

**Township of Franklin  
Township Committee Meeting Minutes  
August 8, 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.

**Motion to Open Public Hearing on O-10-23 Privately-Owned Salt Storage**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

**No one came forward.**

**Motion to Close Public Hearing on O-10-23**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

**Motion to Table O-10-23 Privately-Owned Salt Storage**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes

Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes

Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to Open Public Hearing on O-11-23 Tree Removal-Replacement**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

**Mrs. Merckx asked about the ordinance. Mrs. Flaim said it was from the DEP and stormwater management.**

**Motion to Close Public Hearing on O-11-23**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

**Motion to Table O-11-23 Tree Removal-Replacement**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

Roll Call:

Mr. Doyle: Yes

Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes

Mayor Bruno: Yes

Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to Open Public Hearing on O-12-23 Bond Ordinance Providing for Various 2023 General Capital Improvements by and in the Township of Franklin Appropriating \$1,804,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,713,800 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

Dave Marshall, New Road, asked about the DPW bonding for vehicles. Mr. Finley explained what the purchases were for and the savings for buying the roll off.

**Motion to Close Public Hearing on O-12-23**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

All in Favor: Unanimous

**Motion to Adopt O-12-23 Bond Ordinance Providing for Various 2023 General Capital Improvements by and in the Township of Franklin Appropriating \$1,804,000 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,713,800 Bonds or Notes to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof**

Motion: Flaim	Second: Doyle
Roll Call:	
Mr. Doyle: Yes	Mr. Marsh: Yes
Mrs. Flaim: Yes	Mayor Bruno: Yes
Mr. Keen: Yes	

**Motion to Open Public Hearing on O-13-23 Supplementing Chapter 138, Entitled Affordable Housing, by Adding Section 138-11 Entitled “Affordable Housing Regulations” of the Code of the Township of Franklin to Address the Requirements of the Fair Housing Act, the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls, and the Township’s Affordable Housing Obligations**

Motion: Flaim	Second: Doyle
All in Favor: Unanimous	

Chris Sayers, Malaga Park Drive, spoke about the settlements in other towns surrounding Franklin Township. Mr. Lyons gave a summary of Affordable Housing lawsuits. He explained that Franklin does not have public water or sewer and the protections the Township has. Mr. Sayers is concerned that it is concentrated in Malaga. Mr. Lyons explained the Township’s limitation on public sewer.

Marie Sheared, Newfield, asked what kind of houses will be built. Mayor Bruno said there is no plan to build homes. Mr. Lyons said that any approvals by builders would have to go through the proper channels and any builder will have to bring water and sewer to the area.

Dave Marshall, New Road, spoke about Affordable Housing and his history. He spoke about crime and property values. He spoke about water and sewer being part of the settlement.

Harry Kennedy, 1578 Fries Mill Road, spoke about sewer and water being brought into town and other projects in the Township.

Gary Evans, 67 Malaga Terrace, spoke about high density housing and problems that may come with it. He would like to have developers start a youth center.

John Mathiesen, Grant Avenue, spoke about water pollution and the streams.

Mark DeLoisen, Fries Mill Road, spoke about opposition to the Affordable Housing Ordinance.

Morris Reichman, Newfield, spoke about the selection of the properties on the overlay map. He said the infrastructure could not handle more development.

Sean Donoughy, Harris Avenue, spoke about the rural development and wildlife.

Cynthia Nolan, Grubb Road, spoke about her street and the traffic on it. She commented that housing values may go down.

Debbie Bird, Lake Road, said that her farm was chosen as the overlay zone. Mayor Bruno explained that her farm cannot be taken and she does not have to sell.

Dan Bliss, Sandpiper Road, spoke about moving here because it is rural. His concern is the water. Mr. Doyle said that this is a state mandate and nothing that the Township determined. Mr. Lyons said all towns in the State are mandated by this and it has been ongoing since 1975.

Nancy Kennedy, 711 St. George St, is concerned about the properties chosen. Ms. Brent said it would be right to table it. Mrs. Flaim asked when it has to be back to the state? Mr. Lyons said we are already on an extension.

Barbara Butler, 458 Blackwood Avenue, said she is concerned about crime since she is handicapped.. She thinks there should be a three way stop on her street.

George Frie, 1158 Washington Avenue, asked about the one lump property. Mr. Lyons said it was addressed by getting “credits” on existing housing.

Chris Burton, Fries Mill Road, said he is concerned with crime and the increase in children going to the school system.

**Motion to Close Public Hearing on O-13-23**

Motion: Flaim	Second: Doyle
All in Favor: Unanimous	

**Motion to Table O-13-23 Supplementing Chapter 138, Entitled Affordable Housing, by Adding Section 138-11 Entitled “Affordable Housing Regulations” of the Code of the Township of Franklin to Address the Requirements of the Fair Housing Act, the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls, and the Township’s Affordable Housing Obligations**

Motion: Flaim	Second: Doyle
Roll Call:	
Mr. Doyle: Yes	Mr. Marsh: Yes
Mrs. Flaim: Yes	Mayor Bruno: Yes
Mr. Keen: Yes	

**Motion to Table O-14-23 Amending Chapter 253 Land Development, to Establish Inclusionary Affordable Housing Overlay Zones, O-15-23 Replacing Chapter 138, Affordable Housing, Article I, Development Fees, of the Code of the Township of Franklin, O-16-23 Amending the Planning**

**and Zoning Board Checklists to Address the Requirements of a Settlement Agreement and Order Entered in the Case of IMO Township of Franklin (GLO-L-901-15) Addressing the Township's Affordable Housing Obligations.**

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  
 No One came forward.  
 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 July 11, 2023

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
 All In Favor: Unanimous

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 Raffles

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
 All in Favor: Unanimous

Motion to Approve Solicitors Permit

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
 All in Favor: Unanimous

**Motion to Table R-167-23 Adopting an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Spending Plan, R-168-23 Adopting the Affirmative Marketing Plan for the Township of Franklin, R-169-23 Resolution to Appropriate Funds or Bond in the Event of a Shortfall in Funding for the Township's Affordable Housing Programs, R-170-23 Endorsing the Township's Third Round Housing Plan Element and Fair Share Plan, R-171-23 Appointing a Municipal Housing Liaison**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-172-23 Providing For The Combination Of Certain Issues And Determining The Form And Other Details Of The Offering Of \$4,809,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023 Of The Township Of Franklin, In The County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey And Providing For The Sale Of Such Bonds**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-173-23 Authorizing State Contract Use for Purchases for the Year 2023**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-174-23 Appointing A Risk Management Consultant Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland Counties Municipal Joint Insurance Fund**

Motion: Flaim                                Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-175-23 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-176-23 Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Refund OPRA Fees Charged in Error**

Motion: Flaim                                Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-177-23 Authorizing the Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer to Refund Taxes Paid In Error**

Motion: Flaim                                Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-178-23 Authorizing the Issuance of a Duplicate Tax Sale Certificates Pursuant to NJSA 54:5-52.1**

Motion: Flaim                                Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-179-23 Approving the Purchase of a Development Easement on the Farm Property of Catherine LaRose and Martin LaRose, Known as Block 5802 Lot 1**

Motion: Flaim                                Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

Motion to Open

Chris Sayers, Malaga Park Drive, spoke about the purchaser of the property on Delsea Drive. He said the purchaser is a junk dealer.

**Motion to R-180-23 Approving And Authorizing The Sale Of Township Owned Properties Known As: Grant Avenue, Block 2001 Lot 6, 1255 Porchtown Road, Block 3502 Lot 21, Grant Avenue, Block 1802 Lot 16, Grant Avenue, Block 1802 Lot 17, 4024 Tuckahoe Road, Block 601 Lot 35, Delsea Drive, Block 2102 Lot 13, Sheridan Avenue, Block 802 Lot 23.01**

Motion: Flaim                                Second: Keen  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Abstain                                Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-181-23 Authorizing The Township Of Franklin Administrator To Enter Into A Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) With The New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association Local 122 (Franklin Township Superior Officers)**

Motion: Flaim                                 Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                 Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                 Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-182-23 Authorizing The Township Committee Of The Township Of Franklin To Enter An Agreement To Provide Two School Resource Officers For The Franklin Township School District For The 2023-2024 School Year**

Motion: Flaim                                 Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                 Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                 Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-183-23 Authorizing The Township Committee Of The Township Of Franklin To Enter An Agreement To Provide Two School Resource Officers For The Delsea Regional School District For The 2023-2024 School Year**

Motion: Flaim                                 Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                 Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                 Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-184-23 Appointing Kam L. Sachetti As Part Time School Crossing Guard, Due To Resignation Of Karen Finelli**

Motion: Flaim                                 Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                 Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                 Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-185-23 Requesting The Director Of The Division Of Local Government Services To Authorize The Insertion Of A Special Item Of Revenue In The 2023 Budget Of The Township Of Franklin, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey**

Motion: Flaim                                 Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                 Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                 Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-186-23 Requesting The Director Of The Division Of Local Government Services To Authorize The Insertion Of A Special Item Of Revenue In The 2023 Budget Of The Township Of Franklin, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey**

Motion: Flaim                                 Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                 Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                 Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-187-23 Requesting The Director Of The Division Of Local Government Services To Authorize The Insertion Of A Special Item Of Revenue In The 2023 Budget Of The Township Of Franklin, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey**

Motion: Flaim                                 Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                 Mr. Marsh: Yes  
 Mrs. Flaim: Yes                                 Mayor Bruno: Yes  
 Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-188-23 Requesting The Director Of The Division Of Local Government Services To Authorize The Insertion Of A Special Item Of Revenue In The 2023 Budget Of The Township Of Franklin, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey**

Motion: Flaim                                 Second: Doyle  
 Roll Call:  
 Mr. Doyle: Yes                                 Mr. Marsh: Yes

Mrs. Flaim: Yes                      Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-189-23 Requesting The Director Of The Division Of Local Government Services To Authorize The Insertion Of A Special Item Of Revenue In The 2023 Budget Of The Township Of Franklin, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey**

Motion: Flaim                      Second: Doyle  
Roll Call:  
Mr. Doyle: Yes                      Mr. Marsh: Yes  
Mrs. Flaim: Yes                      Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-190-23 Requesting The Director Of The Division Of Local Government Services To Authorize The Insertion Of A Special Item Of Revenue In The 2023 Budget Of The Township Of Franklin, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey**

Motion: Flaim                      Second: Doyle  
Roll Call:  
Mr. Doyle: Yes                      Mr. Marsh: Yes  
Mrs. Flaim: Yes                      Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-191-23 Requesting The Director Of The Division Of Local Government Services To Authorize The Insertion Of A Special Item Of Revenue In The 2023 Budget Of The Township Of Franklin, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey**

Motion: Flaim                      Second: Doyle  
Roll Call:  
Mr. Doyle: Yes                      Mr. Marsh: Yes  
Mrs. Flaim: Yes                      Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-192-23 Requesting The Director Of The Division Of Local Government Services To Authorize The Insertion Of A Special Item Of Revenue In The 2023 Budget Of The Township Of Franklin, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey**

Motion: Flaim                      Second: Doyle  
Roll Call:  
Mr. Doyle: Yes                      Mr. Marsh: Yes  
Mrs. Flaim: Yes                      Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-193-23 Awarding Contract To Arawak Paving Co., Inc., For Professional Services In Connection With The Dutch Mill Road Resurfacing - Phase V – Project In The Township Of Franklin**

Motion: Flaim                      Second: Doyle  
Roll Call:  
Mr. Doyle: Yes                      Mr. Marsh: Yes  
Mrs. Flaim: Yes                      Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to Table R-194-23 Awarding Contract To Neri's Construction & Rental, Inc., For Professional Services In Connection With The Lacey Rae Drive Basin Mitigation Project In The Township Of Franklin**

Motion: Flaim                      Second: Doyle  
Roll Call:  
Mr. Doyle: Yes                      Mr. Marsh: Yes  
Mrs. Flaim: Yes                      Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-195-23 Amending Resolution R-130-23 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-196-23 Authorizing The Cancelling Of Tax Sale Certificate 23-00041 Sold In Error And Refund The Purchase Funds In The Amount Of \$78,220.65**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
Roll Call:  
Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes  
Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-197-23 Approving Consent Order Between Nancy Kennedy And The Township Of Franklin**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
Roll Call:  
Mr. Doyle: Yes Mr. Marsh: Yes  
Mrs. Flaim: Yes Mayor Bruno: Yes  
Mr. Keen: Yes

**Motion to R-198-23 Appointing Jennifer Metzger To Full Time Senior Lunch Program Coordinator To Supply Daily Senior Lunch Program**

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  
Dave Marshall, New Road, asked about zoning board meetings where the applicant had to be postponed due to absentee and proposed a joint board. Political signs were discussed again on billboards.  
Leah Vassallo, 560 Delsea Drive, asked why Mr. Doyle abstained from the vote. Mr. Doyle said he abstained because someone he knows may have bought a property at the land sale.  
Harry Kennedy, Fries Mill Road, commented on the tragedy in Buena. He commended the Committee on tabling the ordinances for Affordable Housing.  
Chris Sayers, Malaga Park Blvd, thanked the Committee for tabling the ordinances. Mr. Lyons explained how he argued that Meredith Farms predated the litigation. He discussed COAH litigation and Mr. Lyons said the Township will join it if they are successful.  
Motion to Close:  
Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle

**Committee Reports:**

**Mr. Keen said his thoughts and prayers are with the family of the Buena explosion. EDC met about Meredith Farms. Environmental asked to be involved in the Piney Hollow Park project.**  
**Mr. Marsh said Community Day is upcoming. He congratulated Brian Zimmer on his retirement.**  
**Mrs. Flaim also congratulated Mr. Zimmer. She commended the Police Department.**  
**Mr. Doyle also commended the Police Department on their work.**  
**Mayor Bruno said National Night Out was a huge success. Mayor Bruno said he attended Brian Zimmers retirement. He commended the Police Department on their work.**

**Adjournment:**

Motion: Flaim Second: Doyle  
Time: 9:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Freijomil  
Municipal Clerk