

**REGULAR MEETING**

The Franklin Township Committee held its regular monthly meeting at 7:00 pm on Monday, April 7, 2014. Mayor Bonnie Butler opened the meeting in accordance with the “Open Public Meeting Act” Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 having been duly advertised and a copy posted in the office of the Township Clerk.

Following the flag salute a roll call of committee members present.

**ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bonnie Butler, Jeff DeAngelis, Jacob Pence, Joe Flynn, Mike Toretta, (5) Present.

Present were: Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk, Bob Benbrook, Municipal Attorney, Mike Finelli, Municipal Engineer, Raymond Read, OEM, Ronald Read, DPW Foreman, Roger Bulava, Recycling

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Minutes:**

The Regular Meeting Minutes and Executive Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2014 and the On-Site Tricky Tray Raffle #2014-2 & 50/50 Raffle #2014-3, Huntington’s Disease Society NJ Chapter, to be held on May 18, 2014 at 12:00 pm. And On-Site Tricky Tray Raffle #2014-4 and 50/50 Raffle #2014-5, PTA Warren County Technical School, to be held May 2, 2014 at 5:30 pm-10:00 pm, were accepted on motion by Jeff DeAngelis, and seconded by Joe Flynn, Unanimous Vote.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The following Resolutions 2014-44 – 47 were presented for introduction of the 2014 Municipal Budget (By Title Only):

**TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION #2014-44**

**WHEREAS**, the 2014 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 1st day of April, 2014; and,

**WHEREAS**, during the fiscal year 2014 the Township of Franklin has been allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$35,656.00

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2014 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of **"Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:"**

Recycling Tonnage Grant – Prior Year	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>
Clean Communities Program – Prior Year	<b>11,360.00</b>
NJDEP Wastewater Grant	<b>19,000.00</b>
Municipal Alliance on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse	<b><u>3,796.00</u></b>
	<b><u>\$ 35,656.00</u></b>

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Mike Toretta the aforementioned **Resolution 2014-44** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Joe Flynn	X		
Jeff DeAngelis	X		
Jacob Pence	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Bonnie Butler	X		
(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent Motion Carried			

Dated: April 7, 2014

**CERTIFICATION**

It is hereby certified that this is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution adopted by the governing body of the Township of Franklin at a meeting held in the Municipal Building, on April 7, 2014.

Witness my hand and the SEAL of the Township of Franklin.

SEAL: \_\_\_\_\_  
Denise L. Becton, Township Clerk

**TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION #2014-45**

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 (The Supplemental Municipal Property Tax Relief Act) under Section 13 required municipalities whose school tax year is on a fiscal basis to defer twenty-five (25) per cent of the maximum allowable amount and anticipate it into their budget over a four (4) year period beginning in budget year 1991, and ending in budget year 1994 as additional Municipal surplus to offset the regional property tax levy for regional purposes; and,

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 were amended in calendar year 1993 that changed the mandatory provision of the use of this deferred school tax to a permissive provision; and,

**WHEREAS**, the revised provisions for electing to utilize the deferred school tax require the governing body to make such election by introduction of the municipal budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin that election be made to defer school taxes as of December 31, 2013, and be reflected in the Annual Financial Statement for the year 2013 as follows:

	FY 13-14 <u>REGIONAL SCHOOL</u> <u>LEVY</u>	<u>MAXIMUM AMOUNT</u> <u>OF DEFER TAX</u>
REGIONAL SCHOOL TAX	\$3,906,105	\$1,953,052.50
TOTAL MAXIMUM DEFER TAX 12/31/13		1,953,052.50
LESS – DEFERRED SCHOOL TAX 12/31/12		1,308,589.98
INCREASE IN MAXIMUM DEFER TAX ALLOWABLE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013		\$644,462.52
ACTUAL ADDITIONAL AMOUNT DEFERRED AT 12/31/13		\$150,000.00

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Mike Toretta the aforementioned **Resolution 2014-45** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Joe Flynn	X		
Jeff DeAngelis	X		
Jacob Pence	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Bonnie Butler	X		
(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent Motion Carried			

Dated: April 7, 2014

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that this is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution adopted by the governing body of the Township of Franklin at a regular meeting held on April 7, 2014.

Witness my hand and the SEAL of the Township of Franklin.

SEAL:

Denise L. Becton, Township Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION-#2014-46

**WHEREAS**, under provisions of N.J.S.A.40A:4-5, a municipality shall introduce the Local Municipal Budget no later than March 14 of the fiscal year; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Franklin has delayed the introduction of the 2014 Municipal Budget past the statutory deadline; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Franklin hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to allow a delayed introduction of the 2014 Franklin Township Municipal Budget; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, 101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 803, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0803.

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Mike Toretta the aforementioned **Resolution 2014-46** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Joe Flynn	X		
Jeff DeAngelis	X		
Jacob Pence	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Bonnie Butler	X		
(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent Motion Carried			

Dated: April 7, 2014

CERTIFICATION

I, Denise L. Becton, Clerk of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and accurate copy of a Resolution adopted by the Franklin Township Committee at a meeting of said Township Committee held on April 7, 2014.

Witness my hand and the SEAL of the Township of Franklin.

SEAL:

Denise L. Becton, Township Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION-#2014-47

WHEREAS, the Township of Franklin is holding a meeting on April 7, 2014, for the purpose of introducing the 2014 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Franklin hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2014 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on April 7, 2014.

2014 FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Surplus anticipated general revenues	\$ 777,000.00
Total Miscellaneous revenue	393,046.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	180,000.00
Local Property Taxes	871,953.00
Total General Revenues	\$2,221,999.00
Total Operations	
Salaries and Wages	\$465,400.00
Other Expenses	695,345.00
Capital Improvements	115,000.00
Statutory Expenditures	90,571.00
Debt Service	239,600.00
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	616,083.00
Total 2014 Municipal Budget	\$2,221,999.00
2014 Municipal Tax Rate	0.21067

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Mike Toretta the aforementioned Resolution 2014-47 be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Joe Flynn	X		
Jeff DeAngelis	X		
Jacob Pence	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Bonnie Butler	X		
(5) Yes ( ) No ( ) Absent Motion Carried			

Dated: April 7, 2014

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that this is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution adopted by the governing body of the Township of Franklin at a regular meeting held April 7, 2014, at the Municipal Building, Broadway, New Jersey.

Witness my hand and the SEAL of the Township of Franklin.

SEAL:

Denise L. Becton, Township Clerk

The following Resolution was presented for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-41

WHEREAS, US Bank Cust for Crestar Capital, LLC holds Tax Sale Certificate #11-06 on Block 41 Lot 10.04 and,

WHEREAS, the property owner has redeemed this lien,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee authorize the Tax Collector to refund the sum of \$ 43,570.52, which includes a Tax Sale Premium in the amount of \$6,100.00, to US Bank Cust for Crestar Capital, LLC, US Bank Corporate Trust Services, Tax Lien Service Group, 2 Liberty Place, 50 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street - Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Mike Toretta the aforementioned **Resolution 2014-41** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Joe Flynn	X		
Jacob Pence	X		
Jeff DeAngelis	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Bonnie Butler	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent Motion Carried

Dated: April 7, 2014

CERTIFICATION

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted by the Franklin Township Committee on Monday, April 7, 2014.

Denise L. Becton, RMC/CMR  
Municipal Clerk

The following Resolution was presented for adoption:

RESOLUTION 2014-42  
Amendment to Resolution 2014-19

Alt. #3 Mike Ferri 3 year exp. 12/16

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstain		
Bonnie Butler	X				
Joe Flynn	X				
Jeff DeAngelis	X				
Michael Toretta	X				
Jacob Pence	X	(5)	Yes	(0) No	(0) Absent
					Motion carried

Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk

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**WHEREAS**, the value and equity of the land has decreased dramatically for those property owners in the Township and Highlands Act region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township also is restricted in bringing economic opportunity, jobs and growth forcing existing taxpayers to pay higher amounts due to lack of growth and smart development; and

**WHEREAS**, areas located outside of the "Highlands Area" are using highlands resources without paying or compensating those affected communities:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren, strongly urge the New Jersey State Senate and General Assembly to craft a bill which would charge those who use Highlands Area water to compensate those communities impacted by the Act,

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren, will forward this resolution to every municipality located within the territory of the Highlands Water and Protective Act Region.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bonnie Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Denise L. Becton, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Mike Toretta the aforementioned **Resolution 2014-43** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstain	
Bonnie Butler	X			
Joe Flynn	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Michael Toretta	X			
Jacob Pence	X	(5)	Yes (0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Governing Body at a meeting held on April 7, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Denise L. Becton, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

**REPORT/UPDATE:**

New Jersey State Police – not present

**DISCUSSIONS/APPROVALS/EXECUTIONS:**

Community Center Update – Eddy Patient attended this meeting and reviewed his report submitted last month with the committee, pertaining to Financials, Revenue, Issues and Proposals. Approximately \$25,000 was brought in last year and this year the winter alone has brought in \$22,000 to date, this revenue is outside the FTYA hours. Presently we have roller

derby, soccer, hockey, tennis, baseball and basketball teams that utilize this facility. At this time, we are running out of storage for equipment that is not being used, season to season, such as goals and they are currently sitting in the spectator area and/or in front of the garage doors causing a fire hazard. Purchase of a container or a pod, for outside of the building, or build out the back, to have access from inside the building, to store unused items, would be helpful. Eddy will provide quotes to the committee for review. Also, looking to expand our website, dedicated to show what we are doing in the Community Center. Eddy will also provide quotes for a wheelchair lift to replace the ramp, which takes up a lot of room in the back. Committeeman DeAngelis commented that when we rent a lift to be certain it is an indoor lift with solid white wheels in lieu of black wheels to ensure no marks left on the floor surface.

Franklin Township Youth Association – Jim Schlessinger, President of the FTYA, was present to discuss possible improvements to the athletic fields, at the school and in Asbury. A 60% growth has been seen in Field Hockey and Soccer is operating in capacity; starting to beat up the fields. A delay in gathering quotes, due to snow this year, will provide for the next meeting. Jim has volunteers to assist with the labor, but, is looking for financial assistance for cost of the material needed to upgrade the fields.

Social Affair Permit – Musconetcong Watershed Association annual Wine Tasting event, to be held, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Warren County Rod & Gun Club.

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Joe Flynn approving the application as submitted and for clerk to execute accordingly.

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent/Abstained</b>
Jacob Pence	X		
Joe Flynn	X		
Jeff DeAngelis	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Mayor Bonnie Butler	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent Motion Carried

## **REPORTS/UPDATES:**

### **Attorney Report – Report on File**

Attorney Bob Benbrook was present at the meeting on behalf of Kevin Benbrook. Mayor Butler informed that she reached out to Washington Township as to the Joint Paving Agreement with Washington Township and Washington Borough. Advising that Franklin Township does not wish to continue this agreement and would like to keep the paver and possibly the other two municipalities will auction off the roller and trailer. Mayor Butler will contact the mayors from the municipalities for their opinions.

### **Engineer Report – No Formal Report submitted this month**

Mr. Finelli briefed the committee as to the following:

1. Good Springs Road – Next month will have to make a decision in order to close out this contract. Looking to obtain guiderail quotes.
2. Wastewater Management – Conference call last week with the DEP, requirements that municipalities face have been lessened.
3. OU2 – Mayor and Engineer met with the EPA, as to the new waterlines in the township, would like to see the roads repaved after this is completed. No objection noted to this by the EPA. EPA still looking for 1 acre for equipment and material, possibly use the land where Sam Santini farms across from Franklin Township School. (near the barns off of Bryant Road).



On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Jacob Pence to authorize the Municipal Attorney to submit a letter of ascertainment report, indicating that 100% of the Township be included for Comcast service; a few of our township roads still don't have cable run on them.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Jacob Pence	X		
Joe Flynn	X		
Jeff DeAngelis	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Mayor Bonnie Butler	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent Motion Carried

**Roger Bulava – Recycling**

Mr. Bulava advised that the one day education presentation at the Franklin Township School was completed in March for the Clean Communities Grant. Spring Clean Up quote letters have been faxed out to vendors and collecting Electronic Vendor quotes as well. Approval of quotes will be on the May meeting agenda.

**Jim Onembo – Code Enforcement/Zoning**

Mr. Onembo was not present at this meeting.

**DPW REPORT – Report on File**

Mr. Read submitted an updated map to the township committee for review and discussion as to road paving.

**Open Space Report:**

No one present at meeting.

**Franklin Township Youth Association:**

Mr. Schlessinger thanked the DPW as to maintenance of the recreation fields, always a fantastic job.

**Rescue Squad – Chief Karen Chiu**

Chief Chiu had nothing to report. Mayor Butler addressed the letter received by Chief Chiu in reference to the South Regional Task Force. Chiu commented that she heard of a rumor as to this task force being disbanded. This is not true, Lopatcong Township Rescue Squad withdrew recently from this force, but still three squads remain; including squads from Bloomsbury and Greenwich and Franklin Township. Mayor Butler questioned the use of our fire department for extrication in lieu of calling outside companies since they have the necessary tools, the same training and EMTs. Chief Chiu advised that the fire company's EMTs do not ride her rigs and prior to extricating a patient you have to have EMTs on scene and an ambulance. The rescue squad, during the day, is hurting for manpower and sometimes can't even get an ambulance out, the fire department is willing to assist the squad with extrication, not to take this over. Mayor Butler is concerned that waiting for outside resources to respond to an extrication call valuable time is wasted. The squad used to drill with the fire department a long time ago, but no longer do this. Mayor Butler questioned as to who has the authority to delegate the task force to come into our town for extrication calls; Chief Chiu makes that determination. EMTs whether they belong to the fire department or to the rescue squad, they all are certified under the NFPA standards and receive the same training as with extrication. Mayor Butler and Committeeman Pence will attend the next squad meeting to address the squad as to the committee's consensus to utilize resources from within our own township for extrication and if needed then the task force should be called.

**OEM REPORT – Raymond Read**

Mr. Read advised the committee that our EOP (Emergency Operations Plan) has been approved by the State. A Generator Grant of \$150,000 applying for two generators, DPW and Municipal Building, has been accepted awaiting approval. Most MVR's have been received and on file. Attended a Risk

Management and Behavioral Health Classes. Ready to close out Hurricane Sandy. Roast Beef dinner in May.

**Township Committee Reports:**

**Jeff DeAngelis**

Aflac representatives met with Mr. DeAngelis, as to their supplemental insurance, would like to present this to our full time employees first. Also, exploring work with our IT Representative, Jean Paul Reece, with respect to upgrade to Windows 7. An inventory has been completed and Mr. DeAngelis finds that we will have to replace 5 computers, 3 desktop and 2 laptops with docking stations that convert into desktops. He is looking to move forward with the hardware.

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Jacob Pence, to continue with the upgrade, ensure more backup, not to exceed \$6,000.

Roll Call:	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained	
Michael Toretta	X			
Joe Flynn	X			
Jacob Pence	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Mayor, Bonnie Butler	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

**Jacob Pence**

Nothing further to report

**Michael Toretta**

Nothing further to report.

**Joe Flynn**

Nothing further to report.

**Bonnie Butler, Mayor**

Mayor Butler is in receipt of a Lehigh American Band Contract that has been reviewed and approved by our township attorney, to perform at our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm for \$660.

On motion by Jeff DeAngelis and seconded by Jacob Pence, to continue with the upgrade, ensure more backup, not to exceed \$6,000.

Roll Call:	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained	
Michael Toretta	X			
Joe Flynn	X			
Jacob Pence	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Mayor, Bonnie Butler	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

On motion by Mike Toretta and seconded by Jeff DeAngelis to renew our membership with the Musconetcong Watershed Association for Stormwater Education Program.

Roll Call:	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained	
Michael Toretta	X			
Joe Flynn	X			
Jacob Pence	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Mayor, Bonnie Butler	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Karen Chiu – A thank you to Ronnie and the DPW filling in a very large pothole under the Edison Road Bridge.

Matt Eagleburger – Budget Hearing for the Franklin Township School, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Executive Session –**

No Executive Session needed at this meeting.

**MOTION FOR PAYMENT OF BILL LIST:**

On motion by Joe Flynn and seconded by Jeff DeAngelis, and hearing no objection, to pay bills as per bill lists submitted by the Chief Financial Officer.

Roll Call:	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained	
Michael Toretta	X			
Joe Flynn	X			
Jacob Pence	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Mayor, Bonnie Butler	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

**MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

On motion by Mike Toretta and seconded by Jacob Pence, hearing no objection, meeting stands adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Roll Call:	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained
Michael Toretta	X			
Joe Flynn	X			
Jacob Pence	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Mayor, Bonnie Butler	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Denise L. Becton  
Municipal Clerk