

September 20, 2022

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, Jason Frey and; Secretary 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 from the August 16, 2022 Township Meeting minutes, Robin Cressley made a motion approving the minutes as submitted. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2022 workshop meeting (Beltzville & Pohopoco Drive traffic issues). Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2022 workshop meeting – (Emergency Traffic Issues/Detours. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report-

Announced change in Garbage Collection for the Columbus Day Holiday:
Monday, October 10th pick-up is changed to Tuesday, October 11th

Electronic Recycling Event will be held Saturday, October 1, 2022 (from 9:00 am -11:00 a.m.)
(THIS EVENT IS FOR FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY)

On Thursday, August 18, 2022, Chairman Kemmerer along with Township Engineer Mike Tirpak met with Terry Shaner regarding the Red Hill Road Culvert & Guardrail.

A public workshop meeting was held on August 24, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. regarding the traffic issues along Pohopoco Drive and Beltzville State Park entrance.

A public workshop meeting was held on September 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss traffic issues and detours during an emergency situation (car accidents on the Pa Turnpike etc.).

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

Zoning Report – Zoning Officer Paul Jarrett submitted his reports for September 2022. Revenue from Zoning Permits: \$1,262.00. Variance Exception Request: \$0.00 Copies on file.

UCC Building Code Official – Building Code Official, Paul Jarrett submitted his reports for September 2022. Revenue from Building Permits: \$536.00 Copies on file.

Fire Chief's Report - Received the August 2022 report for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company, as well as for the Fire Police. Copies are on file.

Reports Cont'd:

Police Reports - Received the police report from Chief Jason Doll from August 7, 2022- September 3, 2022. Copies are on file.

Road Crew Report: - Report received from 8/7/22-8/20/22 & 8/21/22-9/3/22.

Central Carbon Municipal Authority- Received minutes from the August 15, 2022 Meeting

SEO Report – SEO Scott Bieber submitted his report from 6/21/22-8/19/22.

Jason Frey moved to approve all reports as submitted. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications:

Received the Cooperative Zoning Ordinance and SALDO Update grant reimbursement in the amount of \$13,829.33 the grant was for \$45,000.00 and the amount was 1/3 share of the \$41,488 spent between Franklin Township, Mahoning Township, and Lehigh Borough; Email from DEP informing us that Carbon County is located in a DROUGHT WATCH; Letters from DEP regarding the Inspection of Phifer Ice Dam Park's Upper and Lower Ponds, the Upper Pond has no deficiencies and is well maintained, the Lower Pond needs the concrete joints sealed and kept cleared of all vegetation on the spillway, and the holes along the crest should be repaired. Copy of letters are on file. ARPA second round of funding was received on 9/9/2022, (ACH Deposit to JTNB); Received emails from LTAP, PSATS, NEPA, PSATS News Bulletin

Unfinished Business- None

Citizen Participation:

Danny Eckman was present to bring the Township's attention to a water runoff problem he is experiencing on his property, which is located next to the Township Road Crew Garage and Police Station. He supplied the Supervisors with pictures showing the muddy/wet areas and also showed the Board a sample of the moss/algae from the creek that runs through his yard. He stated the water runoff is running into the creek which runs into the Phifer's Ice Dams and is concerned that it could cause something to happen to the fish in the dams. He spoke to Franklin Township's SEO Scott Bieber. Mr. Bieber submitted his report on his site investigation to the Board of Supervisors. (Letter is on file) He will inform the Board of the lab test results when he receives them.

Roy Christman was present and stated he was from Towamensing Township and belongs to an environmental group called "Save Carbon County." He wanted to bring awareness to the Township about the sewer sludge that is being used. He stated he is not against the use of fertilizer but is against the use of the sewer sludge.

Lucy Freck from the environmental group "Save Carbon County" was also in attendance to discuss the Class B sewer Sludge. She said Maine has banned the use of sewer sludge. She feels by using the sludge it lowers the property values and may create a hazard to our water supply.

Citizen Participation Cont'd:

Linda Christman from the same group was also present. She feels that residents should be able to stop the usage of the sludge and the Township Supervisors should be able to have some control on the spreading of it. The Save Carbon County group members supplied the Board of Supervisors with a copy of a Resolution regarding the land application of sewage sludge within Franklin Township to support their cause in controlling the use of sewer sludge in all of Carbon County.

All three supervisors have some knowledge on this matter and explained to the residents present that the Board understands and has been through the process previously with a farmer in our Township. The Supervisors said they appreciated their time and hope they can accomplish what they set out to do.

Resident Tim Foster was present to ask if the Zoning Officer sent the neighboring property owners a letter regarding the Airbnb. He said the problem still exists and would like something done about the matter. Chairman Kemmerer said we are getting closer to adopting our Zoning & SALDO Ordinances. Once they are adopted we can then start to work on enforcing the use of Airbnbs'.

Zachary Wilusz was present to show the Board of Supervisors the pictures that were taken regarding his Eagle Scout Project. He explained how they repaired and painted park benches. They developed a reflection area with a park Bench and butterfly bush that overlooks one of the dams located at the Phifer's Ice Dam Park. His project is now completed and submitted, now he must wait to be awarded his Eagle Scout Award. Supervisor Cressley praised Mr. Wilusz for all of his hard work and congratulated him on his accomplishments.

New Business –

Supervisor Fred Kemmerer Jr., Chief Administrative Officer of the Franklin Township Police Pension Plan, presented the Plan's Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the year of 2023 as \$54,842.00. Jason Frey made a motion to accept the 2023 MMO for the Franklin Township Police Pension Plan as presented. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Fred Kemmerer Jr., Chief Administrative Officer of the Franklin Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan, presented the Plan's Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the year 2023 as \$73,655.00. Robin Cressley made a motion to accept the 2023 MMO for the Franklin Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan as presented. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to end Officer Jared Green's probation period as of September 1, 2022, (Hire date 9/1/2021). A letter of recommendation to end his probation period was supplied by Chief Jason Doll. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Supervisor Cressley commented Officer Green is doing a great job.

Jason Frey made a motion upon the recommendation received from the interim roadmaster to extend Brian Miller's probation period retroactive from August 28, 2022, (Hire date- 2/28/2022) for an additional thirty (30) days - 9/28/2022. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd –

Jason Frey made a motion to approve the request from the Carbon County Commissioners to have the Franklin Township Fire Police assist with parking cars on September 11, 2022 from 11:a.m. until 1:15 p.m. for the Dedication of our new Emergency Services Training Center and a 9-11 Memorial Service. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Kemmerer commented he attended the dedication and noticed Franklin Township's Fire Police were there and said it is so nice to see them helping others, "Hats off to them."

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the letter of request from the Borough of Palmerton to have Franklin Township's Fire Police assist with traffic control for the following events: VALOR Charity Motorcycle Ride- Saturday, October 8, 2022 and the Bo Tkach Turkey Trot – Thursday, November 24, 2022. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022- 16 (Anti-Nepotism Policy). Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to approve the extension of the Declaration of Disaster regarding Covid-19 until December 31, 2022. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Jason Frey abstained. Motion carried.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve Chairman Kemmerer's attendance to the PSATS Northeast Regional Forum on Thursday, September 22, 2022 in Tannersville at the cost of \$99.00 for members. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the settlement and to authorize Chairman Kemmerer to sign the Proof of Loss on behalf of Franklin Township with PIRMA regarding Christman Ballfield's Concession Stand. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to table Numbers 11 & 12 on the agenda regarding the approval of the draft Zoning & Saldo Ordinances, due to lack of engineering comments. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the waiver request from Woody Frey to waive the requirement (Saldo Ordinance- Section 703.z) for a landscaping plan needed at the Franklin Heights Complex LLC Land Development Plans and noted the waiver requested needs to be added as a note on the Land Development Plan. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to give conditional approval to the Franklin Heights Complex LLC Land Development Plans based on meeting the criteria/comments from Carbon Engineering and approval of the Stormwater Plans. Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-17 which requests a Local Share Account (LSA) Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority in the amount of \$130,425.00 on behalf of the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company's "Extrication Tools Replacements and Upgrades Project" and; designating the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and the Secretary to execute all documents and agreements. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd –

Jason Frey made a motion to table the approval of the St. Luke's Medical Office Building's Cost Estimate/Developer's Agreement, due to lack of engineering comments and paperwork required. Robin Cressley seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve the request from the Borough of Lehighton for the Franklin Township Fire Police to assist with traffic control for their Halloween parade to be held on Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. (Rain date is Sunday, October 16, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.) Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to schedule Trick or Treat night to be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens Questions/Comments – None

Questions from the Press - None

Robin Cressley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:50 p.m. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Cressley- Secretary