Franklintown Borough Council Meeting February 7, 2024

Meeting called to order by President M. Adams @ 7:05 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Council Members: M. Adams, D. Steidler, D. Isenberg, D. Bible, K. Kunkle, K. Metzger; Mayor Jim Adams; Engineer, P. Brath; and Solicitor, B. Kerns.

Motion Made by K. Kunkle to add items to New Business for this meeting. D. Steidler seconded this motion, and it was carried forward. Items were added to New Business.

Police and Fire Reports were pre-circulated in the meeting packet, with Brian Taylor from the Wellsville Fire Company providing additional event dates.

Public Comment:

Tim Hildebrand requested authorization for Ethan Stills as a new coordinator for NEMA, under Title 35 section 75, which mandates municipal sign-off for staff changes. The motion to authorize the secretary to sign the form was made, seconded by Kelly, and carried.

Ken Kemper (Zoning Inquiry): Discussed zoning officer consultation, property setbacks, and the classification of a property at 33 West/South Water as a corner lot. Advised to hire a private engineer for further clarification.

Discussion Topics

701 E Cabin Hollow Rd – Kevin Anderson is to be notified about the park rec fee requirement before his occupancy permit issued. Secretary to collect all permit fees.

NO previous month's minutes due to technical difficulties.

The council discussed email policies and social media guidelines, referencing the PA Municipal Records Manual, which the borough has adopted.

A resolution was made to adopt the destruction of audio records policy, contingent upon the approval of written minutes.

Financial Reports given as Profit and Loss; Balance Sheet. K. Kunkle motioned to approve January bills as submitted D. Steidler seconded, motion carried.

Kelly moved to approve the payment of bills.

Committee Reports:

Park Committee (Teresa Adams): Presented draft minutes, including updates on DCNR prevailing wage, ordinance revamping, and monetizing of donated labor and materials for match money. Discussed public awareness and funding for park projects.

Old and New Business

Crosswalks: Discussion on implementing crosswalks for safer pedestrian crossing along Route 194.

Street Commission: D. Bible confirmed as the street commissioner.

Concerns were raised about Republic Waste's service consistency, with suggestions for recourse per the existing contract.

Wilsons, and Fire Company West Avenue original notarized deeds were handed to B. Kerns at this meeting.

ARPA Funds: Discussion on the allocation and obligation of ARPA funds, with a note that 2024 is the deadline for obligating these funds, with usage extended to 2026.

Solicitor B. Kerns provided sample policies for email and social media Policies for council's consideration. Emphasized the importance of using official channels for borough business to ensure transparency and compliance.

Discussed considerations for transitioning to paperless operations and technology upgrades for borough official communication.

Audit Requirements: Discussed the need for detailed bank statements and bill listings to meet audit requirements.

Borough Dumpster Removal: Matt proposed the removal of the borough dumpster, with D. Isenberg seconding. The motion was carried, with plans to replace it with trash totes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM, motioned by K. Metzger and seconded by D. Bible.