

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026**

The reorganization meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Monday, January 5, 2026 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.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cristen Fiffik.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS - District Magistrate Giuseppe Rosselli administered the Oath of Office to the following newly elected officials:

J. Curtis Neil, Council Member, Ward 3
Uday Palled, Council Member, Ward 1
Venu Paruvelli, Council Member, Ward 2
Cristen Fiffik, Mayor
Kristin Losco, Real Estate Tax Collector

Pledge of Allegiance

Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary called the roll:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Laura Czekaj present
Jiang Li present
Brian S. Malkin present
Curtis Neil present
Uday Palled present
Venu Paruvelli present
Junior Councilperson Ishani Aluguvelli present
Mayor Cristen Fiffik present

BOROUGH ENGINEER:

John Valinsky, LSSE Civil Engineers and Surveyors..... present

SOLICITOR:

Robert Max Junker, Babst Calland present

STAFF:

Zach Brower, Recreation Program Director present
Gary Bucuren, Superintendent of Public Works..... present
Rege Ebner, Finance Director/Treasurer present
Zach Filous, Borough Manager present
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary present
Aron Leach, Police Chief present
Andy Nock, Assist. Bldg. Insp./Fire & Tech Official..... present
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer..... absent

NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

President:

Mayor Fiffik accepted nominations for the office of President of Borough Council.
Mr. Malkin moved to open the floor for nominations, seconded by Mr. Neil.
Mr. Malkin nominated Mr. Palled for President of Borough Council.
A unanimous vote was cast for Mr. Palled as President of Borough Council.

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Vice President:

Mayor Fiffik accepted nominations for the office of Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Malkin nominated Dr. Li as Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Neil nominated Ms. Czekaj as Vice President of Borough Council. Ms. Czekaj declined the nomination.

Mr. Palled moved to close the nominations for Vice President of Borough Council, seconded by Mr. Neil.

A unanimous vote was cast for Dr. Li as Vice President of Borough Council.

Second Vice President:

Mayor Fiffik accepted nominations for the office of Second Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Malkin nominated Ms. Czekaj for Second Vice President of Borough Council.

Mr. Palled moved to close the nominations for Second Vice President of Council, seconded by Mr. Neil.

A unanimous vote was cast for Ms. Czekaj as Second Vice President of Borough Council.

Mayor Fiffik then turned the meeting over to Council President Palled.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

REORGANIZATION BUSINESS

AUTHORIZE PROPER OFFICERS TO SIGN CHECKS – Dr. Li moved the President of Council be authorized to sign checks, and in his absence the Vice President of Council or Second Vice President of Council be authorized to sign checks, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

DESIGNATE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES – Ms. Czekaj moved the official depositories for the Borough funds for the year 2026 be: Charles Schwab Institutional, First National Bank, Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust, Pennsylvania Treasurer's INVEST Program, and West View Savings Bank, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

RETAIN ROBERT MAX JUNKER AND THE FIRM OF BABST, CALLAND, CLEMENTS & ZOMNIR, P.C. AS SOLICITOR FOR 2026 – Ms. Czekaj moved Council retain Robert Max Junker and the firm of Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir, P.C. as Borough Solicitor for the year 2026 at a retainer of \$7,200 per year, which shall remain in effect until superseded by future Borough Council action, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

APPOINT LSSE CIVIL ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS AS BOROUGH ENGINEER FOR 2026 – Mr. Malkin moved LSSE Civil Engineers and Surveyors be appointed Borough Engineer for the year 2026 at a retainer of \$3,600 per year, which shall remain in effect until superseded by future Borough Council action, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

APPOINT CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC. AS STORMWATER ENGINEER FOR 2026 – Ms. Czekaj moved Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. be appointed Stormwater Engineer for the year 2026, which shall remain in effect until superseded by future Borough Council action, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

RATIFY EXPENDITURE POLICY – Ms. Czekaj moved to ratify Resolution No. 987-2010, adopted September 15, 2010, setting forth a municipal expenditure policy to safeguard borough resources and prevent unauthorized expenditure of Borough funds, and to authorize the administrative staff to distribute the policy to Borough boards/commissions, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

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RESOLUTION NO. 1408-2026 RECOGNIZING THE FRANKLIN PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1 FOR 2026 – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1408-2026. Mr. Malkin moved to adopt Resolution No. 1408-2026 recognizing the Franklin Park Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 as the fire company for the Borough of Franklin Park for the year 2026, seconded by Ms. Czekaj and carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 1409-2026 APPOINTING FIRE POLICE OFFICERS FOR 2026 – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1409-2026. Dr. Li moved to adopt Resolution No. 1409-2026 appointing Fire Police Officers for the year 2026, seconded by Mr. Neil and carried.

DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER – Ms. Czekaj moved the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette be designated as the official newspaper of the Borough for the year 2026, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

APPOINT ROBERT SALVATORA TO THE BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS – Ms. Czekaj moved Robert Salvatora be appointed to the Building Board of Appeals to fill the unexpired term of Roy Werner, which term will expire December 31, 2029, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

REAPPOINT JIM PORCELLI TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL – Mr. Malkin moved Jim Porcelli be reappointed to the Environmental Advisory Council for a three-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2028, seconded by Ms. Czekaj and carried.

APPOINT ALAN CECH TO THE NORTHLAND LIBRARY BOARD – Ms. Czekaj moved Alan Cech be appointed to the Northland Library Board for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2030, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

REAPPOINT COLIN LAMPARK TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION – Dr. Li moved Colin Lampark be reappointed to the Planning Commission for a four-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2029, seconded by Ms. Czekaj and carried.

REAPPOINT CHRISTINA MALKIN TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION – Mr. Neil moved Christina Malkin be reappointed to the Planning Commission for a four-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2029, seconded by Dr. Li. Mr. Malkin abstained from voting since Christina Malkin is his wife, and he filed the required abstention form with the Borough Secretary. The motion carried.

REAPPOINT LIAM McNAMARA TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION – Ms. Czekaj moved Liam McNamara be reappointed to the Planning Commission for a four-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2029, seconded by Mr. Neil and carried.

REAPPOINT DEBRA HOGG TO THE RECREATION BOARD – Ms. Czekaj moved Debra Hogg be reappointed to the Recreation Board for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2030, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

REAPPOINT MARY KEEGAN TO THE RECREATION BOARD – Mr. Paruvelli moved Mary Keegan be reappointed to the Recreation Board for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2030, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

REAPPOINT BRITTANY LATTANZO TO THE RECREATION BOARD – Mr. Malkin moved Brittany Lattanzo be reappointed to the Recreation Board for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2030, seconded by Ms. Czekaj and carried.

REAPPOINT LINDA CLAUTTI TO THE SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE – Ms. Czekaj moved Linda Clautti be reappointed to the Scholarship Selection Committee for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2030, seconded by Mr. Neil and carried.

REAPPOINT JAMES LAWRENCE TO THE SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE – Dr. Li moved James Lawrence be reappointed to the Scholarship Selection Committee for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2030, seconded by Mr. Neil and carried.

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RESOLUTION NO. 1410-2026, REAPPOINTING JAMES MCGRAW TO THE ZONING HEARING

BOARD – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1410-2026. Mr. Malkin moved to adopt Resolution No. 1410-2026 reappointing James McGraw to the Zoning Hearing Board for a five-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2030, seconded by Mr. Neil and carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 1411-2026, REAPPOINTING ZACHARY LAPLANTE AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE

ZONING HEARING BOARD – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1411-2026. Mr. Neil moved to adopt Resolution No. 1411-2026 reappointing Zachary Laplante as an Alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2028, seconded by Ms. Czekaj and carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 1412-2026, REAPPOINTING NATHAN SMITH AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE

ZONING HEARING BOARD – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1412-2026. Mr. Malkin moved to adopt Resolution No. 1412-2026 reappointing Nathan Smith as an Alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term, which term will expire December 31, 2028, seconded by Ms. Czekaj and carried.

APPOINT JIM PORCELLI AND LETTY SAVAGE AS CO-CHAIRS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL

ADVISORY COUNCIL – Ms. Czekaj moved to appoint Jim Porcelli and Letty Savage as Co-Chairs of the Environmental Advisory Council, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 1413-2026 RATIFYING THE REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR'S BOND –

Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1413-2026. Ms. Czekaj moved to adopt Resolution No. 1413-2026 ratifying the Real Estate Tax Collector's Bond for the four-year period beginning January 1, 2026 through January 1, 2030, in the amount of \$1,500,000.00, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

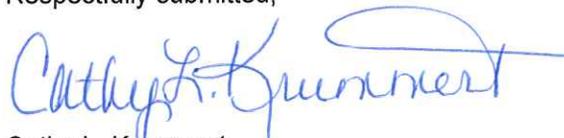
COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None

Mr. Junker stated that Council would adjourn this meeting and reconvene in the conference room for the work session that is also open to the public.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Mr. Malkin moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert
Borough Secretary

Audience Present: 67