

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2344 West Ingomar Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15237.

President Martha A. Creese called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Cathy Krummert called the roll:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Martha A. Creese, Presidentpresent
Richard H. Hartman, Second Vice Presidentpresent
Jane A. Hopey, Vice Presidentpresent
Ash K. Marwahabsent
Andrew Hrishenkopresent
Amy E. Sablepresent
Junior Councilperson Brenna Thorpepresent
Mayor G. Reynolds Clarkpresent

ENGINEER:

Bob Nedzesky, W.E.C. Engineerspresent

SOLICITOR:

Robert Max Junker, Law Offices of Ira Weisspresent

STAFF:

Don Dorsch, Chief of Police.....present
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary.....present
Ronald Merriman, Superintendent of Public Workspresent
Brienne Morris, Assistant Parks & Recreation Directorpresent
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officerpresent
Ambrose Rocca, Borough Managerpresent
Bill Schweitzer, Golf Course Superintendentpresent
Jim Watenpool, Parks & Recreation Directorpresent

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Mrs. Sable moved the minutes of the January 16, 2008 pre/post meeting, the January 16, 2008 regular meeting and the February 6, 2008 work session, be approved, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT - Mr. Rocca read the January 2008 Treasurer’s Report. January 2008 receipts totaled \$556,705.19 and January 2008 expenditures totaled \$285,180.49. Year-to-date receipts totaled \$556,705.19 and year-to-date expenditures totaled \$285,180.49. Mrs. Hopey moved the Treasurer’s Report be accepted as read, seconded by Mrs. Sable and carried unanimously.

POLICE REPORT – Mayor Clark read the Police Report and activity report for the month of January 2008. Mr. Hartman recommended the Police Report be filed with the Police Secretary.

BUILDING INSPECTION REPORT - Mr. Phillips read the Building Inspection Report for January 2008. Mr. Phillips issued 31 permits and collected \$16,918.00 in fees. Total value of construction was \$1,576,020.00.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION - Mrs. Creese announced that an executive session was held on February 6, 2008 to discuss a personnel matter and an executive session was also held this evening to discuss a real estate matter and a personnel matter.

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COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Ms. Mary Ann Stearns, 2505 Matterhorn Drive – Ms. Stearns complimented the public works department for the excellent job on the roads handling the snow and ice.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS – Mrs. Hopey moved Council authorize the payment of the bills, which have been reviewed and approved since the last meeting, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION EQUIPMENT SHOW – Mrs. Sable moved to grant approval for the American Public Works Association, Western PA Chapter, to use Blueberry Hill Park and all facilities for an equipment show to be held on June 5, 2008, and to close the park to the public for this event, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 942-2008, DELETING AND REPLACING APPENDIX F, DETAIL F-1 (STREET CROSS SECTION DRAWING) TO THE SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 942-2008. Mrs. Hopey moved Resolution No. 942-2008 deleting and replacing Appendix F, Detail F-1 (street cross-section drawing) to the Borough's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance pursuant to Section 184-10 of the Code of the Borough of Franklin Park, seconded by Mr. Hartman. Mrs. Sable moved to make a secondary motion to refer Resolution No. 942-2008 to the Planning Commission for them to review and to make a recommendation to council, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously.

RATIFY RETAINING ATTORNEY WAYNE V. DELUCA TO PROVIDE AN OPINION REGARDING MR. HRISHENKO'S PARTICIPATION IN EXECUTIVE SESSIONS – Mrs. Hopey moved to ratify retaining Attorney Wayne V. DeLuca of the Law Firm of Eddy, DeLuca, Gravina & Townsend to provide an opinion regarding Mr. Hrishenko's participation in executive sessions, discussions or votes regarding pending litigation when he is a named party in the litigation, seconded by Mr. Hartman. A vote was then taken. Mr. Hrishenko voted "no" and the other four council members voted "aye". The motion carried.

GRANT EASEMENT TO ROBERT AND LISA HOHMAN ACROSS LINBROOK PARK – Mr. Hrishenko moved to grant a 20' wide easement to Robert and Lisa Hohman across Linbrook Park, starting on Big Sewickley Creek Road and following the alignment of an existing municipal storm sewer to the Big Sewickley Creek, contingent upon review and approval of the easement drawing by the Borough Engineer and Solicitor, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously.

AGREEMENT WITH MARGERY Q. GUST FOR UNDERGROUND STORM DETENTION FACILITY – Mr. Hartman moved to authorize the Agreement with Mrs. Margery Q. Gust, granting the Borough an easement to place an underground storm detention facility on the Gust property, seconded by Mr. Hrishenko and carried unanimously.

RIGHT OF WAY AND EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH MARGERY Q. GUST – Mrs. Sable moved to enter into a Right-of-Way and Easement Agreement with Margery Q. Gust, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously.

AWARD BID FOR JENKINSON DRIVE STORM SEWER PROJECT – Mrs. Hopey moved to award the bid for the Jenkinson Drive Storm Sewer Project, Alternate #1 to R&B Contracting & Excavation of West Homestead, PA, at a cost of \$168,925.75, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

PURCHASE OUTDOOR BLEACHERS FOR SPORTS FIELDS – Mrs. Sable moved to authorize the purchase of nine (9) Outdoor Aluminum Bleachers from Recreation Resource, Inc. for sports fields in Borough parks at a cost of \$18,315.00 under Costars Contract No. 014-074, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously.

RUSTIC RIDGE PLAN, DENY ACCEPTANCE OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS – Mr. Hartman moved to deny the request by Rustic Ridge Group for the Borough to accept the public improvements in the Rustic Ridge Plan, in accordance with the Borough Engineer's recommendation letter dated February 15, 2008, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously.

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RUSTIC RIDGE PLAN, PERFORMANCE BOND REDUCTION – Mrs. Hopey moved the Performance Bond in the amount of \$26,462.12 issued for the Rustic Ridge Subdivision Plan located off Wexford Bayne Road be reduced by \$24,613.71 leaving a balance of \$1,848.41, seconded by Mr. Hrishenko and carried unanimously.

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF SAM LIBERTO FROM THE EAC – Mrs. Sable moved to accept the resignation of Sam Liberto from the Environmental Advisory Council, effective February 5, 2008, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

APPOINT DONNA L. PLATT AS SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST – Mr. Hrishenko moved Donna L. Platt be appointed as Secretary/Receptionist effective March 10, 2008 at an annual salary of \$25,000, seconded by Mrs. Sable and carried unanimously.

CHANGE MARY JO LEDONNE'S TITLE TO EIT CLERICAL ASSISTANT – Mrs. Hopey moved to change Mary Jo LeDonne's title from EIT Clerk to EIT Clerical Assistant, effective January 19, 2008, seconded by Mr. Hrishenko and carried unanimously.

INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 561-2008, CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH NORTH PITTSBURGH TELEPHONE COMPANY – Mr. Junker introduced Ordinance No. 561-2008 authorizing the execution of a Cable Franchise Agreement between the Borough and North Pittsburgh Telephone Company. This ordinance will be properly advertised for enactment at a future meeting.

INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 562-2008 AUTHORIZING MTSA TO SERVICE LOT AND BLOCK 1067-K-201 – Mr. Junker introduced Ordinance No. 562-2008 authorizing the McCandless Township Sewer Authority (MTSA) to service Lot and Block 1067-K-201 that lies within the Borough and designating MTSA as the exclusive provider of sanitary sewer service for said lot. This ordinance will be properly advertised for enactment at a future meeting.

BOROUGH MANAGER – Mr. Rocca commented on the Hohman easement across Linbrook Park, noting that the purpose of the easement is to allow the property owner to install a small treatment facility. The State requires that the property owner have the easement to install their small treatment facility. This should not impact the operation of the park.

MRS. HOPEY – Mrs. Hopey announced that Northland Library would be celebrating their 40th Anniversary on October 25, 2008, and the foundation will hold a dinner and fundraiser on that day. She will have more information at next meeting or she can be contacted directly via email.

Council recently received a packet of information that included Codes of Conduct for other municipalities. After reading this information, Mrs. Hopey remarked that in the past council and the mayor were criticized for making comments and expressing personal opinions at the end of the public meeting. She noted that council and the mayor cannot express their personal opinions during the public comment portion of the meeting. Personal remarks and comments may be made at the end of the meeting. If the public is interested in hearing these comments, the public should stay for the entire meeting. Mr. Hrishenko noted that the example Codes of Conduct provided were from Colorado and Australia, and they were not from Pennsylvania.

JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON, BRENNA THORPE – Miss Thorpe noted that the spring musical at North Allegheny High School would be "Bye Bye Birdie". The musical will run from March 12-16 and tickets will go on sale February 25.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

- Mr. Merriman thanked Ms. Stearns for her compliment to the public works department.
- He thanked council for approving the use of Blueberry Hill Park for the APWA equipment show in June.
- He has received, and is reviewing, over 140 applications for two laborers positions.
- They have been performing snow and ice removal with the recent weather, and they are catching up on some other projects.

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BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING OFFICER

- The Planning Commission reviewed three applications last night: Franklin Run, Baumgartner office building and the Children's Hospital site. All applications were tabled until the March meeting. On February 14 the Zoning Hearing Board denied the application by Mr. Simon and the T-Mobile application was continued until April.

ASSISTANT PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Miss Morris reported that they met with the printer today to provide final revisions for the Newsletter, and they should begin printing the Newsletter next week.
- The Winter Special Needs Program was held at Ross Township Community Center on Saturday, February 16 with 29 special needs individuals attending.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Mr. Watenpool has been working on preparing the documents for the construction of a new pavilion at Blueberry Hill Park. Three components for the pavilion will be advertised for bid.
- They are continuing to work on tree removal in Linbrook Park and trees are continuing to fall due to the recent weather.
- They started to install the new park signs in Blueberry Hill Park.
- He noted that the purchase of the nine aluminum bleachers is required to comply with safety laws. The bleachers that will be purchased are five-seat high, and they will have railings around them. The borough will purchase a total of 9 bleachers. The Ingomar/Franklin Park Athletic Association will reimburse the borough for the purchase of 6 and the Lacrosse Association will reimburse the borough for the purchase of 1.
- The first Black History Month Celebration was held on February 15 with approximately 60 in attendance. It was a good evening and will probably become an annual event.
- In the beginning of March, Mr. Watenpool and Miss Morris will attend the PA State Parks & Recreation Society Conference at Seven Springs. They were recently notified by the State that they would receive an Excellence in Programming award at the conference for the Pioneer History Hands On Living Program.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT/MANAGER

- Mr. Schweitzer noted that they are continuing the work that he noted in his monthly report to council.
- He is getting bids together for a new booster pump for the irrigation system.
- He anticipates that the course should reopen full-time in approximately 4 weeks.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Mr. Hartman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy L. Krummert
Borough Secretary