

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK  
BOROUGH COUNCIL PRE/POST MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026**

---

A pre/post meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Wednesday, January 21, 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.

Council President Uday Palled called the meeting to order.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Laura Czekaj, Second Vice President .....present  
Jiang Li, Vice President .....present  
Brian S. Malkin .....present  
J. Curtis Neil .....present  
Uday Palled, President .....present  
Venu Paruvelli .....present  
Junior Councilperson Ishani Aluguvelli .....present  
Mayor Dennis E. O'Keefe .....present

**BOROUGH ENGINEER:**

Shawn Wingrove, 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 .....present

**PRE-MEETING**

**AUDIENCE:** 0

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- CityScape Wireless Communications Master Plan final draft – Susan Rabold of CityScape joined the meeting via Zoom to answer Council’s questions regarding the final draft. Council agreed to accept the final draft and make final payment. Ms. Rabold recommended prioritizing code amendments to allow facilities in the areas where they are needed.

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA REVIEW:** Mr. Junker reviewed the agenda including the following agenda items.

- The new police officer, Shayne Zappi, will be sworn in. Mr. Junker reviewed the process for police hiring.
- LSSE provided an updated letter regarding The Flaherty-Munsch Plan late yesterday after the agenda was posted. Since this was a minor change, the new LSSE letter date has been inserted, and it is highlighted.

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK  
BOROUGH COUNCIL PRE/POST MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026**

---

- Mr. Filous was able to secure the fourth and final Instrument for the Declaration for Restrictions and Covenants from a property owner that was impacted by the Matterhorn Basin Retrofit MS4 Project, the last step in the process. By signing the document, the property owner acknowledges that there is a stormwater pond within a Borough easement on their property. The Borough has upgraded the pond and will maintain it. The other three documents were secured in November.
- The Karabin condemnation litigation was settled in December. As part of the settlement, they agreed to execute an Easement Agreement rather than going through condemnation. Council received a copy of the final version, but because of the settlement agreement, when they signed it, when they were due payment, and when we were required to withdraw the condemnation, we moved forward and had it executed and recorded on Friday. That is the reason a ratification motion is required.
- Motions were added for the purchase and trade-in of golf carts. Mr. Junker reviewed bidding and joint purchasing requirements.
- A motion was added to advertise for trucking services bids.

**MANAGER'S REPORT DISCUSSION ITEMS** – No items for discussion.

**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS & MAYOR**

- **Ms. Czekaj** asked if the FCC license had been renewed for the public works radios. Mr. Bucuren stated that he had tried to contact someone a few times, but he has not received any response. Ms. Czekaj also asked about a timeline for the new bridges on the Veterans Trail, and Mr. Filous stated that he is still waiting for the grant paperwork. He noted that the grant funds awarded are much less than requested, and the project will have to be redesigned and constructed by Borough staff. It was also suggested that the bridges could be an Eagle Scout Project. A public event could be held once the project is complete and veterans and scouts could be invited. Mr. Filous will keep everyone updated. Ms. Czekaj spoke to one of the residents regarding the requested sidewalk along Reis Run Road and found out that they are not excited about a sidewalk being installed or maintaining it. They are open to creative solutions and collaborating with residents in the two neighborhoods who have requested the sidewalk. Ms. Czekaj will connect the homeowner and Bob Brecht to see if they can come up with something creative. Ms. Czekaj asked about the subdivision in the meeting packet, and Mr. Phillips indicated that they are moving a lot line.
- **Mr. Malkin** reported that the Land Use Committee met earlier this evening with Mr. Malkin, Mr. Palled, Ms. Czekaj, Mayor Fiffik, Mr. Filous, and Mr. Phillips in attendance to discuss data centers and batteries. They created a draft ordinance that they will review and then send on to all of Council for review.
- **Mr. Palled** discussed Council committee assignments and noted that he attended the North Hills COG meeting where the discussions focused on salt supplies.

The regular meeting was held from 8:00 p.m. to 8:21 p.m.

**POST-MEETING**

As there was no further business, no post meeting was held.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy L. Krummert  
Borough Secretary