fire hydrants in the Borough. He asked if the Borough or West View Water are responsible to update, repair and maintain the hydrants. It was noted that Mr. Nock and Bill Chicots of the fire company are doing an inventory of the hydrants, and they would like to sit down with the Borough and West View Water to find a solution to the problem.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An executive session was held to discuss the Public Works/Parks Contract, the Odorisio litigation and the Davies litigation.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert
Borough Secretary