

**Township of Franklin
Township Committee Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2023**

Call to Order:

Time: 7:00 PM

Mr. Doyle: Present

Mr. Marsh: Present

Mrs. Flaim: Present

Mayor Bruno: Present

Mr. Keen: Present

Salute to the Flag:

The Township Clerk led the Salute to the Flag.

Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was forwarded to the official Township newspapers, posted on the bulletin board and Township Website on November 3, 2022. This meeting is being videotaped and will be on Channel 9.

Deputy Chief DeCesari remembered Officer Shisler from Deptford Township. He thanked the Committee for their help in getting K-9 Zeus trained and on duty. K-9 Titan had many accomplishments and drug seizures. K-9 Titan and Zeus were brought in by Officer David Gallo.

Motion to R-108-23 Recognizing the Retirement of K-9 Officer Titan

Motion: Flaim

Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes

Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes

Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

Motion to R-109-23 Recognizing the Authorizing and Activation of K-9 Officer Zeus

Motion: Flaim

Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes

Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes

Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

First Public Portion:

Motion: Flaim

Second: Doyle

Nancy Kennedy Brent thanked the Officers who work with the K-9's. She said that Mike Marsh and Heather Flaim were very instrumental with the K-9's.

Cindy Merckx, Oak Avenue, spoke about the new recreation grant. She thanked Mr. Finley for being instrumental in getting the grant. She spoke about Malaga Lake Park needing some attention. Ms. Flaim spoke about the Hockey flooring.

Motion to Close: Flaim

Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

Motion to Approve Correspondence and Reports

Motion: Flaim

Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

Motion to Approve Minutes April 25, 2023

Motion: Flaim

Second: Doyle

All In Favor: Unanimous except Mr. Keen abstained since he was absent

Motion to Approve Bill List

Motion: Flaim

Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes

Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes

Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

Motion to Approve Raffle:

Motion: Flaim

Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

Motion to Approve Solicitor's Permit

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

Motion R-106-23 Accepting And Acknowledging Receipt of FY 2023 Recreation Improvement Grant Award Notification

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

Motion to R-107-23 Authorizing the Tax Collector To Grant Tax Exemption for a Totally Disabled Veteran

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

Motion to R-110-23 Appointing Martin Schwartz to the Franklin Township Historical Commission in Accordance with the Township Code

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

Motion to R-111-23 Authorizing the Tax Collector To Grant Tax Exemption for a Totally Disabled Veteran

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

Public Portion:

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

Nancy Kennedy, spoke about mailers for campaigns.

Renee Pistilli, spoke about Ms. Flaim voting against Decesari. She spoke about sprawl and going with the majority. Ms. Flaim explained her position.

Mr. Kennedy, Fries Mill Road, spoke about switching parties. He spoke about the candidates. Mr. Doyle and Mr. Kennedy spoke about Tax Abatements and who approved.

Kristina Ridgeway, Malaga Park Drive, spoke about the tax abatement.

Leah Vassallo, 560 Delsea Drive, spoke about the Tax abatement vote and Solar Panels ordinances.

Austin Brent, St. George St, spoke about who he is voting for.

DPW: Brian Nicholson spoke about cleaning up the retention basins throughout the town. Mulching is done at the parks and Community Center. Spring leaf cleanup is complete. Shred event On May 20.

PD: Deputy Chief DeCesari discussed his monthly report and the great job his Officers are doing. Aggressive Driving patrol was completed.

Administrator: Matthew Finley discussed the Township tax lien sales and \$300,000 of taxes that were not being paid.

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

Committee Reports:

Mr. Marsh discussed the golf tournament and the fundraising.

Ms. Flaim congratulated Officer Guzman on being Officer of the Month. She gave condolences to Officer Shisler's family. She wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

Mr. Keen said he attended the Communications meeting. The audio and video is being reviewed for improvements. He attended the Gloucester County EDC meeting and they are promoting South Jersey filming locations. The Environmental Committee did a park clean up.

Mr. Doyle said Brian Nicholson is doing a great job with DPW. He said the PD has been doing a great job and the morale is high. He said Administrator Finley has done a great job with the budget and all the improvements.

Mayor Bruno said the golf tournament was a huge success. He said the parks look great and Brian Nicholson is working on the playground improvements. He also said the PD is doing a great job.

Adjournment:

Motion: Flaim

Second: Doyle

Time: 7:58 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Freijomil
Municipal Clerk