

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, June 20, 2007 at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2344 West Ingomar Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15237.

President Martha Creese called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Cathy Krummert called the roll:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Laura A. Coombs.....present
Martha A. Creese, Presidentpresent
Richard H. Hartmanpresent
Jane A. Hopey, Second Vice President.....present
James W. Lawrence, Vice President.....present
Ash K. Marwahpresent
Junior Councilperson Kaitlyn Kirbypresent
Mayor G. Reynolds Clarkpresent

ENGINEER:

Bob Nedzesky, W.E.C. Engineers.....present

SOLICITOR:

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 Workspresent
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officerpresent
Ambrose Rocca, Borough Managerpresent
Bill Schweitzer, Golf Course Superintendent.....present
Jim Watenpool, Parks & Recreation Director.....present

SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR KAITLYN KIRBY, OUTGOING JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON –

Mayor Clark presented the outgoing Junior Councilperson, Kaitlyn Kirby, with a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the Mayor and Council. He noted that Kaitlyn had a wonderful year of service during the 2006/2007 school year. Kaitlyn thanked Mayor Clark and Council and noted that she enjoyed this experience. She indicated that serving as the Junior Councilperson helped her to decide to major in finance and public policy in college. This position helped her learn so much and she never thought such a multitude of subjects would come up in local government.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Mrs. Coombs moved the minutes of the May 16, 2007 pre/post meeting, the May 16, 2007 regular meeting and the June 6, 2007 work session, be approved, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT - Mr. Rocca read the May Treasurer’s Report. May 2007 receipts totaled \$1,005,003.86 and May 2007 expenditures totaled \$499,303.29. Year-to-date receipts totaled \$2,632,372.88 and year-to-date expenditures totaled \$1,966,426.24. Mr. Lawrence moved the Treasurer’s Report be accepted as read, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously. Mr. Marwah noted that the total of all of the accounts stands at approximately \$3.76 million; about the highest he has seen. Mr. Rocca noted that the fund balances may continue to go up for one more month. He added that June is typically the month that we have the most money because most of the property taxes are received in May and June.

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POLICE REPORT – Mayor Clark read the Police Report and activity report for the month of May 2007. Mr. Hartman recommended the Police Report be filed with the Police Secretary.

BUILDING INSPECTION REPORT - Mr. Phillips read the Building Inspection Report for May 2007. Mr. Phillips issued 34 permits and collected \$24,766 in fees. Total value of construction was \$2,434,045.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Ms. Susan Duffy, 1624 Carriage Lane – Ms. Duffy once again asked that the March 21, 2006 letter from the solicitor's office and the information in the letter be rectified and the letter be retracted. Mr. Rocca indicated that there is an ongoing dispute regarding the maintenance of Carriage Lane that must be resolved between the neighbors.

Mr. William Harris, 1625 Carriage Lane – Mr. Harris stated that he has maintained Carriage Lane since 1955 and he would like to continue to do so.

Ms. Eleanor Wist, 2348 Fairlawn Drive – Ms. Wist attended the recent Senior Meeting and noted that Mr. Watenpool had mentioned that the Borough was considering a transportation system for senior citizens. Ms. Wist encouraged the Borough to proceed and keep the service affordable. It was noted that the Borough is exploring a transportation service, but there are many liability issues that must be considered. The possibility of exploring a cooperative effort with North Hills Community Outreach was also mentioned.

Ms. Wist also commended Mr. Jim Watenpool and Miss Brianne Morris for all of their work coordinating the monthly Senior Meetings.

Mr. Sachin Kshirsagar, 1617 Settlers Drive – Mr. Kshirsagar spoke regarding an accident in front of his home a few weeks ago. He thanked the police, fire and ambulance personnel as well as his neighbors for their response, cooperation and support. Mayor Clark also thanked Mr. Kshirsagar for his cooperation and assistance during this accident.

Mr. Pete Sehgal, 1628 Settlers Drive - Mr. Sehgal thanked the police department, Chief Dorsch, Mayor and Council for the quick response to the accident on Settlers Drive. Everything was coordinated in such a professional manner. Mayor Clark noted that Sergeant Snyder, Officer Lestitian and Officer Wain responded to this accident.

Orycia Hammerschmitt, 2374 Rochester Road – Ms. Hammerschmitt asked when the Rochester Road bridge project would be complete. The Borough has been informed that the bridge will reopen on July 10. It was also noted that the bridge on Nicholson Road would be closed next year.

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

BLOOM PLAN OF LOTS, KING JOHN DRIVE - Mr. Lawrence moved preliminary and final approval be granted for the Subdivision Application submitted by William & Judith Bloom for the Bloom Plan of Lots, located at 1522 King John Drive in the R-2 zoning district, to subdivide 1 lot into 2 lots, contingent upon compliance with the Building Inspector/Zoning Officer's Staff Report dated May 30, 2007 and the letter from W.E.C. Engineering dated May 31, 2007, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

NEW HEIGHTS CHURCH OF GOD, LETTER OF CREDIT REDUCTION – Mr. Marwah moved Letter of Credit No. 2006004 in the amount of \$154,803.00 issued by Parkvale Bank for the Saints John and Paul Parish for the New Heights Church of God, be reduced by \$147,109.80 leaving a balance of \$7,693.20 in accordance with the Borough Engineer's recommendation letter dated June 18, 2007, seconded by Mr. Lawrence and carried unanimously.

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AWARD BID FOR HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – Mr. Hartman moved Anderson Equipment Company, Bridgeville, PA be awarded the bid for one (1) new 2007 Komatsu hydraulic excavator for the Public Works Department at a cost of \$74,450.00, and the Secretary be authorized to return the bid securities to the unsuccessful bidders, seconded by Mrs. Coombs and carried unanimously.

PURCHASE OF WALK-BEHIND MOWER FOR GOLF COURSE – Mrs. Hopey moved to authorize the purchase of a Ferris walk-behind mower from CADCO through Three Rivers Equipment Co., Inc. of Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 for the Clover Hill Golf Course under State Contract No. 2420-01, at a cost of \$4,447.00 after the trade-in of a 1987 Toro walk-behind mower, 1988 Cushman Truckster and a 1995 Ransomes walk-behind mower, seconded by Mr. Lawrence and carried unanimously.

HIRE CURTIS R. KALMEYER AS GREENSKEEPER AT GOLF COURSE – Mrs. Coombs moved to ratify the hiring of Curtis R. Kalmeyer of Franklin Park as a Greenskeeper at Clover Hill Golf Course effective May 23, 2007, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

APPROVE EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION PROGRAM – Mrs. Hopey moved to approve the Employee Recognition Program, fostering the commitment of the skilled, productive employees through a recognition program designed to influence in a positive manner the governance of Franklin Park Borough, seconded by Mr. Lawrence and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 929-2007, PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE TO IMPLEMENT DESIGN STANDARDS FOR MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 929-2007. Mr. Lawrence moved Resolution No. 929-2007 concerning a proposed amendment to the Borough's Zoning Ordinance, which will implement design standards for multi-family housing, be adopted, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously.

GRANT RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR NATURAL GAS PIPELINE ON CLOVER HILL GOLF COURSE -
Mr. Marwah moved to authorize the granting of a right-of-way on the Clover Hill Golf Course property to Equitrans and Equitable Resources Company for the purpose of relocating a 16-inch natural gas pipeline, seconded by Mrs. Coombs and carried unanimously.

BOROUGH MANAGER – Mr. Rocca stated that Kaitlyn would be missed. He also noted that the Ingomar Garden Club has awarded the Borough the "Garden of the Month" award for June. He thanked Bill Schweitzer for planting the landscape materials around the building and Mr. Watenpool for maintaining the grounds.

SOLICITOR – Mr. Junker commented that Resolution No. 929-2007, adopted tonight, creates a pending ordinance. A public hearing regarding the proposed changes to the zoning ordinance is scheduled for August 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. A copy will also be submitted to the Planning Commission and Allegheny County Planning and it will be made available at borough office for inspection.

MR. LAWRENCE – Mr. Lawrence stated that Council is concerned about the Carriage Lane matter, but the problem is between the neighbors. He noted that it is difficult to sit here and be criticized knowing that there is not a lot we can do about it. He stated that it is a lot easier to work with your neighbor(s) than it is to constantly battle.

MRS. CREESE – Mrs. Creese stated that she agreed with Mr. Lawrence and noted that everyone has tried to encourage the residents of Carriage Lane to settle this matter among themselves.

MR. MARWAH – Mr. Marwah stated that he also agreed with Mr. Lawrence regarding the Carriage Lane issue. He also commended Mr. Watenpool for promoting the Borough with all of the parks and recreation activities. He has received compliments from many people both within and outside of Franklin Park.

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MR HARTMAN – Mr. Hartman thanked everyone in the audience who stayed until the end of the meeting. He also thanked the solicitor's office for recommending the adoption of the resolution this evening concerning a proposed amendment to the Borough's Zoning Ordinance.

MAYOR CLARK – Mayor Clark noted that the Carriage Lane issue discussed earlier this evening is in court and the Borough cannot respond. He believes that it comes down to an interpretation of a private lane that is also a public right-of-way. He agreed with Council's comments that this is an issue with the neighbors. He also went on record that one of the main areas of concern was Franklin Nursery and they are trying to be a good neighbor. Mayor Clark stated that he and Council have been listening and will continue to follow the legal advice provided.

The members of Council and staff wished Kaitlyn good luck.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

- No report.

CHIEF OF POLICE

- No report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING OFFICER

- No report.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Mr. Watenpool wished Kaitlyn good luck and thanked her for her assistance over the past year to help with recreation.
- Mr. Watenpool thanked everyone for the comments this evening regarding the parks & recreation department. He noted that he has many successful partnerships with staff and outside agencies that make it all possible.
- Current and upcoming parks and recreation programs include: The Ultimate Sports Program has been very successful with 92 children registered from ages 6 through 13; The Playground Program for started this week for 3-5 year-olds; The movie Charlotte's Web will be shown on Friday, June 22; and the Festival in the Park will be held on Saturday, June 23.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT/MANAGER

- Things are going well at the course. The U.S. Open had a great impact on play. The advertisements and publicity are working to attract new players. Mr. Schweitzer thanked Council for their support and for purchasing a new mower for the golf course.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Mr. Hartman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Coombs and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy L. Krummert
Borough Secretary