

July 18, 2023

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 Fred Kemmerer Jr., Robin Cressley, and Jason Frey; Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Cressley. A list of others in attendance is attached to the Minute Book. Chairman Kemmerer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Approval of Minutes

Having received no additions or corrections, Robin Cressley made a motion approving the minutes from the June 20, 2023 Township Meeting. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report

*Reminder to Residents: Please DO NOT Mow Grass onto the Township Roads.

*Supervisors are looking for letters of interest to serve on the Building Committee Board
Please submit your letter to 900 Fairyland Road, Leighton, Pa 18235

Treasurer's Report – Jason Frey moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
(Chairman Kemmerer recently reviewed the budget to June 30, 2023 and stated the Township Budget is on track and all departments are looking good).

Zoning Report- Zoning Officer Paul Jarrett submitted his report from 6/12/23 through 7/14/23. Revenue from Zoning Permits: \$2,576.55. Variance Exception Request: \$0.00. Copies on file.

UCC Building Code Official – Received report from Lehigh Valley Inspection Services from 6/12/23 through 7/14/23. Administrative fees turned in with report \$799.50. Copies on file.

Fire Chief's Report - Received the June, 2023 report for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company, as well as for the Fire Police. Copies are on file.

Police Reports – Received report from 5/28/23-6/24/23

Road Crew Report - Report received from (6/11/23-6/24/23) & (6/25/23-7/8/23)

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – Received minutes from the June 19, 2023 Meeting.

Sewer Enforcement Officer- Scott Bieber submitted the SEO report from 4/29/23-7/6/23

Communications -

Received the 2023 2nd Quarter reports from Nationwide – Police Pension – Aggregate Report for the Police Pension Plan from the period of 4/1/23- 6/30/23; Each Township Supervisor received a copy of 2023's second quarter reports through email; Received a letter of approval from the Carbon County Conservation District regarding the Lehigh Canal Tow Path Embankment Stabilization Project adequacy review; Emails: PSATS, LTAP, PennDot, and NEPA.

Citizen Participation-

Patrick Heller of Rapid Realty Solutions of Collegeville attended the meeting to present plans for a housing development. The proposal is for a 72 lot single home development located on Indian Hill Road to be known as Franklin Commons. They purchased the property (97 acres) from David Werner with the idea of placing a development on the property with the two (2) hospitals recently built (St. Luke's & Lehigh Valley) that usually means growth and thought it would be a perfect location. Their hope is to run the sewer line from Fairyland Road up to Indian Hill to 72 homes and also will connect to the water from Long Run Rd. This development would require a Home Owners Association (HOA). All utilities would be underground. It would need to be a collaborative effort for this development to work, such as zoning relief, sewer capacity approval etc. Currently the way the development is laid out it has 20 lots – 1 acre, 20 lots ¾ to an 1 acre lots and 32 lots that are ½- ¾ of acre which does not meet the zoning setbacks in our agricultural zoned area.

Mr. Heller asked what the next step would be? Supervisor Kemmerer said he would be open to the idea continuing the conversation. Mr. Heller said he would much rather work with the township then against it. Chairman Kemmerer said they want to protect the current taxpayers as well as the future taxpayers, ultimately it is your property and you can develop it as you want as long as the guidelines are all met. Mr. Heller stated with all of the stormwater mandates etc. the water runoff issues that exist now, will be corrected or it won't pass.

Lynn Diehl asked if the proposed development decided to connect to the central sewer would the residents who live along Indian Hill Rd be made to connect to the sewer line. The Supervisors said the residents would have to follow the current Sewer Connection Ordinance.

Resident Michael Everett submitted a letter regarding his concerns about the proposed development.

Linda & Roy Christman from the Save Carbon County Group were present to ask again for the Board of Supervisor's support by signing the Resolution pertaining to the land application of sewage sludge. To date eighteen (18) municipalities out of twenty-two (22) signed this Resolution.

Old Business- None

New Business-

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-11 – Land Application of Sewage Sludge. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve/renew the 2023/2024 Junkyard Permit Application from the Lehigh Scrap Recycling/JME Land Company Inc. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to send a letter of request to the Borough of Palmerton, Borough of Lehigh, and Lehigh Township asking for their Fire Police to assist with traffic control for the Franklin Township Fire Company's Block party to be held on July 28th and July 29th. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve the request from the Lower Towamensing Township Supervisors on behalf of the Carbon County Fair Association for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Police to assist with traffic control during the Carbon County Fair from August 7, 2023 through August 12, 2023. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the request from the Franklin Township Lions' Club to have the Franklin Township Fire Police assist with parking cars for the Picnic in the Park festivities on Sunday, September 17, 2023 from 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve a waiver requested for the Carpenter Subdivision Plans from Section 702.ag – Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory sites. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve a waiver requested from the Carpenter Subdivision Plans from Section 702.ah- Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission archaeologically sensitive sites and historic sites. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve a waiver request for the Carpenter Subdivision Plan from Section 514 of the Franklin Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, concerning the width to depth ratio for proposed Lot No. 2. (The proposed Lot #2 is irregularly shaped and may not compile with the depth to width ratio as stated in the Ordinance). Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the training request for Officer Lekka to attend the course titled On-Scene Collision Investigation at the Northeast Training Center for the Pennsylvania State Police from 9/25/23-10/6/23. (There will be no cost to the township as it is within driving distance for Officer Lekka). Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd -

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to advertise Burning Ordinance 2023-01. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to add an item to the agenda Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to resubmit to the Carbon County Planning Commission and Franklin Township's Planning Commission the corrected Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) and the corrected copy of the Franklin Township Zoning Ordinance along with the updated Zoning Map for their approval/recommendation. All grammatical errors were corrected. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (Fred thanked everyone involved past and present who assisted with the process of updating the Zoning & SALDO).

Citizens Questions/Comments -

Township resident Larry Williams was present to ask if there is a dog leash law. Chairman Kemmerer said yes there is a State Law regarding all dogs must be on a leash.

Mr. Williams also asked if we have a full time staff of Police Officers because he does not see them drive by his home along Long Run Rd. He almost got hit while retrieving his mail. He suggested the mobile Speed Limit signs be placed on Long Run Road once in a while.

Chairman Kemmerer also stated they have two (2) new solar radar signs that will collect data etc. but have not had the manpower to put them together and install the pole sites.

Fire Chief Lynn Diehl thanked the Board of Supervisors for attending the ceremony that was held for Bruce Wolfe and Francis Kresge for their service of fifty (50) years to the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company. He said it meant a lot to them that all of the Supervisors attended and presented a plaque.

Questions from the Press - None

Jason Frey made a motion to adjourn the meeting 8:05 p.m. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brenda Cressley, Secretary-Treasurer