

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2344 West Ingomar Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15237.

Council President Amy Sable called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Cathy Krummert called the roll:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Richard H. Hartman, Second Vice President..... present
Jane A. Hopey, Vice President..... present
Andrew Hrishenko..... present
Ash K. Marwah..... present
David J. Quatchak..... present
Amy E. Sable, President present
Junior Councilperson Brennan McGovern absent
Mayor Dennis E. O'Keefe present

ENGINEER:

Bob Nedzesky, W.E.C. Engineers present

SOLICITOR:

Robert Max Junker, Law Offices of Ira Weiss..... present

STAFF:

Don Dorsch, Chief of Police present
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary present
Ronald Merriman, Superintendent of Public Works absent
Brienne Morris, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director absent
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer..... present
Ambrose Rocca, Borough Manager..... present
Bill Schweitzer, Golf Course Superintendent present
Jim Watenpool, Parks & Recreation Director present

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Mrs. Hopey moved the minutes of the January 20, 2010 regular meeting and the February 3, 2010 work session, be approved, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously. Mrs. Hopey moved the minutes of the January 20, 2010 pre/post meeting, as corrected, be approved, seconded by Mr. Marwah. Mrs. Sable called for a vote on the motion. Mrs. Hopey voted “No” and all other members of Council voted “Aye”. The motion carried.

TREASURER’S FINANCIAL REPORT - Mr. Rocca read the January 2010 Treasurer’s Financial Report. January 2010 revenues totaled \$442,394.31 and January 2010 expenditures totaled \$400,813.10. Mr. Marwah moved the January Treasurer’s Financial Report be accepted as read, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously.

POLICE REPORT – Mayor O’Keefe read the Police Report and activity report for the month of January 2010. Mr. Hartman recommended the Police Report be filed with the Police Secretary.

BUILDING INSPECTION REPORT - Mr. Phillips read the Building Inspection Report for January 2010. Mr. Phillips issued 4 permits and collected \$5,801.00 in fees. Total value of construction was \$754,430.00.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION - Mrs. Sable announced that an executive session was held on January 20, 2010 to discuss the Franklin Nursery litigation and a Teamsters Union grievance and an executive session was held on February 3, 2010 to discuss a Police personnel matter, the Police DROP Plan, a Teamsters Union Grievance Memorandum of Understanding and Franklin Nursery litigation.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Bill Lafayette, 1520 Sandhurst Drive – Mr. Lafayette indicated that he was present to complain about letters written by the Borough Manager and Councilwoman Jane Hopey pertaining to stop signs installed on Sandhurst Drive. Mr. Lafayette then read a prepared statement regarding the installation of the stop signs.

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

ACCEPT THE NOTICE OF RETIREMENT FOR CHARLES J. GRUBER, EQUIPMENT OPERATOR – Mr. Hartman moved to accept the notice of retirement from Charles J. Gruber effective January 31, 2010 after 30 years of service to the borough, seconded by Mr. Marwah and carried unanimously.

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF ELLEN KAELIN FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE – Mrs. Hopey moved to accept the resignation of Ellen Kaelin from the Scholarship Selection Committee, effective immediately, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

REAPPROVAL, SLADE SITE PLAN REVISED – Mr. Hrishenko moved reapproval be granted for the Slade Site Plan Revised for revisions made by Barbara Slade for site improvements on the property located at 2615 Nicholson Road in the M-2 zoning district, with all of the conditions as set forth when the application was originally granted preliminary and final approval on June 17, 2009, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

PURCHASE PORTABLE RADIOS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT – Mrs. Hopey moved to authorize the purchase of 12 Kenwood portable radios with accessories from Mobile Radio Service Inc., Pittsburgh, PA 15201, for the police department at a cost of \$12,095.00 under State Contract #4400005180, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BOROUGH & THE GENERAL TEAMSTERS LOCAL 249 REGARDING GRIEVANCES – Mr. Quatchak moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough and General Teamsters Local 249 suspending without prejudice a grievance filed on September 9, 2009 and a grievance filed on November 5, 2009, seconded by Mrs. Hopey and carried unanimously.

DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM FEBRUARY 5, 2010 SNOW STORM – Mrs. Hopey moved to approve the Declaration of Disaster Emergency resulting from the snow storm which started on Friday, February 5, 2010 and shall expire March 17, 2010, seconded by Mr. Hartman. Mrs. Sable called for a vote on the motion. Mr. Quatchak voted “No” and all other members of Council voted “Aye”. The motion carried. Mr. Rocca noted that Franklin Park was fortunate that we had the manpower, equipment and materials necessary to respond to the emergency without any outside help.

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The snow began on Friday and by the end of Saturday all roads were open and passable. On Sunday public works opened up the roads more and cleared cul-de-sacs. We received many calls from residents, including calls from residents on private lanes asking that we take care of private lanes. In one case we plowed a private driveway for a resident whose husband had been in the hospital since the snow began. The Declaration of Emergency will help to justify the work on roads that the borough would otherwise not do. Council will try to establish a policy to guide the staff as to how and when we can go on private lanes and driveways. This will also ensure a more equal delivery of services to all residents on private lanes. Mr. Rocca reassured the residents that no matter what, in case of an emergency, we will do whatever is necessary to get the emergency services to a residence.

INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 579-2010 ACCEPTING A PORTION OF WEST INGOMAR ROAD FROM ALLEGHENY COUNTY – Mr. Junker introduced Ordinance No. 579-2010 accepting and adopting as a borough street a 0.83 mile long portion of West Ingomar Road (Allegheny County Road Number 1158-01), accepting and adopting all appurtenances thereto as Borough facilities and empowering and directing the proper officers to enter into a Road Transfer Agreement with Allegheny County. This ordinance will be properly advertised for enactment at a future meeting.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BOROUGH & THE FRANKLIN PARK OFFICERS ASSOCIATION REGARDING THE POLICE DROP PROGRAM – Mrs. Hopey moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough and the Franklin Park Officers Association to make changes to the DROP program as described in Addendum 1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, and authorizing the solicitor to prepare an ordinance to amend The Franklin Park Borough Police Pension Plan Document to incorporate the provisions of the DROP program, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

BOROUGH MANAGER – Mr. Rocca commented that the guys have been out working diligently since the snowfall. We have gone through just about the entire year's budget for snow removal. We typically budget \$238,000 for salt and \$25,000 for overtime. Right now we have exceeded the annual total for snowfall. Council will probably have to allocate additional funds for snow removal before the end of the year.

MAYOR O'KEEFE – Mayor O'Keefe thanked the public works department for keeping everything in order during the recent snow storm. He received very positive emails and comments. Mayor O'Keefe announced that the police department is currently investigating two daylight burglaries. He reminded everybody to keep alert for suspicious activity, don't be afraid to call 9-1-1 and keep all property secure. The police department provides safety alert email messages which are a wonderful tool to help with crime prevention.

MR. HRISHENKO – Mr. Hrishenko thanked public works for removing snow from main roads and secondary roads.

MR. QUATCHAK – Mr. Quatchak noted that he had received a call on Saturday from a resident whose street had not been plowed. He drove around the western part of the borough around 4:30 p.m. and that particular street had not been plowed. He noted that every street that he was driving on, as well as every street he passed, had been plowed and was somewhat passable. Within 1-1/2 hours, they had plowed the street of the resident who had called him. Mr. Quatchak noted that the City of Pittsburgh streets were not in good condition, and it took 1-1/2 weeks to see bare pavement on the street where he works. He concluded by noting that within five hours of a 28" +/- snowfall, there was pavement visible on borough streets thanks to the public works department.

MRS. HOPEY – Mrs. Hopey thanked Mrs. Sable and Mayor O'Keefe for attending the Bookmobile Fundraiser at Northland Library. She also offered kudos to the public works department for an outstanding job.

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MR. MARWAH – Mr. Marwah commended the public works department for what they have done to remove snow in a timely manner. In the future, Mr. Marwah recommends erring on the side of caution, even if we overdo it a little bit.

MR. HARTMAN – Mr. Hartman thanked public works and noted that we have the best roads in Western Pennsylvania.

MRS. SABLE – Mrs. Sable expressed her thanks to public works for doing such a fine job.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

- Mr. Merriman was on vacation.

CHIEF OF POLICE

- Chief Dorsch noted that public works did an outstanding job. He also noted that if there is a medical emergency, the fire department and police department have 4-wheel drive vehicles for emergencies.

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING OFFICER

- Mr. Phillips had no report.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Mr. Watenpool reported that the parks department has primarily been plowing snow and keeping the parks open. They had to cancel a few evening activities, however no Activity Center rentals had to be canceled. The parks employees did go out at times and help with snow plowing. They also plow the fire department and the substation.
- The Recreation Newsletter will be mailed tomorrow and it is already on the borough website.
- The Black History Month celebration will be held next Friday at the Activity Center at 7 p.m.
- The Special Needs Family Fun Day will be held at the Ross Township Community Center on Saturday, February 27th.
- They are already receiving many registrations for summer programs.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT/MANAGER

- Mr. Schweitzer had no report.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy L. Krummert
Borough Secretary

Audience Present - 14