

**SPECIAL MEETING  
Monday, August 22, 2022**

The Franklin Township Committee held a Special Meeting on Monday, August 22, 2022, at the hour of 9:00 a.m. Mayor Mike Toretta 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.

**ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Butler-Yes, Ferri-Absent, Guth-Absent, Herzer-Yes, Toretta-Yes. (3) Present; (2) Absent**

**Additional present were:** Mike Finelli, Municipal Engineer, Joe Biel, DPW Foreman, Jim Onembo, Zoning/Code Enforcement, CFO, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk

**CONSENT AGENDA: (one roll call for items a-e)**

- 1. **RESOLUTIONS/APPROVALS**
  - a. Resolution 2022-49 **RE: Redemption of Tax Sale Cert# 2020-004, Block 17 Lot 1**
  - b. Resolution 2022-50 **RE: Redemption of Tax Sale Cert# 2020-008, Block 45 Lot 69**
  - c. Resolution 2022-52 **RE: Capital Budget Amendment 2**
  - d. Letter of Resignation **RE: Acknowledgement of Daniel Tampier, effective August 2, 2022**
  - e. Letter of Support **RE: WC Community College Balloon Fest; 9/23-25 alternate dates 9/30-10/2 (authorize mayor to sign letter)**

On motion by Rich Herzer and seconded by Bonnie Butler to approve the consent agenda as read and above.

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent/Abstained</b>
Bonnie Butler	X		
David Guth			X
Rich Herzer	X		
Michael Ferri			X
Mayor Mike Toretta	X	(3) Yes (0) No (2) Absent	Motion Carried

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-49**

**WHEREAS**, at the Municipal Tax Sale held on October 21, 2020 a lien was placed on Block 17 Lot 1 also known as 2141 Route 57, for delinquent 2019 real estate taxes: and

**WHEREAS**, this lien which is known as Tax Sale Certificate 2020-004, which was “struck off” to Franklin Township with an 18% redemption fee; and

**WHEREAS**, the owner of 2141 Route 57 has affected a redemption of certificate 2020-004 in the amount of \$8,341.13;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Franklin Township Mayor and Committee acknowledges and confirms the redemption of tax sale certificate 2020-004; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Franklin Township Mayor and Committee

authorize the Tax Collector to process all the necessary documents to redeem said lien, to bring the account current and cancel the certificate from record with the Warren County Clerk's Office.

On motion by Rich Herzer and seconded by Bonnie Butler the aforementioned **Resolution 2022-49** be adopted as read.

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent/Abstained</b>
Bonnie Butler	X		
David Guth			X
Rich Herzer	X		
Michael Ferri			X
Mayor Mike Toretta	X	(3) Yes (0) No (2) Absent	Motion Carried

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Franklin Township Committee at a meeting held on September 6, 2022.

*Denise L. Becton*

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Denise L. Becton  
Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-50**

**WHEREAS**, at the Municipal Tax Sale held on October 21, 2020, a lien was placed on Block 45 Lot 69 also known as Good Spring Road, for delinquent 2019 real estate taxes: and

**WHEREAS**, this lien which is known as Tax Sale Certificate 2020-008, which was "struck off" to Franklin Township with an 18% redemption fee; and

**WHEREAS**, the prior lien holder of Block 45 Lot 69 has effected a redemption of certificate 2020-008 in the amount of \$3,799.67;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Franklin Township Mayor and Committee acknowledges and confirms the redemption of tax sale certificate 2020-008; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Franklin Township Mayor and Committee authorize the Tax Collector to process all the necessary documents to redeem said lien, to bring the account current and cancel the certificate from record with the Warren County Clerk's Office.

On motion by Rich Herzer and seconded by Bonnie Butler the aforementioned **Resolution 2022-50** be adopted as read.

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent/Abstained</b>
Bonnie Butler	X		
David Guth			X
Rich Herzer	X		
Michael Ferri			X
Mayor Mike Toretta	X	(3) Yes (0) No (2) Absent	Motion Carried

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Franklin Township Committee at a meeting held on September 6, 2022.

*Denise L. Becton*

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Denise L. Becton  
Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION 2022-52**

**WHEREAS**, the Capital Budget of the Township of Franklin was passed on June 6, 2022, and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that said Capital Budget must be amended due to a change in municipal priorities,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following amendments to the Capital Budget of the Township of Franklin are hereby authorized.

On motion by Rich Herzer and seconded by Bonnie Butler the aforementioned **Resolution 2022-52** be adopted as read.

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent/Abstained</b>
Bonnie Butler	X		
David Guth			X
Rich Herzer	X		
Michael Ferri			X
Mayor Mike Toretta	X	(3) Yes (0) No (2) Absent	Motion Carried

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Franklin Township Committee at a meeting held on September 6, 2022.

*Denise L. Becton*

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Denise L. Becton  
Municipal Clerk

**Letter of Resignation effective August 2, 2022-Daniel Tampier, Road Laborer I**

The township committee acknowledges the letter received.

**WC Community College Balloon Festival – September 23-25 alternate dates September 30-10/2, 2022**

The township committee authorized the mayor to execute letter.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF:**

**Final Reading and Adoption of Bond Ordinance 2022-9**

**BOND ORDINANCE 2022-9**

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$400,000 IN CONNECTION WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS TO SHURTS ROAD FOR AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY AND, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$380,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION**

On motion by Bonnie Butler and seconded by Rich Herzer to open the Public Hearing.

Public Comments – Pat Banes inquired having meetings during the day in lieu of the evening and why wasn't the agenda posted until this morning.

On motion by Bonnie Butler and seconded by Rich Herzer to close the Public Hearing.

On motion by Committeeperson Bonnie Butler and seconded by Committeeperson Rich Herzer the aforementioned Bond **Ordinance No. 2022-9** be adopted at public hearing.

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent/Abstain</b>
Bonnie Butler	X		
Rich Herzer	X		
David Guth			X
Michael Toretta	X		
Mike Ferri			X

(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent/Abstained Motion Carried

**DISCUSSION/APPROVAL**

**WC Planning Department Subregional Study Grant Application/Participation Request**

On motion by Bonnie Butler and seconded by Rich Herzer to authorize the mayor to execute a letter for Warren County to partner with the NJTPA North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority FY2024-FY2025 to study the Countywide Comprehensive Complete Streets Policy Implementation Plan. Committeeperson Herzer will be the liaison for this study.

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent/Abstained</b>
Bonnie Butler	X		
David Guth			X
Rich Herzer	X		
Michael Ferri			X
Mayor Mike Toretta	X		

(3) Yes (0) No (2) Absent Motion Carried

**ENGINEER REPORT**

Engineer Finelli touched base on a few projects. The Montana Road Wall Project has been completed. Shurts Road Project is in the construction phase and should be completed well before the September 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. Engineer to schedule a site visit. The Water Project contracts have been received by the NJDEP for township execution.

On motion by Rich Herzer and seconded by Bonnie Butler to authorize the engineer to prepare the field survey and construction plan specs.

<b>Roll Call Vote</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent/Abstained</b>
Bonnie Butler	X		
David Guth			X
Rich Herzer	X		
Michael Ferri			X
Mayor Mike Toretta	X		

(3) Yes (0) No (2) Absent Motion Carried

**ZONING REPORT**

Zoning Officer Onembo informed committee as to the continuation of his dealings with the Trailer Court complaint received. Attorney Benbrook needs to review this ordinance, and this will be placed on the September Agenda for discussion and direction of taxes to be paid per trailer. The NJDEP needs to certify where the septic tanks as well as the community disposal field. A letter will be sent Certified/Return Receipt to T&M Pallet “Cease & Desist” as to tire storage. Attorney Benbrook will be brought in for review/support. Lastly, our Vacant/Abandoned Property Ordinance is out of compliance, Attorney Benbrook to review and update accordingly.

**DPW**

The DPW salt barn has been power washed and painted and the garage same except only the roof painted. Looking to hire a third guy to replace the one just resigned. This conversation will be discussed when the entire committee can give their consensus.

Committeeperson Butler received an email from Brenda Higgins our Historical Commission Chairperson after speaking with a gentleman who is in possession of historic Indian stones. He would like to restore them back to the area in which they originated from, approximately a mile from our municipal building. He lives in Fort Washington, PA and would need someone to come and pick up prior to September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our DPW could pick them up once all the information has been complied. Also, a thank you to Joe and Denise for keeping up with the watering of our donated tree from Tim Terry in this drought.

Fall Clean Up is scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup>-October 1<sup>st</sup>, passes are available for pick up at municipal offices.

At this time, the floor was opened to the public.

Claire Rohloff – Would like to see “Zoom” meetings brought back. Our IT Consultant will be contacted on cost. A Warehouse Guidelines article was in the Warren Reporter on August 12<sup>th</sup>, given to the clerk to distribute. Community Advisory Board interest to review projects in the planning stage will be referred to our Land Use Board.

**MOTION FOR BILLS LIST OF August 8, 2022: (as prepared by CFO)**

On motion by Rich Herzer and seconded by Bonnie Butler, hearing no objection, to pay the bills accordingly.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Abstained</b>	
Bonnie Butler	X				
Mike Ferri			X		
Rich Herzer	X				
David Guth			X		
Mike Ferri, Mayor	X	(3) Yes	(0) No	(2) Absent	Motion carried

On motion by Bonnie Butler and seconded by Rich Herzer to adjourn the meeting at 10:02, unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise L. Becton, RMC/CMR  
Municipal Clerk