



TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN
County of Gloucester
State of New Jersey
1571 Delsea Drive
Franklinville, New Jersey 08322
(856) 694-1234

TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN PLANNING BOARD REORGANIZATION MEETING – MINUTES
January 20, 2026

The Secretary called the meeting to order.

Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Notice of this meeting has been given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act in the Annual Notice of Meetings. A copy was posted on the Township Website, notice of this meeting was sent to South Jersey Times and the Sentinel and a copy was posted at the Franklin Township Municipal Building.

Roll Call: Mr. Brandt: Present Mr. Clark: Present Mr. Fiorella: Present Mr. Keen: Absent
Mr. Kelly: Present Mr. Melleady: Present Mr. Szwed: Present
Mr. Travaglione: Present Mr. Petsch: Present
Mr. Ranson – Alternate 1: Present Mr. Kohute – Alternate #2: Absent

Mr. DeJesus swore reappointed members: Mr. Brandt, Mr. Ranson, Mr. Szwed and Mr. Melleady and new appointments: Mr. Fiorella

Board Nominations for 2026:

The Secretary asked for nominations for the Planning Board Chairman.

Mr. Szwed opens nominations for Planning Board Chairman. Mr. Travaglione nominates Mr. Petsch; Second: Mr. Kelly. No other nomination. Close nominations: Motion: Mr. Travaglione; Second: Mr. ; All in Favor: Unanimous Appoint Mr. Petsch as Planning Board Chairman:

Roll Call: Mr. Brandt: Yes
Mr. Clark: Yes
Mr. Fiorella: Yes
Mr. Kelly: Yes
Mr. Melleady: Yes
Mr. Ranson – Alternate 1: Yes
Mr. Szwed: Yes
Mr. Travaglione: Yes
Mr. Petsch: Yes

Open nomination for Solicitor: Motion: Mr. Travaglione nominates: Dasti & Staiger Attorney at Law; Second: Mr. Szwed. Mr. Kelly questioned why interested in traveling so far from the office to represent. Mr. Kelly also asked about travel expenses. Mr. DeJesus responded the firm represents all over and travel time is not billed.

Roll Call: Mr. Brandt: Yes
Mr. Clark: Yes
Mr. Fiorella: Yes
Mr. Kelly: No
Mr. Melleady: Yes
Mr. Ranson – Alternate 1: Yes
Mr. Szwed: Yes
Mr. Travaglione: Yes
Chairman Petsch: Yes

Open nomination for Vice Chairman: Mr. Szwed nominates Mr. Travaglione; Second: Mr. Brandt

Roll Call: Mr. Brandt: Yes
Mr. Clark: Yes
Mr. Fiorella: Yes
Mr. Kelly: Yes
Mr. Melleady: Yes
Mr. Ranson – Alternate 1: Yes
Mr. Szwed: Yes
Mr. Travaglione: Yes
Chairman Petsch: Yes

Open nomination for Board Secretary: Motion: Mr. Szwed nominates: Christina Mulford; Second: Mr. Brant.

Roll Call: Mr. Brandt: Yes
Mr. Clark: Yes
Mr. Fiorella: Yes
Mr. Kelly: Yes
Mr. Melleady: Yes
Mr. Ranson – Alternate 1: Yes
Mr. Szwed: Yes
Mr. Travaglione: Yes
Chairman Petsch: Yes

Open nomination for Engineer: Motion: Mr. Szwed nominates: Bryson & Yates Consulting Engineers, LLC Second: Mr. Travaglione.

Roll Call: Mr. Brandt: Yes
Mr. Clark: Yes
Mr. Fiorella: Yes
Mr. Kelly: Yes
Mr. Melleady: Yes
Mr. Ranson – Alternate 1: Yes
Mr. Szwed: Yes
Mr. Travaglione: Yes
Chairman Petsch: Yes

Motion to approve Newfield National Bank as Official Depository of 2026: Mr. Melleady; Second: Mr. Szwed.

Roll Call: Mr. Brandt: Yes
Mr. Clark: Yes
Mr. Fiorella: Yes
Mr. Kelly: Yes
Mr. Melleady: Yes
Mr. Ranson – Alternate 1: Yes
Mr. Szwed: Yes
Mr. Travaglione: Yes
Chairman Petsch: Yes

Motion to Approve the Calendar Meeting Dates for 2026: Mr. Szwed; Second: Mr. Travaglione; All in Favor: Unanimous

Motion to Approve South Jersey Times and the Sentinel as the Official Newspapers to advertise for 2026: Mr. Szwed; Second: Mr. Travaglione

Roll Call: Mr. Brandt: Yes
Mr. Clark: Yes

Mr. Fiorella: Yes
Mr. Kelly: Yes
Mr. Melleady: Yes
Mr. Ranson – Alternate 1: Yes
Mr. Szwed: Yes
Mr. Travaglione: Yes
Chairman Petsch: Yes

Professionals:

- Brandon E. DeJesus, Esq. - Dasti & Staiger, P.C.

Memorialization of Resolutions: None

Presentations:

Announced application ZB25-05 James Castelli would be heard February 17, 2026.

Communications: None

Correspondence: None

Minutes: December 16, 2025 Motion: Mr. Travaglione; Second: Mr. Melleady; All in Favor: Unanimous; Abstain: Mr. Fiorella and Mr. Ranson

Closed Session: None

Board Comments:

- Mr. Petsch addressed the social media conceptual plans of housing developments; no application has been filed with planning board.
- Mr. Kelly clarified the reasoning for his questioning of the solicitor prior in the meeting.
- Mr. Fiorella thanked the board and stated his intentions to the solicitor.

Adjourn Meeting: Motion: Mr. Travaglione; Second: Mr. Szwed; All in Favor: Unanimous

These minutes are a brief summary of the proceedings that took place on January 20, 2026 and should not be taken as verbatim testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Mulford
Board Secretary