

December 19, 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, Robin Cressley, and Jason Frey; and Secretary Brenda Cressley. A list of others in attendance at the meeting 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 –

Jason Frey made a motion approving the minutes from the November 21, 2023 Township Meeting. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion approving the minutes from the November 29, 2023 Budget Workshop Meeting. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion approving the minutes from the November 30, 2023 Township Meeting. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report –

There will be changes in Garbage Collection Pick-up for Christmas & New Year's Day, the changes are as follows:

Monday, December 25th collection will be Tuesday, December 26, 2023

Monday, January 1st collection will be Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Announced that Christmas Trees can be disposed of at the Phifer's Ice Dams Park using the Penn St. entrance beginning Saturday, December 30, 2023 until January 31, 2024.

Supervisors held interviews for a Full Time Road Crew/Garbage Crew position and a Part-Time Garbage Crew position on December 14, 2023.

Announced: the Organization Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Franklin Township Office is selling 6" cold hoagie tickets @ \$5.50 each to help raise money for the revitalization of Phifer's Ice Dam Playground. Hoagies are from Cindy's Deli. Tickets can only be purchased from the Franklin Township Administration Office during business hours. The ticket expires March 1, 2024.

Treasurer's Report – Jason Frey moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Robin Cressley. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Report - Zoning Officer Paul Jarrett submitted his report as of 11/27/23 Revenue from Zoning Permits: \$101.80. Variance application fees - \$0.00. A detailed monthly report showing the hours spent on zoning matters was also submitted.

Reports Cont'd-

UCC Building Code Official – Received report from Paul Jarrett, Building Code Officer as of 11/27/23. Total fees turned in: \$54.50.

Fire Chief's Report - Received the November, 2023 reports for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company and the Franklin Township Fire Police. Copies are on file.

Police Reports- Chief Doll, submitted the police criminal activity report from 10/15/23-11/11/23. Copy is on file

Road Crew Reports- Submitted from 11/12/23-11/25/23 and 11/26/23-12/9/23.

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – Ronald Solt submitted the Central Carbon Municipal Authority's minutes from their November 20, 2023. This was Ronald Solt's last meeting as Franklin Township's representative to the CCMA Board.

SEO Report- Franklin Township's Sewer Enforcement Officer (SEO), Scott Bieber submitted his report from 9/12/23 –11/30/23. Total fees received: \$4,550.00

All reports were approved as submitted.

Communications –

Received the 2023 Dividend from PSATS Unemployment Compensation Group Trust
Emails: NEPA, PSATS News Bulletin, DEP, PSATS Grassroots, and LTAP

Citizen Participation-

Thomas Lawler was present on behalf of his family and residents of the Sawmill Development to discuss the Fazenda Fishing Camp Land Development Project. He just wanted to emphasize they want to be respectful neighbors and expect the owners of the Fishing Camp to be respectful too. He said since the last township meeting the plans were changed to have up to two bedrooms and a loft, and at no time was an answer given on how many guests would be allowed along with the fifty (50) members. He feels this will cause more noise and traffic and needs to be addressed before giving approval. He also said the owners spoke about having their own security that would have the residents adhere to a 9:00 p.m. on weekdays and 11:00 p.m. on weekends. Mr. Lawler went on to say he is concerned on how this will be enforced. He feels we need more police officers and a code enforcement officer to help with enforcement. He would also like to see a Noise Ordinance in place.

Sawmill Development Resident James Bestider was present to say he is not against the Fazenda Fishing Camp but he is in favor of a Noise Ordinance being adopted and would like to know why Franklin Township does not have a Noise Ordinance already in place. Chairman Kemmerer stated our police department feels what we have in place is sufficient and is addressed by State Law. Both Lawler and Bestider feel this is unacceptable and we need to have Police 24/7.

Citizen Participation Cont'd-

Thomas Lawler's other concern he brought up was he felt a traffic study should have been completed due to the location of the entrance to the Fishing Camp.

Chairman Kemmerer said prior to that meeting he spoke to Carbon Engineering and asked if a traffic study was needed. Joe Zucofski felt it was not needed it did not generate enough traffic. Also Carbon Engineering said they did not need a HOP permit. Fred Kemmerer said he attended the open dialogue meeting between the public and the owners of the Fazenda Fishing Camp and felt the event went well.

Unfinished Business- None

New Business -

Robin Cressley made a motion giving final approval to the 2024 budget for all funds (General Fund, State Fund, (Liquid Fuels), Sewer Operating Fund, Recreation Fund, Fire Hydrant Fund, Road Equipment Fund, Capital Project Garbage Collection Equipment, Capital Reserve Police Vehicle & Equipment Fund; Capital Reserve Building Fund; and Capital Reserve Employee Benefits Fund. Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. Chairman Kemmerer noted there will be no tax increase, as the Township stayed within its budget and noted there has been no tax increase since 2010. He also said there will be no garbage collection fee increase in 2024.

Jason Frey made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-15 setting the Tax Rates for the fiscal year 2024. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-16 setting the Garbage Collection rates for 2024 with no increase in the garbage collection fees for regular and business customers only. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Jason Frey confirmed the yearly amounts of \$255.00 regular and \$170.00 for Senior Citizens. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-17 Phifer's Ice Dam Pavilion Fee Resolution. There will be an increase in the rental fee by \$50.00. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to request RFP's for Health Insurance Plans. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the following waivers that were requested for the proposed Fazenda Fishing Camp Land Development Plan. (Crazy Trout LLC):

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the waiver request from *SALDO Section 403 – Preliminary and Final Plan*. A waiver is being requested from this section, their intent is to have the plans reviewed as a combined preliminary/final plan application. This will help to expedite the process for the Township and Staff. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd-

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the waiver request from *SALDO Section 619 – Parking and Loading Area Paving*. A waiver is being requested to use a more cost-effective paving specification “see attached plans” The proposed areas are privately owned and will infrequently be used by heavy vehicles. Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the waiver request from *SALDO Section 702 .ah-Pennsylvania Historic Museum Archeologically sensitive sites and historic sites*. A waiver is being requested because their research indicates this site is not in an archeologically sensitive area nor is it a historic site. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to give conditional plan approval to the Fazenda Fishing Camp Land Development Plan based on all comments are addressed from Carbon Engineering and from all outside agencies. Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion was held. Supervisor Frey asked if an HOP permit would be required.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve the order/purchase of 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe PPV. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve the estimate/quote from DHTCS, LLC for cameras to be installed at the Phifer’s Ice Dam Park from ARPA funds. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (Fred Kemmerer said the cameras are needed to help with the ongoing vandalism, dumping garbage in the dumpster etc. this is money well spent).

Robin Cressley made a motion to hire one Part-Time Garbage Crew employee. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to hire one Part-Time Fill-in Garbage & Road Crew employee. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to review the Heere Subdivision Plan due to the question brought to our attention from Carbon Search and Settlement. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held: The township office received a call from Carbon Search and Settlement regarding the selling of Lot #3 of the Paul Heere Subdivision and showing liens on said property. Atty. Nanovic will research the record with the Prothonotary’s Office regarding the liens. It was noted whoever owns this property must install three (3) retention ponds, is responsible for maintaining Gerald Drive, and cannot not use Gerald Drive for a driveway entrance because Gerald Drive is a private road/flag lot and already has two existing homes using the road.

Outgoing Supervisor Jason Frey was presented a plaque from Chairman Fred Kemmerer and Vice-Chairman Robin Cressley. The plaque was given in recognition for his six (6) years of service given to Franklin Township serving as a Supervisor and also as Chairman of the Franklin Township Board of Supervisors. He also received a certificate of service from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS). Supervisor Frey thanked all township officials, the road crew, and the police department, stating they all do a great job.

Public – Questions/Comments –

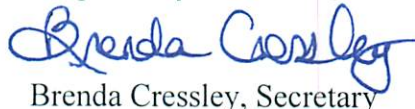
Darrin Heckman from Keystone Consulting was present representing the owners of the Fazenda Fishing Camp. He stated for the record they have a lot of guidelines to follow when reviewing a Land Development Plan. ADA regulations were addressed on the plan (parking spaces and ramp to cabins). Mr. Heckman also said the square footage of the cabins did not change by adding another bedroom, the footprint stays the same it doesn't matter what is inside. He also stated any new structure will have to meet the occupancy loads. Their business must conduct their own research regarding SALDO Section#702 the Historical Research. They must also complete an application for the PNDI environmental review through the state. The state recognizes endangered species and reviews what buildings are on the property. If the state finds any endangered species or historical buildings the township will be notified. Mr. Heckman said the state reviewed the PNDI application and found nothing to report.

James Bestider asked how much it would cost to employ another police officer. Robin Cressley said he would guess around \$125,000.00 including wages and benefits. Thomas Lawler said we need to have a plan in place in the future to hire additional police officers. He said we need to do what is best for the community.

Questions from the Press - None

Jason Frey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brenda Cressley, Secretary