

MINUTES OF WORK MEETING OF DECEMBER 8, 2021

The work meeting of the Frelinghuysen Township Committee was held at the Township Municipal Building, 210 Main Street, Johnsonburg, New Jersey on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 and as called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mayor, Chris Stracco.

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT:

Under the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by posting notice on the Township bulletin board, Township website and by e mailing notice to the New Jersey Herald and The Express-Times.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Mayor Chris Stracco, Deputy Mayor Keith Ramos, Committeeman David Boynton, Committeeman Frank Desiderio, Committeeman Todd McPeek, Attorney Rich Beilin, CFO Danette Dyer, and Municipal Clerk Donna Zilberfarb.

MINUTES:

1. November 10, 2021 regular session meeting minutes were approved as amended on a motion by Mr. Ramos, seconded by Mr. Boynton. All were in favor.
2. November 10, 2021 executive session meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Ramos, seconded by Mr. McPeek. All were in favor.
3. November 22, 2021 work session meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Ramos, seconded by Mr. Boynton. All were in favor.
4. November 22, 2021 executive session meeting minutes were approved as amended by Mr. McPeek, seconded by Mr. Boynton. All were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS:

#2021-91 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH BLAIRSTOWN HOSE COMPANY NO. 1 FOR PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES WHEREAS, the governing body of a municipality may enter into a contract with another local unit for the sharing of services within their jurisdictions of any service which either local unit is empowered to render within its own jurisdiction pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq., known as the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act; and **WHEREAS,** the Township of Frelinghuysen has agreed to enter into an Agreement for the Provision of Fire Protection Services (the "Agreement") with Blairstown Hose Company No. 1, pursuant to which Blairstown Hose Company No. 1 will provide fire protection and coverage to a portion of the Township of Frelinghuysen, on the terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement between the parties; and **WHEREAS,** the Frelinghuysen Township Committee has determined that entering into the Agreement will be beneficial to the Township and its residents. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Frelinghuysen, Warren County, New Jersey as follows:

1. The Mayor and Clerk of Frelinghuysen Township are hereby authorized to execute a Shared Services Agreement with Blairstown Hose Company No. 1 for Fire Protection Services, in a form acceptable to the Township Attorney.
2. A copy of the Agreement shall be open to public inspection at the Frelinghuysen Township Municipal Building immediately after passage of this resolution.
3. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-5, the Agreement shall take effect upon the adoption of this resolution and of the adoption of a resolution or other authorization by Blairstown Hose Company No. 1 and execution of the Agreement.
4. This resolution shall take effect according to law.

CERTIFICATION I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Frelinghuysen Township Committee at a meeting held on December 8, 2021. **DONNA ZILBERFARB**, Clerk roll call vote:

	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Boynton		x	x			
Mr. Desiderio			x			
Mr. McPeek	x		x			
Mr. Ramos			x			
Mr. Stracco			x			

#2021-92 SETTING EXECUTIVE SESSION **WHEREAS,** it is necessary to discuss items dealing with contract negotiations and potential litigation. **WHEREAS,** under the Open Public Meetings Act (number 7 of the permitted exceptions to the requirements that a public body hold its meetings in public) it is permissible that such matters be

discussed in executive or private session. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on December 8, 2021 that the Township Committee of the Township of Frelinghuysen will adjourn to private or executive session to discuss the above mentioned and results or portions of that discussion will be made known in reasonable length of time.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Boynton	x		x			
Mr. Desiderio			x			
Mr. McPeek		x	x			
Mr. Ramos			x			
Mr. Stracco			x			

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Mayor Stracco – nothing to report
- Deputy Mayor Ramos – nothing to report
- Committeeman Boynton discussed the FFP lodge and resolving a few issues and let the committee know that the propane is about ¾ full.
- Committeeman Desiderio asked for a running total on the salt shed. Ms. Dyer told him there are PO’s out for all work being done and she can get a total. Mr. Desiderio asked the committee who holds and keeps the records for the ordinance on residency. Mr. Beilin state the Clerk maintains those records.
- Committeeman McPeek – nothing to report
- Legal Counsel Rich Beilin discussed the pending lawsuit with Green Township to the extent he could and explained the letter that was served by litigation. He explained the obligations of the town, which is to preserve letters/correspondence, emails, hardcopies etc. if asked for. Mr. Beilin also let the committee know that he was waiting to hear back from the county on the stand pipe.
- Municipal Clerk – nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS:

- Mr. McPeek let the committee know that doors were ordered but are back ordered 4-5 weeks. Looking to finish by Monday and have salt back in mid week.
- Mr. Ramos explained to the committee that a survey from the county will be coming in the next weeks for the speed limits and cross walks.
- Local licensing of cannabis businesses – nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Blairstown Hose Company agreement was approved with Resolution #2021-91. Mayor Stracco and Ms. Zilberfarb will sign and Mr. Stracco will send to Chief Slater.
- Appointment for seasonal dpw - held

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

Motion was made by Mr. Boynton, seconded by Mr. Ramos to open meeting to the public limited to 20 minutes with 3 minutes per member of the public. All were in favor. Spoke were:

- Loren Greco, Greendell Road, asked about the lawsuit that was spoken about and asked who’s suing who. Mr. Stracco explained that this township brought suit and can not comment any further.
- Loren Greco, asked why the township just doesn’t donate money to Green Fire Department. Mr. Stracco explained that the township can not comment.
- Loren Greco, asked about fire protection for January 1, 2022. Mr. Stracco explained that the township can not comment.
- Marty Connor, Lincoln Laurel Road, asked about a newsletter for the township and if the committee had any problem with someone starting one, Ms. Buttgerreit has spoken about doing this. Mr. Ramos explained he could help with email addresses but didn’t feel the town had any volunteers to get involved. Mr. Connor will discuss further with Ms. Buttgerreit.

Motion was made by Mr. Boynton, seconded by Mr. Ramos to close to the public. All were in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Mr. Boynton to enter into executive session, seconded by Mr. McPeek. All were in favor.

No action was taken.

Motion was made by Mr. Boynton to exit executive session, seconded by Mr. Ramos. All were in favor.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:

Mr. Stracco explained that the executive session was for ongoing contract negotiations and potential litigation. Letter of resignation was handed to the Clerk during the executive session by Committeeman Desiderio. Motion was made by Mr. McPeek to accept with regrets, seconded by Mr. Boynton. All were in favor.

Mr. Stracco told Mr. Desiderio that he greatly appreciates all the work done over the year and wished him well in his future endeavors.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Township of Green – Fire protection services.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Boynton, seconded by Mr. Ramos to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Zilberfarb, RMC