

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2344 West Ingomar Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15237.

Council President Jim Hogg called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance (led by Cub Scouts from Den 171)

Cathy Krummert called the roll:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

James W. Hogg present
Jiang Li present
Brian S. Malkin present
John P. Parks present
Thomas C. Schwartzmier present
Susan Striz present
Junior Councilperson Nathan Gierczynski present
Mayor Dennis E. O'Keefe present

ENGINEER:

Michael Malak, Senate Engineering Company present

SOLICITOR:

Robert Max Junker, Babst Calland present

STAFF:

Zach Brower, Recreation Program Director present
Gary Bucuren, Superintendent of Public Works present
Rege Ebner, Borough Manager present
Walt Healy, Police Chief present
Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary present
Tim Phillips, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer present
Bill Schweitzer, Manager of Golf Course & Parks Facilities absent

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - Mr. Parks moved the minutes of the December 18, 2019 pre/post meeting, the December 18, 2019 regular meeting, the January 6, 2020 reorganization meeting and the January 6, 2020 work session meeting, be approved, seconded by Dr. Li. Mr. Junker announced that there are three new Council members (Dr. Li, Mr. Malkin and Ms. Striz) who were not on Council for all of the meetings just listed, but they are permitted to vote. The motion was voted on and was carried.

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT - Mr. Ebner read the December Treasurer's Financial Report. Year-to-date revenues totaled \$9,469,129.08 representing 104.21% of the budget and year-to-date expenditures totaled \$9,721,560.05 representing 91.83% of the budget. Mr. Malkin moved the December Treasurer's Financial Report be accepted as read, seconded by Ms. Striz and carried.

POLICE REPORT – Mayor O'Keefe read the Police Report and activity report for the month of December 2019. The Mayor announced that a new drug take back box is now available in the police department and more information will be forthcoming on the borough website and in the upcoming newsletter. The Mayor commended Sergeant Kevin Lestitian and Sergeant Ron Skillen who saved a child who was choking during a Christmas service at Orchard Hill Church. Mr. Parks recommended the Police Report be filed with the Police Secretary.

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FIRE COMPANY REPORT - Mr. Parks read the Fire Company Report for December 2019. The fire company responded to 350 fire related calls in 2019, which is 106 calls over the previous year (2018); a 43% increase in calls over the previous year.

BUILDING INSPECTION REPORT - Mr. Phillips read the Building Inspection Report for December 2019. Mr. Phillips issued 14 permits and collected \$7,935.00 in fees. Total value of construction was \$981,815.00.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. Hogg announced that Borough Council held executive sessions on January 6, 2020 to discuss the Gray litigation, personnel, a public safety issue and labor relations and on January 15, 2020 to discuss personnel.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Shiv Sharma, Recruiter for the United States Census Bureau – Mr. Sharma announced that the Census Bureau is hiring for the upcoming census to make sure everyone is counted. Workers will be sent out to the homes of those who do not respond to the census. The hours are flexible, and they are paying \$23.50/hour from April 1st to September 26th and will reimburse for mileage. Applications are available online, and you must be 18 years of age as of March 31st.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS - Mr. Parks moved Council authorize the payment of the bills, which have been reviewed and approved since the last meeting, seconded by Ms. Striz and carried.

TAPH WORKFORCE CAMPUS OFFICE BUILDING, LAND DEVELOPMENT SITE REVISIONS -

Mr. Parks moved to reapprove the TAPH Workforce Campus Office Building Land Development site revisions for landscaping and deletion of the public sidewalks as originally approved at 2563 Brandt School Road, and the developer shall pay into the fund to relocate sidewalks to another location in the borough in an amount acceptable to the Borough Engineer and all other plans and details shall remain in force as originally approved by Resolution No. 1196-2019 on May 15, 2019, seconded by Dr. Li. Mr. Steven Victor of Victor Wetzel Associates and the developer Kimberly Simon were present. Mr. Victor indicated that the existing physical features make installing the sidewalk difficult and trees would have to be removed. The developer would pay approximately \$24,000 into the sidewalk fund to be used for sidewalks in another location. It was noted that there are some very mature trees in the area that stabilize the hillside. The motion was then voted on and carried.

INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 656-2020, ACCEPTING & ADOPTING PUBLIC STREETS AND APPURTENANCES IN THE RIDGE FOREST PRD AND ESTATES AT RIDGE FOREST PLAN –

Mr. Junker introduced Ordinance No. 656-2020 accepting and adopting as borough streets Villanova Court, Georgetowne Drive, Notre Dame Court, Syracuse Court, Pittsburgh Court, DePaul Court, and all appurtenances in the Ridge Forest Planned Residential Development Plan of Lots and the Estates at Ridge Forest Plan of Lots. This ordinance will be properly advertised for enactment at the February regular meeting.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY BOROUGH ASSOCIATION DELEGATE - Mr. Malkin moved Council appoint Susan Striz as the Delegate to the Allegheny County Boroughs Association, seconded by Mr. Parks and carried.

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NORTH HILLS COG DELEGATE & ALTERNATE - Mr. Parks moved Council appoint Tom Schwartzmier as the Delegate and Susan Striz as the Alternate for the North Hills Council of Governments, seconded by Mr. Malkin and carried.

NORTHLAND LIBRARY FIRST QUARTER PAYMENT - Ms. Striz moved the Treasurer's office be authorized to prepare a check in the amount of \$91,958.50 payable to Northland Library for the first quarter payment of 2020, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

NOTIFY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF NEW FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER POSITION - Mr. Schwartzmier moved to notify the Civil Service Commission of a new full-time Police Officer position as included in the 2020 budget and to request the certification of an eligibility list, seconded by Ms. Striz and carried.

PURCHASE 2020 CATERPILLAR WHEEL LOADER FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - Dr. Li moved to authorize the purchase of one new 2020 Caterpillar 926M Wheel Loader for the Public Works Department from Cleveland Brothers, Cranberry Township, PA, under State Contract No. 4400019950, (under Parent Contract #4400019935) at a cost of \$89,400.00, after trade-in of one 2013 Caterpillar 924K Wheel Loader in the amount of \$64,500.00, seconded by Mr. Schwartzmier and carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 1216-2020, TRADE-IN OF 2013 CATERPILLAR WHEEL LOADER – Mr. Junker summarized Resolution No. 1216-2020. Mr. Schwartzmier moved to adopt Resolution No. 1216-2020 authorizing the trade-in of one 2013 Caterpillar 924K Wheel Loader, Serial Number 0PWR01714 in the amount of \$64,500.00, to Cleveland Brothers toward the purchase of one new 2020 Caterpillar 926M Wheel Loader previously authorized for the Public Works Department, seconded by Mr. Parks and carried.

PURCHASE 2021 INTERNATIONAL CAB AND CHASSIS FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - Mr. Malkin moved to authorize the purchase of one 2021 International cab and chassis from Hunter Truck Sales and Service of Butler, PA for the Public Works Department at a cost of \$87,995.72 under COSTARS Contract No. 025-101, seconded by Ms. Striz and carried.

PURCHASE DUMP BODY AND ACCESSORIES FOR 2021 CAB AND CHASSIS - Mr. Parks moved to authorize the purchase of the following accessories: dump body, hydraulics, bed, tailgate spreader and plow from Stephenson Equipment dba Walsh Equipment of Prospect, PA, for the new cab and chassis authorized above for the Public Works Department at a cost of \$62,920.00 under COSTARS Contract No. 025-021, seconded by Dr. Li and carried.

SOLICITOR – Mr. Junker thanked the new members and returning members of Council for his reappointment at the reorganization meeting, and he looks forward to another year.

MAYOR O'KEEFE – Mayor O'Keefe thanked the cub scouts for a wonderful job leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance this evening, and he noted that Nate Gierczynski, Junior Councilperson, is an Eagle Scout. The Mayor is looking forward to 2020 and working with all of the council members.

MR. PARKS – Mr. Parks congratulated the cub scouts and noted that he was also involved in the scouts. Mr. Parks stated that he had spoken to two separate residents who had commended the police officers and the police department on the way they handled two recent incidents.

MS. STRIZ - Ms. Striz thanked the cub scouts for leading the Pledge of Allegiance this evening.

MR. SCHWARTZMIER - Mr. Schwartzmier stated that he too was a cub scout when he grew up in the area. He thanked the cub scouts for leading the Pledge of Allegiance and wished them good luck in the upcoming Pinewood Derby.

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NATHAN GIERCZYNSKI, JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON - Nate thanked the cub scouts and encouraged them to stick with the scouts and become an Eagle Scout. It was one of the most rewarding experiences. He noted that for his Eagle Scout project he built raised garden boxes at the Concordia nursing home on Nicholson Road that could be enjoyed by the residents.

MR. HOGG - Mr. Hogg thanked the scouts for attending and participating this evening.

BOROUGH ENGINEER - Mr. Malak thanked Council for the reappointment.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

- Mr. Bucuren stated that the Public Works Department will be collecting Christmas trees through this week.
- They are preparing for predicted snow this weekend, and he reminded residents not to park on the streets.
- Mr. Bucuren congratulated and welcomed Mr. Malkin, Dr. Li and Ms. Striz.

CHIEF OF POLICE

- Chief Healy stated that information has been posted on the borough website regarding the new drug take back box in the Police Department.
- The Police Department participated in the annual collection and delivery of toys for patients at Children's Hospital. It is a very rewarding event for the officers.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - None

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Mr. Parks moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Striz and carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert
Borough Secretary

Audience Present - 26