

REGULAR MONTHLY  
MEETING

The Franklin Township Committee held their regular scheduled monthly meeting at the hour of approximately 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 6, 2026. Mayor Sarah Payne opened the meeting in accordance with the "Open Public Meeting Act" Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, having been advertised in the Daily Record, electronically advertised on the municipal website and posted in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Following the flag salute, **Roll Call of Committeepersons present:** Bonnie Butler, David Guth, Rich Herzer, Mike Toretta, Sarah Payne

**Present:** Kevin Benbrook, Municipal Attorney, Wayne Ingram, Municipal Engineer, Joe Biel, DPW Foreman, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk

**CONSENT AGENDA:** *(One roll call to approve Consent Agenda items a. – n.)*

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2. APPROVAL OF</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| a. Meeting minutes    | RE: June 1, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| b. Executive minutes  | RE: June 1, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| c. Res. 2026-55       | RE: A resolution of award, Millbrook Rd., Sect. 3 resurfacing                                                                                                                                                           |
| d. Res. 2026-56       | RE: A resolution of award, Millbrook Rd., Sect. 4 resurfacing                                                                                                                                                           |
| e. Res. 2026-57       | RE: P-Time Day Laborer hire Jason Petty                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| f. Res. 2026-58       | RE: A resolution of support regarding Warren County’s purchase of a Development Easement on the Brad J. Sigler, et al. Farm, Block 45 Lot 25.08 in Franklin Township consisting of approximately 33.372 (3%+) net acres |
| g. Res. 2026-59       | RE: Liquor License Renewal of Playmakers Sports Bar & Grill, LLC                                                                                                                                                        |
| h. Res. 2026-60       | RE: Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the NJDOT for 2027 Copperfield Development Resurfacing Project                                                                             |
| i. Approval/execution | RE: NJ State Firefighter’s Association Application for membership, Justin Lewkowicz was admitted to active membership in Franklin Township Fire Department                                                              |
| j. Res. 2026-61       | RE: A resolution providing for the insertion of a special item of revenue in the 2025 budget of the Township of Franklin, Warren County, NJ pursuant to NJSA 40a:4-87 (Chapter 159, pl 1948)                            |
| k. Memorialization    | RE: Sale of (3) Temple Gates to Morris Asphalt at a cost of \$100 each; total \$300.00                                                                                                                                  |
| l. Res. 2026-62       | RE: Resolution authorizing the submittal of a Local Aid Award Extension (LAAEX) to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the FY2024 NJDOT Good Spring Road and Willow Grove Road Resurface                    |
| m. Res. 2026-63       | RE: Extend grace period for third quarter taxes due August 1, 2026                                                                                                                                                      |
| n. Approval           | RE: NJ Lead-Based Paint in Rental Units Compliance, LEW Environmental to mail out 5 <sup>th</sup> and Final Notice Letter to rental properties – summonses to be issued                                                 |

**RESOLUTION 2026-55 through RESOLUTION 2026-63 (Introduction/Adoption of)**

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP  
WARREN COUNTY/STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION; 2026-55

**A RESOLUTION OF AWARD, MILLBROOK ROAD SECTION 3 RESURFACING**

Be it resolved, that on July 6, 2026, the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin adopted Resolution 2026-55 to award bids to perform the necessary construction to complete the Millbrook Road Section 4 Resurfacing Project, a New Jersey Department of Transportation Local Aid funded project with a total project grant award in the amount of \$73,022.00.

Be it further resolved that the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin does hereby award unit prices for individual construction items based on unit prices as awarded under the individual contracts awarded by the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council bidding process as follows;

The award is made to the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council vendor, Tilcon New York Inc. for the total cost of \$72,987.75.

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP  
WARREN COUNTY/STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION; 2026-56**

**A RESOLUTION OF AWARD, MILLBROOK ROAD SECTION 4 RESURFACING**

Be it resolved, that on July 6, 2026, the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin adopted Resolution 2026-56 to award bids to perform the necessary construction to complete the Millbrook Road Section 4 Resurfacing Project, a New Jersey Department of Transportation Local Aid funded project with a total project grant award in the amount of \$115,101.00.

Be it further resolved that the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin does hereby award unit prices for individual construction items based on unit prices as awarded under the individual contracts awarded by the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council bidding process as follows;

The award is made to the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council vendor, Tilcon New York Inc. for the total cost of \$61,054.65.

The award is made to the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council vendor M.L. Ruberton Construction Co., Inc. for the total cost of \$38,780.00.

The award is made to the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council vendor, Denville Line Painting, Inc. for the total cost of \$6,600.00.

**RESOLUTION 2026-57**

**WHEREAS**, the Franklin Township Committee has deemed it necessary to hire the following as Part-Time Day Laborer for the Department of Public Workers of the Township of Franklin for the year **2026**, as follows.

|                 |             |                                                  |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| General Laborer | Jason Petty | \$25/hr. <i>(not to exceed 24/hrs. per week)</i> |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------|

**RESOLUTION #2026-58**

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT REGARDING WARREN COUNTY'S  
PURCHASE OF A DEVELOPMENT EASEMENT ON THE BRAD J.  
SIGLER, ET AL. FARM, BLOCK 45 LOT 25.08 IN FRANKLIN  
TOWNSHIP CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 33.372 (3%+) NET  
ACRES**

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Agriculture Development Board has determined that the property known as the Brad J. Sigler, et al. Farm, owned by Brad J. Sigler, Ronald Sigler, Jr. and Linda T. Sigler located on Block 45 Lot 25.08, Franklin Township and consisting of approximately 33.372 (3%+) net acres has available for purchase a development easement in accordance with the requirements of the farmland Preservation program; and

**WHEREAS**, the pressures from development have significantly heightened the degree of imminence of change of land use from productive agriculture to non-agricultural uses; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9A(b) on January 20, 2026 it was determined by the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) that the application, SADC ID#21-0641-PG for the sale of a development easement was complete and accurate and satisfied the criteria contained in N.J.A.C. 2:76-17A.9(a); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17A.14, on June 1, 2026 in accordance with SADC Resolution #FY2022R12(10) and SADC authorization on September 28, 2023, Executive Director Roohr and Secretary Wengryn signed the Certification of Market Value and has certified a development easement value of \$4,300 an

acre based on current zoning and environmental regulations in place as of the current valuation date of March 14, 2026 and \$4,300 an acre based on zoning and environmental regulations in place on 1/1/04 with an estimated total value of \$139,300 (32.39 net acres); and

**WHEREAS**, this property is in the Highlands Planning Area, and does qualify for '04 zoning; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to P.L. 2023, c.245, the SADC has adopted Statewide Farmland Preservation Formula regulations (N.J.A.C. 2:76-26), which became effective April 8, 2025. The “Statewide Formula” is an additional method for determining the value of the development easement for farmland preservation. The Statewide Formula utilizes 50% of the appraised (per acre) market value unrestricted of the property and adjusts it upward depending on the presence of certain agricultural and natural resource features along with additional factor and restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, for the purposes of the Statewide Formula, the appraised value of \$11,200 per acre shall be recognized as the certified unrestricted (fee simple) market value used for the calculation of the base value pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-26 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the base value for this property is 50% of the certified unrestricted market value, or \$5,650; and

**WHEREAS**, the voluntary deed restrictions are adjusted to 10% of the above 50% unrestricted market value, or \$560 per acre per restriction; and

**WHEREAS**, the unrestricted values of these properties are adjusted upwards per acre based on agricultural resources, natural resources, and other factors and total score for this farm is 23.04; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-26 et seq., the Statewide Formula easement value is \$8,180 per acre with the landowner taking one of the voluntary deed restrictions which is the 10% impervious surface coverage limitation on the premises at \$560 per acre, thereby raising the Statewide Formula value to \$8,740 per acre; and

**WHEREAS**, the property is part of the approved Warren County Planning Incentive Grant Application and is funded by the Warren County Open Space, Farmland, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the tract would encourage the survivability of production agriculture in Franklin Township, and said tract falls within a predetermined County Agricultural Development Area and is in the County’s South East Project Area Target List; and

**WHEREAS**, the purchase of the development easement on the property will encourage the survivability of the productive agriculture in Franklin Township and Warren County; and

**WHEREAS**, preliminary approval for the purchase of development rights on this farm has been granted by the State Agricultural Development Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the SADC is expected to grant final approval for funding amount on said application at its July 23, 2026 meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the SADC will provide an increased cost share of 80% of the per acre Statewide Formula Value, up to \$50,000 per acre, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-26.12 in the Planning Incentive Grant Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated cost share breakdown based on 33.372 acres which includes a 3% buffering for final surveyed acres is as follows:

|                                | <u><b>Total</b></u>                |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| SADC                           | \$233,337.02 – 80% (\$6,992/acre)  |
| Warren County                  | \$58,334.26 – 20% (\$1,748/acre)   |
| <b>Total Easement Purchase</b> | <b>\$291,671.28</b> (\$8,740/acre) |

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.13 on June 18, 2026, the Warren County Agriculture Development Board approved the funding for the purchase of the development easement with no cost share contribution by Franklin Township on the above described property based on the Certified Market Value of \$4,300 an acre and the Statewide Formula easement value of \$8,180 per acre certified by the SADC with the owner agreeing to one voluntary restriction at \$560 per acre raising the total per acre cost to \$8,740. Cost to be shared with the SADC as follows: SADC \$6,992 per acre, Warren County \$1,748 per acre.

**WHEREAS**, the WCADB approval includes the following conditions:

- a. No existing residence or buildings on premises
- b. No existing agriculture labor housing on premises
- c. Exception
  - 1) A one acre non-severable exception for future single family residence restricted to one residential unit
- d. There shall be a 10% limited impervious surface coverage limitation on premises
- e. No Residual Dwelling Site Opportunities (RDSO's)
- f. No preexisting non-agricultural uses on premises
- g. Conservation easement of 1.76 acres and other easements to be determined through title search
- h. No proposed trails
- i. SADC funding from Base grant, competitive round or both
- j. The farm currently has .03% soil disturbance outside of the exception area

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren hereby grants permission for the purchase of the development easement by the County of Warren under the Farmland Preservation Act as set forth above and will not be participating in the cost share.

#### **RESOLUTION 2026-59**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, has received applications for the renewal year 07/01/2026 to 06/30/2027 of liquor licenses; and

**WHEREAS**, each application for renewal was accompanied by the following municipal fees: Plenary Retail Consumption \$826.80; and

**WHEREAS**, each application also electronically submitted to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control a \$200.00 check; and

**WHEREAS**, the following submitted electronically to the State of New Jersey **Plenary Retail Consumption Liquor License** retail applications;

**Playmakers Sports Bar & Grill, LLC**, 288 Anderson Rd, Asbury, NJ,  
License# 2105-33-003-014

**WHEREAS**, the applicants received tax clearance issued by the New Jersey Division of Taxation; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren, and State of New Jersey, that the applications received for Plenary Retail Consumption has been duly inspected and that all appropriate documentation and fees have been submitted along with said applications and as such, the licensee application is deemed complete and renewals of the same are hereby granted and that aforementioned liquor license for the year July 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2027 be accepted and approved for issue

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Clerk of the Municipality is directed to execute the license certificates and deliver the same on behalf of the Township of Franklin.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Franklin Township, Warren County  
RESOLUTION 2026-60**

**Approval to submit a Grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the 2027 Copperfield Development Resurfacing Project**

**WHEREAS**, Franklin Township, Warren County, New Jersey has given French and Parrello Associates the approval to submit this grant on behalf of the Township of Franklin,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Committee of the Township of Franklin formally approves the grant application for the above stated project,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as **MA-2027-2027 Copperfield Development Resurfacing-00395** to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Franklin.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Franklin and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

**Approval/Execution - NJ State Firefighter’s Association**, Application for Membership, was received on behalf of Justin Lewkowicz and Yazitza DeJesus, who was admitted to active membership in the Franklin Township Fire Department

**RESOLUTION 2026-61  
RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPEICAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE  
2025 BUDGET OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN, WARREN COUNTY PURSUANT TO NJSA  
40A:4-87 (CHAPTER 159, PL 1948)**

**WHEREAS**, NJSA 40A:4-87 permits the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the Municipal Budget when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof shall not have been determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and **WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin has been awarded \$545.45 from NJ Department of Environmental Protection under the Recycling Tonnage Grant; and, **WHEREAS**, the Township Committee wishes to increase its anticipated revenues by \$545.45; and, **WHEREAS**, The Township Committee wishes to appropriate the funds in accordance with grant requirements. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin not less than two-thirds of the full membership thereof affirmatively concurring that application is hereby made to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for an increase of a special item of revenue in the 2026 budget entitled:

- Miscellaneous Revenues-Section F
- Public & Private Revenues offset with Appropriations;
- NJ DEP Recycling Tonnage Grant \$545.45

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the application is hereby made for the insertion of a like amount of increase to the appropriation entitles:

- Operations-Excluded from “CAPS”
- Public & Private Programs Offset by Revenue
- NJ DEP Recycling Tonnage Grant Other Expenses \$545.45

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that one certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director, Division of Local Government Services.

**Memorialization of the sale of (3) Temple Gates**

Three Temple Gates were placed on the township’s website for sale, Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Morris Asphalt of Lafayette Township, NJ emailed an offer to purchase at \$100 each, total amount of \$300. This was the only offer received.

**Franklin Township, Warren County  
RESOLUTION 2026-62**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A LOCAL AID AWARD  
EXTENSION (LAAEX) TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FOR THE FY 2024 NJDOT GOOD SPRING ROAD AND WILLOW GROVE RESURFACE**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation has accepted the Franklin Township's application for the Fiscal Year 2024 Municipal Aid Program identified as **LA-2024 MA Franklin Township (Warren) Good Spring Road and Willow Grove Resurface**; and

WHEREAS, submittal of Municipal Aid extension requests through the online SAGE process requires a Resolution of the governing body be signed and sealed by the Clerk and Township Administrator.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Franklin Township, County of Warren and State of New Jersey formally approves the Local Aid Award Extension (LAAEX) request for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Administrator and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic Local Aid Award Extension (LAAEX) request for the project identified as **LA-2024 MA Franklin Township (Warren) Good Spring Road and Willow Grove Resurface**, to the NJ Department of Transportation on behalf of the Franklin Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Township Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign on behalf of the Franklin Township and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreements.

**Certified as a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Township Committee  
on this 6th day of July 2026.**

*Denise L. Becton*

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Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk

**TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN  
COUNTY OF WARREN**

**RESOLUTION 2026-63  
RESOLUTION TO EXTEND GRACE PERIOD FOR THIRD QUARTER TAXES DUE AUGUST 1, 2026**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3 provides that the third installment of current year taxes shall not be subject to interest until the thirty-first calendar day after the date that the tax bill was mailed or otherwise delivered, and

**WHEREAS**, Twenty-five calendar days from the mailing date of the tax bills is required by New Jersey Statute is August 14th, 2026,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren that:

1. The Grace Period for the payment of the third quarter 2026 real estate property taxes that were due August 1, 2026, shall be extended to August 14, 2026.
2. Interest shall be charged back to August 1, 2026, for all payments made after grace period date of August 14, 2026

**Approval to mail 5<sup>th</sup> and Final Letter for NJ Lead-Based Paint Law (Rental Units)**

LEW Environmental has issued four rounds of notices to rental properties in the township and we have achieved a 74% compliance rate. A fifth and final notice will be sent advising that summonses may be issued if compliance is not achieved/scheduled by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

On motion by Committeeperson Toretta and seconded by Deputy Mayor Butler approval of the regular and executive meeting minutes of June 1, 2026, Resolutions 2026-55 - 2026-63, approval/execution of NJ State Firemen’s Association Applications, Memorialization purchase of three Temple Gates, mailing of 5th and final letters to rental units/NJ Lead-Based Paint Law.

| Roll Call Vote:   | Yes | No                                      | Absent/Abstained                                                                       |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bonnie Butler     | X   |                                         | (*let the record reflect Butler abstained from letter f. ONLY on above Consent Agenda) |
| David Guth        | X   |                                         |                                                                                        |
| Rich Herzer       | X   |                                         |                                                                                        |
| Mike Toretta      | X   |                                         |                                                                                        |
| Mayor Sarah Payne | X   | (5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent (1) Abstained | (*letter f. ONLY)                                                                      |
| Motion Carried    |     |                                         |                                                                                        |

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussions/Approvals/Presentations**

**NJSP – Trooper Zelinski** – Trooper presented a six-month stat report for Franklin Township including the number of motor vehicle stops, accidents, 911 calls and criminal activities to name a few. Pat Banes addressed the trooper of speeding motorcycles on CR632. A discussion previously with the mayor addressing weight restrictions on Lime Kiln Road and sign placement. Karen Chiu thanked the trooper for assisting with squad calls and lift assistance. The trooper will gain additional knowledge through their Traffic Unit regarding 102 Signage.

**Presentation – NJ Highlands Council** – members of the Highlands Council were unable to attend tonight's meeting. Once the township conducts their Initial Assessment Report they will come to discuss additional information about the Plan Conformance. *(Tabled until September meeting agenda)*

**Presentation – WC Board of Chosen Freeholders – 250<sup>th</sup> & Bicentennial Plaque**, Lori Ciesla was unable to attend the meeting this evening. *(This will be placed on the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda)*

**Ordinance 2026-6 – Introduction of:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-6  
TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN  
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY TO CONTIGUOUS  
PROPERTY OWNERS**

**SECTION I.**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Warren, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(b)(5), the following real property has been determined to be not needed for public use, is land locked and unimproved, and shall be offered for sale to all contiguous property owners, as determined by the Township’s Tax Assessor:

- Block 11, Lot 29**
- Block 11, L 30**
- Block 11, Lot 29.01**

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that each property shall be sold to the highest bidder from among all such owners who shall submit sealed letter offers of purchase to the Municipal Clerk clearly marked as Offers of Purchase for the property for which an offer is being made Offers shall be opened at its next regularly scheduled meeting on October 5, 2026, at the Township of Franklin Municipal Building. Closing of title shall be accomplished within thirty (30) days, and each property shall be merged with the property of the contiguous property owner that submits the highest bid. The Township shall convey title by way of Quitclaim Deed; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that each lot shall have a minimum bid of \$10,000.00. The Township shall reserve the right to reject all bids; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that pursuant to statutory requirement, a copy of this Ordinance shall upon second reading, public hearing and approval, be posted on the bulletin board or other conspicuous space, in the Township of Franklin municipal building, and the Ordinance shall be published in the Township’s official legal notice webpage within five (5) days following adoption of the Ordinance.

SECTION III. Severability. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such provision(s) shall be deemed severable and the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION IV. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION V. Codification. This Ordinance shall be a part of the Code of the Township of Franklin as though codified and fully set forth therein. The Township Clerk shall have this ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Code. The Township Clerk and the Township Attorney are authorized and directed to change any Chapter, Article and/or Section number of the Code of the Township of Franklin in the event that the codification of this Ordinance reveals that there is a conflict between the numbers and the existing Code, and in order to avoid confusion and possible accidental repealers of existing provisions not intended to be repealed.

SECTION VI. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage, adoption and publication according to law.

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Committee of the Township of Franklin held on July 6, 2026, and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Committee to be held on September 14, 2026 at 7 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building, 2093 Rt. 57, Broadway, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

*Denise L. Becton*  
Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk

On motion by Deputy Mayor Butler and seconded by Committeeperson Herzer the aforementioned Ordinance 2026-6 be adopted as read. Final reading and adoption to take place on July 6, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. or near that hour.

| <b>Roll Call Vote</b> | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> | <b>Absent/Abstain</b> |                                 |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bonnie Butler         | X          |           |                       |                                 |
| Rich Herzer           | X          |           |                       |                                 |
| David Guth            | X          |           |                       |                                 |
| Mike Toretta          | X          |           |                       |                                 |
| Sarah Payne, Mayor    | X          | (5) Yes   | (0) No                | (0)Absent <b>Motion Carried</b> |

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Denise L. Becton, Registered Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance introduced by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin at their regular meeting held on July 6, 2026. Second reading, a public hearing will be held on September 14, 2026, at or near 7:00 p.m. in the Franklin Township Municipal Building, 2093 Rt. 57, Broadway, New Jersey.

*Denise L. Becton*  

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Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk

**OLD BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC HEARING-** Adoption of:

**TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN  
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-5  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 63 OF THE CODE  
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN ENTITLED, “DOGS”**

- Motion to open Public Hearing Deputy Mayor Butler seconded by Committeeperson Guth, unanimous vote.
- Public Comments – Pat and Barbara Banes inquired if this language in this ordinance reflects the same with league rules.
- Motion to close/adopt the Public Hearing Deputy Mayor Butler seconded by Committeeperson Herzer, unanimous vote.

On motion by Deputy Mayor Butler and seconded by Committeeperson Herzer to close/adopt the aforementioned Ordinance 2026-5 as read.

| Roll Call Vote     | Yes | No                        | Absent/Abstain        |
|--------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bonnie Butler      | X   |                           |                       |
| Rich Herzer        | X   |                           |                       |
| David Guth         | X   |                           |                       |
| Mike Toretta       | X   |                           |                       |
| Sarah Payne, Mayor | X   | (5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent | <b>Motion carried</b> |

**DISCUSSION - 25-mph speed limit through town of Asbury, Old Main Street, CR643** – *(Tabled until September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda)*

**REPORTS/UPDATES:**

**Wayne Ingram, Municipal Engineer** – (report submitted and on file/below)

**14 Dioxane GW Contamination** We are meeting Thursday to confirm paving limits required by the County and will be walking the roads with Montana to establish the required repaving in comparison to the preconstruction documentation on conditions. Montana is trying to document their authorizations for the material removal work. A change order has been submitted for the final material removal. They’ve indicated they will pave Willow Grove and the local road sections separately and will schedule it after that meeting. We need to get answers from the County and establish agreed upon paving limits to define final costs and change orders. Following that, we will jointly be meeting with NJDEP to discuss availability of additional grant funding. Attorney Benbrook will be in contact with Alex Lazorisak of Warren County and coordinate efforts with our engineer tomorrow to send a letter residents decisions of capping or re-permitting their wells. Engineer will coordinate with Foreman Biel and the installation of drainage pipe. It is hopeful that we will have paved roads by our September meeting.

**2023 NJDOT Local Aid- Millbrook Section 3** The resolution has been provided. Once authorized, we will provide notification to the co-op contractors for scheduling.

**2024 NJDOT Local Aid- Good Springs & Willow Grove Road Resurfacing** The intention was to perform the paving after completion of the Dioxane project. We are requesting an extension from NJDOT for which a resolution has been provided for approval. We intend to prepare a new cost estimate and resolution for the August meeting for reapproval and then notification to the contractor in August so that work can hopefully be performed this fall.

**2025 NJDOT Local Aid- Millbrook Section 4** The resolution has been provided. Once authorized, we will provide notification to the co-op contractors for scheduling.

**2026 NJDOT Local Aid- Copperfield Development Resurfacing** We would need authorization to design this project based upon the award. There is ample time in this grant, and this project can be deferred until next year if necessary.

**2027 NJDOT Local Aid** The grant application for the Copperfield development was submitted to NJDOT. A resolution has been provided for approval this month which must be uploaded to DOT to finalize the submission.

**Park & Recreation Grants** A grant has been awarded in the amount of \$67,700. The installation of fencing and parking appear to be two priorities for the project. The survey is complete and has been provided.

**Kevin Benbrook, Municipal Attorney** – nothing further to report

**Jim Onembo, Zoning Officer** – **absent** - (report submitted and on file)

**Joe Biel, DPW Foreman** – (report submitted and on file)  
Mr. Biel was updated on an earlier resolution to hire Jason Petty as Part-Time Summer Day Laborer, \$25/hr. and not to exceed 24 hours a week per Committeeperson Guth.

**Franklin Township Fire/EMS – Chief Tom Schaefer**  
**Chief reported June 2026 numbers: 9 Fire Calls, TYD 64 calls**  
A busy weekend with all the storms, totaling 11 calls. Two recruits have completed/passed Fire Fighter 1 & 2. The Car Show was a success. DPW Foreman Biel thanked fire for their assistance through weekend storms.

**EMS - Chief Karen Chiu**  
**Chief reported the June 2026 numbers:**  
EMS was dispatched to 21 calls this month, 4 calls were answered, Chief Chiu was out on medical.

**Shawna Tabert – OEM** – absent  
OEM Tabert informed the municipal clerk that nothing new to update from her end and is reachable by cell for any questions/comments if needed.

**Franklin Township Community Center** – Rich Herzer update  
The Community Center door was replaced.

**Open Space/Ag Advisory Commissions** – no meeting held

**Franklin Township Recreational Sports – Barbara and Pat Banes**  
Barbarra Banes thanked the committee for the adopted ordinance prohibiting dogs on soccer fields. Coordination between herself and Chief Chiu and the Touch a Truck event and use of fields September 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Committee Reports:**

**Mike Toretta** – nothing further to report.

**Rich Herzer**- nothing further to report.

**David Guth** – nothing further to report.

**Bonnie Butler** – Deputy Mayor Butler inquired if we would oil/chip this year. No money available in the budget this year. We had our annual insurance risk assessment inspection of the municipal building, community center and municipal garage and this is the first year that no perils were found. Conversation with Eddy Patient regarding Text My Gov, a resident alert system that you sign up through your cell phone to receive notices from the township. There is money in the Community Center Budget for the first year. Additional information to follow at our September meeting.

**Mayor, Sarah Payne** –  
Mayor Payne informed that the cell tower is moving along. An additional company has reached out and will coordinate efforts with the other company for an additional tower. Parts of our township have been without power since this weekend’s storms, hearing power won’t be restored until Wednesday at 11:30 p.m. Laura Winarski stated that utility company has been browning our power and this is not safe for our appliances.

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:**

At approximately 8:00 p.m. Mayor Payne turned the meeting over to Deputy Mayor Butler to join a conference call referencing the power outages in the area. The floor is now open to the Public.

Pat Banes/Karen Somers – concern to address Data Centers now instead of waiting until the Master Plan reevaluation.

Dave Leary – thank you for addressing the Dioxane Project and providing additional information when the road will be paved. The municipal clerk thanked Mr. Leary for the donation of the (2) banners in celebration of Americas 250<sup>th</sup>.

Hearing nothing further from the public, the Open Public Session was closed at 8:08 p.m. Unanimous vote.

On motion by Committeeperson Toretta and seconded by Committeeperson Herzer to approve the bills to be paid received by the CFO as submitted.

| Roll Call Vote     | Yes | No      | Absent/Abstain                   |
|--------------------|-----|---------|----------------------------------|
| Bonnie Butler      | X   |         |                                  |
| David Guth         | X   |         |                                  |
| Rich Herzer        | X   |         |                                  |
| Mike Toretta       | X   |         |                                  |
| Sarah Payne, Mayor | X   | (5) Yes | (0) No (0) Absent Motion carried |

On motion by Deputy Mayor Butler and seconded by Committeeperson Herzer hearing no objection, the meeting stands adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Denise L. Becton*  
Denise L. Becton, RMC/CMR  
Municipal Clerk