

May 19th, 2026

The Franklin Township Supervisors met on the above date at the Franklin Township Administration Building located at 889 Fairyland Road. Township Officials present were Supervisors Nic Storm, Fred Kemmerer Jr, Leroy Kemmerer and Secretary-Treasurer Cady Guy. Chairman Nic Storm called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m., and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Fred Kemmerer Jr made a motion to approve April 21st, 2026, minutes. Nic Storm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The stocked ponds at Phifer's Ice Dam Park will be closed to anyone over the age of 15 from May 1 at 12:00 a.m. through June 1 at noon. Residents are reminded of the Beaver Run Rod & Gun Club event scheduled for May 23, 2026. Township officials reported that a new credit card machine from Jim Thorpe National Bank has been installed and is now operational after completing the necessary paperwork. Also, working on payments online. Diana from Numbers Made Easy visited the office on May 13 to review progress with QuickBooks operations. Officials also met with a fifth company to compare pricing and services for document shredding and electronic scanning as part of ongoing efforts to improve electronic filing systems. John Davis from Liquid Fuels met with township staff to answer questions and finalize required paperwork for receiving funding. Upcoming meetings include the Building Committee on June 2 at 7:00 p.m., the Recreation Committee on June 9 at 6:30 p.m., the Planning Commission on June 11 at 6:30 p.m., and the Board of Supervisors on June 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Treasurer Report - Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report. Nic Storm seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission – There was no planning Meeting.

Zoning Report – No report

UCC Building Code Official Report – No report

Fire Chief/Fire Police Report – Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the Fire Chief and Fire Police Report. Nic Storm seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Police – Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the Police Report. Nic Storm seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Road Crew – Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the Road Crew Report. Nic Storm seconded this motion.

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – No report

SEO Report – Fred Kemmerer Jr made a motion to approve the SEO Report. Nic Storm seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications – None

Citizen Participation - None

Unfinished Business – None

New Business –

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to approve the fire police to assist with traffic control at the upcoming st Luke's Hospice Ride event Saturday, May 30th with rain date of Sunday, May 31st. Nic Storm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm made a motion to

approve filing a lawsuit against Parryville site, LLC. Fred Kemmerer Jr seconded the motion. Discussion was opened and Fred Kemmerer explained about a blockage that had happened on the line, crew went out and cleaned it and sent a bill to the Parryville site, LLC and they did not pay. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm motioned to approve the fire police to assist with traffic control at upcoming Palmerton Memorial Day Parade. Fred Kemmerer Jr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm made a motion to approve Curious Kids for the usage of the bunker hill field for annual Father's Day picnic on June 11th. Fred Kemmerer Jr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Fred made a motion to approve KCE James Macort as the Building Code Official. Nic Storm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm made a motion to approve the fire company to participate in the Memorial Day Parade in Summit Hill on May 25th, 2026. Fred seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Fred Kemmerer Jr made a motion to approve the fire company to participate in the Lehighon High School Graduation parade. Nic Storm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Fred Kemmerer Jr made a motion to approve the fire company to participate in the PA250/July 4th parade in Weissport on July 4th with rain date July 5th. Nic Storm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm motioned to approve the fire company to provide standby services for the July 4th firework display at Sunny Rest Resort. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Discussion was opened and Fred Kemmerer Jr asked fire police if this is a regular event they attend and assist at. Fire police stated that it is a yearly thing they stand by and assist with Parryville fire police. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm made a motion to approve up to \$700.00 for uniform allowance to purchase the shirts for volunteers and public. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Discussion was open, Fred Kemmerer Jr discussed that the shirts were for the staff and volunteers for the recycling center and give extra shirts to kids at the open house. A resident, Ty Poole, asked if we have these types of things for the workers. Nic Storm stated that we do. A resident, Jill Renfrew, was curious about where we are getting the money for these extra things, and Nic Storm stated that last month there was a budget allowance approved for the recycling committee and \$3,000.00 was left over just from the dumpsters. So, it is coming from there. Motion carried unanimously. Fred Kemmerer Jr tabled the motion to approve the data ordinance. Nic Storm seconded the table. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm motioned to approve up to \$1,500.00 for signage for the recycle drop-off program. Fred Kemmerer Jr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm motioned to approve and appoint Terry Shaner to the planning board. Fred Kemmerer Jr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm motioned to approve the ratifying filing of declaration of taking for the property at Fairyland Rd and Wagner St. Fred Kemmerer Jr seconded the motion. Discussion opened and a resident asked what stages we are at with the property. Tom Nanovic stated that last July a resolution was made to condemn property, from his understanding there should be a plan that should have been filed, and the next step is waiting for court to schedule meeting to find agreement between the parties. Motion carried unanimously. Fred Kemmerer Jr made a motion to approve the donation of two school slow signs to the Lehighon Area School District. Nic Storm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion was open Nic Storm stated that since we sold the Franklin Elementary school and the signs were taken down, they have been sitting in the shed no one knows how we bought them or got them. A resident, Rod Green, stated that it was from a grant many years ago. Nic Storm stated that is what he thought and that we did not just want to sell them, we would rather donate them to the school district so they can either use them for parts or use the whole thing all together. Motion carried unanimously. Fred Kemmerer Jr made a motion to schedule a special

meeting to discuss amendments of the zoning ordinance. Nic Storm seconded the motion. Discussion was opened Nic Storm stated it is going to be a discussion about the data center ordinance. A Jill Renfrew asked if we got sample ordinances. Nic Storm stated yes. Jill asked if we had recommendations from the planning committee or engineer. Nic Storm stated KCE engineer, Greg Haas, has drafted multiple ordinances and has a pretty firm grip on it and speaking with outside municipalities, and asking them what they have on theirs. Fred Kemmerer stated then that this would need to first be approved by the planning commission. Tom Nanovic asked if they are going to speak about other zoning issues, since we have an outstanding zoning ordinance that needs to be updated. Jill asked if this was open to the public and Tom Nanovic said yes, absolutely. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm made a motion to amend the agenda to add roadmaster request and permission to approve the purchasing of concrete bin blocks from Rockhill concrete in Parryville to the agenda. Fred Kemmerer Jr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm made a motion to approve the purchasing of 32- 2x2x6 and 12- 2x2x3 concrete blocks from Rockhill concrete in Parryville for a total of \$2,740.00. Fred Kemmerer Jr seconded the motion. Discussion opened and Fred Kemmerer Jr discussed that we were going to try and keep different stones separate and make sure everything is sorted out and organized and cleaned. Nic Storm also stated that if we can also stack the blocks, it will keep things more organized as well. Motion carried unanimously.

A resident asked why we are just donating these signs to Leighton School district and we are not selling them. Fred Kemmerer Jr stated that we got these from a grant so we cannot sell them. Another resident, former board member, stated that it was from a grant.

Citizens Questions –

Property owners Bradley and Cynthia May presented a formal statement regarding issues involving American Tower Corporation and its leased wireless tower site at 295 Evergreen Road in Leighton. The Mays stated they were not asking the Board to take sides in their civil dispute with American Tower, but instead requested the Township enforce zoning ordinances and address nuisance concerns raised by nearby residents. According to the statement, the dispute began in late February when contractors allegedly placed an unauthorized trailer outside the leased area and operated a diesel generator continuously for more than five days, creating noise and exhaust concerns. The property owners also claimed a submitted insurance certificate was deficient and failed to meet lease requirements. The statement noted that on March 5, 2026, Township Code Enforcement Officer Jim Macort issued a Stop Work Order at the site for an alleged zoning violation. The Mays further alleged that a building permit application incorrectly listed American Tower's corporate headquarters as the property owner instead of the actual landowners. The Mays said they served American Tower with a Notice of Material Lease Default on March 6 citing six lease violations, and claimed the issues remained unresolved after the cure period expired. Additional concerns were raised over a mechanical alarm that reportedly sounded continuously for nearly seven days beginning May 6, disturbing neighboring residents. The property owners stated that American Tower failed to respond promptly despite repeated requests and police involvement. The alarm was reportedly silenced on May 12. The Mays requested that their written timeline and questions be entered into the Township's official record and meeting minutes. Tom Nanovic repeatedly stated the matter was considered a private civil dispute between the Mays and their tenants and advised them to work through their attorney

rather than seek legal representation or intervention from the Township. The residents argued that their concerns extended beyond the civil dispute and involved whether permits were properly issued, whether stop-work orders were correctly removed, and whether Township ordinances and noise regulations were being enforced. The Mays said they had submitted multiple emails and Right-to-Know requests seeking explanations about permits, stop-work orders, and possible unauthorized work, including fiber optic installation. They also expressed frustration that they had not received responses from Township officials or a written explanation regarding why a stop-work order was lifted. Cynthia expressed with the Right to know, dealing with the ordinances. Tom explained that zoning ordinances and public records are available online and stated that any appeal of permit decisions or Township actions would need to follow formal legal procedures. He also indicated that the Township solicitor and zoning officer believed the issue remained a civil matter unless evidence showed violations of Township ordinances. Rod Green questioned why legal action and attorneys were being discussed instead of simply providing records from the project file. He argued that taxpayers were tired of paying for lawyers and believed the requested information should already exist in the folder maintained for the job site, particularly by Keystone Consulting Engineers. He stated that if documents could not be produced, it suggested someone was not properly documenting the work. He urged the Board to direct staff, consultants, or subcontractors to provide the records and hold them accountable if documentation was missing. Tom Nanovic responded that Keystone was not the Township's Zoning at the time and stated that accusations about employees or consultants not doing their jobs were opinions rather than proven facts. He stated that people were free to speculate and make accusations but emphasized that no evidence had been presented showing anyone failed to perform their duties. The discussion concluded with residents insisting that the requested records should exist and arguing that the appeal process occurred because the information had not been provided.

Ty Poole expressed cautious optimism about the township's new recycling program, referencing prior unsuccessful efforts in Franklin Township and Carbon County. He asked whether the program was voluntary and what would happen if it began to lose money. Nic Storm and Fred Kemmerer Jr confirmed the program will be voluntary because the township does not meet the population threshold (about 10,000 residents) required for mandatory recycling. Another resident raised the question about financial sustainability, whether recycling volumes are low. Nic Storm explained that major costs would mainly involve upfront expenses such as purchasing dumpsters, with some offset possible through revenue from recyclable materials. Nic Storm noted that a 30-yard dumpster could generate roughly \$50 a ton. Another resident also raised concerns about contamination from non-recyclable items, which could reduce efficiency and revenue. Nic Storm noted that the Lions Club and part-time workers would help manage drop-off and sorting. Fred Kemmerer Jr stated the program would be a learning experience to determine what materials residents are able to place as recyclable materials. Additional discussion focused on handling tin cans through the Lions Club. Nic Storm presented options including partnering with the Lions Club to send them contributions, which they would need to provide a 5-year average of what was collected, or just relocating the bin to reduce improper dumping and improve participation clarity.

A resident asked about the recent purchase of property, the new municipal building. He stated that it was in poor condition with issues like mold, and a damaged roof. He also stated the investment was wasteful, overpriced, and suggested it would require extensive additional repairs including possible sewer work. He questioned whether the project had been properly inspected

before purchase. Fred Kemmerer Jr stated that there was a professional inspector that went in before the purchase. David Bradley suggested that the money could have been better used by renting existing space instead of buying or renovating the current building Terry Shaner noted about selling the newly purchased building and build a brand-new building. David Bradley asked about what is going to happen with the current building and if we are selling it and asked if it was appraised. Nic Storm stated that we may sell it but would not want to get it appraised just yet since we would not be ready to sell. Rod asked why we would sell it and just demolish the building and keep the land. Nic Storm replied that is also an option to explore.

David Bradley then asked how much money remained in the township's bank accounts after budgeting and expenditures with the building fund, Fred Kemmerer Jr noted that budget work was being handled through a third party and secretary were still learning the process of QuickBooks. David Bradley asked if we took in more money than used. Fred Kemmerer said no, every year we have a deficit. The last 3 years had a deficit.

David Bradley then asked why we would donate the school slow signs to the school district and not just keep them for ourselves. Tom Nanovic stated that the township had 2 school signs that they did not need anymore and wanted to donate to the school district, who may be able to use them, that it benefits everyone.

A resident had a concern about the location of the new municipal building with traffic patterns for residents and then also police trying to get to the other side of the highway on 209.

Rod Green then asked why we constantly have a deficit each year stating that they maybe only had one in the 18 years he was the supervisor on the board. He stated the price of homes went up and the township gets 1% of that. He doesn't understand why we do not have money at the end of the year.

David Bradley stated that the township should let the residents help with putting things on the agenda, Nic Storm stated that anyone can submit information or requests to be considered for inclusion on the township meeting agenda. However, submitting something does not guarantee it will be placed on the agenda, as items are typically reviewed and scheduled according to the township's process and priorities.

Nic Storm wanted to bring up one last thing before the meeting ended. A township road crew member was injured on the job this week on the garbage truck and to keep the individual in the residents' thoughts for a speedy recovery.

Jill Renfrew apologized and wanted to acknowledge and appreciate the fact that residents have the right to attend and speak their concerns. She also stated the public comment portion was often conducted in a disruptive or confrontational manner, which felt like a "heckling session" directed at the board.

There were no questions from the press.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Nic Storm seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.