

July 19, 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, 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

Robin Cressley made a motion approving the minutes from the June 21, 2022 Township Meeting. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion approving the minutes from the June 20, 2022 Workshop Meeting on Pedestrian Crosswalks Safety. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report

The Supervisors held a three way telephone conversation on July 6<sup>th</sup> and July 7<sup>th</sup> regarding a personnel matter

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 report from 6/22/22 through 7/13/22. Revenue from Zoning Permits: \$307.60. Variance Exception Request: \$0.00. Copies on file.

UCC Building Code Official – Received report from Lehigh Valley Inspection Services from 6/22/22 through 7/13/22. Administrative fees turned in with report: \$472.50. Copies on file.

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

Police Reports – Received report from 6/12/22-7/9/22

Road Crew Report - Report received from 6/12/2022-6/25/2022 & 6/26/2022-7/9/2022

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – Received minutes from the June 20, 2022

Sewer Enforcement Officer- None submitted

Communications -

Received the 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter reports from Nationwide – Police Pension – Aggregate Report for the Police Pension Plan from the period of 4/1/22- 6/30/22; Each Township Supervisor received a copy of 2022's second quarter reports; Invitation from the Carbon County Commissioners to attend the dedication ceremony for the new Police & Fire Training Facility on Sunday, September 11, 2022; Email from Timm Berger from Rep Doyle Heffley's office informing the Supervisors that the 2022 LSA Program is Now Open; Received the completed Chapter 94 report; Letter from CCMA approving the requested capacity of 2289 gallons per day for the St. Luke's Medical Office Building; Notice from the Office of the Budget that ACH payment will be deposited into our account in the amount of \$691.33 on or around 7/15/2022 left over ARPA money from the first round this money had to be divided up before the second round of ARPA Funds could be given; Emails from NEPA, PSATS, DEP, and LTAP, L3P State Contract Checklist

Citizen Participation-

Business owner Nathan Andreas was present to voice his concerns about our police department. He recently had an incident where he had scrap material stolen and the culprits were caught on camera it wasn't until a day or two later that a police officer showed up. He called the State Police first and they told him to call Franklin Township's Police Department which when he did no one answered. He asked why our department seems to be understaffed, he said if it is because of budget restraints he would be happy to pay more taxes to have more police officers on staff. The Board of Supervisors responded to Mr. Andreas by explaining we currently do have 5 full-time police officers one of which is on light duty. He works his shift but someone else has to be on staff with him, he cannot answer calls. The officers are allotted their time off leaving some empty shifts. When all 5 officers work their shift there are only two shifts per week that are open. Chairman Kemmerer stated "We manage with what we have".

Mr. Andreas asked why they do not have an answering machine. When they do not answer their office telephone you are to call the non-emergency communications center to relay the message to the officer on duty. They act as their answering machine Fire Chief Lynn Diehl added. You will find all of the telephone numbers on Franklin Township's website.

Kevin Christman attended the supervisors meeting to ask for help with the traffic issues on Pohopoco Drive at Beltzville. Recently people were double parking on Pohopoco Drive blocking both lanes of traffic creating a great safety concern. Mr. & Mrs. Kamowski were present and supported Mr. Christman's concerns. He thinks with collaboration of Municipal Officials, Rangers, and State Representatives the problem can be taken care by opening the park earlier (possibly 5:00 a.m.) and closing it when it is full. The back-up of traffic will then go away. The Supervisors agreed to set up a meeting with Beltzville State Park Officials, Representatives Heffley & Meuser, and the Supervisors and try to agree on a plan to take care of the traffic issues around the Beltzville State Park Area. If possible Chairman Kemmerer would like to hold a public workshop meeting shortly after the executive meeting

Citizen Participation Cont'd-

Township Resident Tim Foster was present to ask if the township passed the ordinance regarding short term rentals. Chairman Kemmerer said no but in the near future it will be adopted. The township will hold a public hearing when it is ready to be adopted.

Old Business-

Supervisor Kemmerer followed up on the Bass Pike issue from the June 21, 2022 township meeting. He found an updated Land Development Plan from 1975 called Indian Hill Vista, the map identifies the property next to it as Beltzville Estates. Mr. Robinson's map was from 1973.

Supervisors Kemmerer also stated that the interim Road master and himself walked through the old Hobby Shop Building and found about 20-30% of the objects in the building were junk. He suggested the rest of the materials in the building should be separated into piles and placed on pallets, label them as Lot 1 Lot 2 etc. and that would be how they would be placed on Municibid. The Supervisors were all in agreement with that suggestion.

New Business-

Robin Cressley made a motion to cash out the maturing PLGIT CD (Western Alliance Bank, AZ) in the amount of \$248,496.00) which matures on July 22, 2022. Motion seconded by Jason Frey. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to cash out the maturing Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank CD in the amount of \$207,285.89) which matures on July 23, 2022. Motion seconded by Jason Frey. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve the Certification of Attorney Thomas Nanovic's Opinion Letter for the St. Luke's RACP Grant. Attorney Nanovic noted the opinion certification letter states; Franklin Township has no pending litigations that would affect the RACP grant, Franklin Township is compliant with all state and federal requirements to which it is subject, and we have legal authority to contract with the Commonwealth of Pa for financial assistance. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to retroactively approve the letter from the Borough of Lehighon requesting the Franklin Township Fire Police assistance for traffic control during the July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks Display on Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 p.m. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve/renew the 2022/2023 Junkyard Permit Application from the Lehighon Scrap Recycling/JME Land Company Inc. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to approve the signing of Zachary Wilusz's Eagle Scout Project & Fundraising application. The project is to improve the seating and add a "Nature Viewing Area" located at the Phifer's Ice Dam Park. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd –

Jason Frey made a motion to send a letter of request to the Borough of Palmerton asking for the Palmerton Borough's Fire Police to assist with traffic control for the Franklin Township Fire Company's Block party to be held on July 29<sup>th</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup>. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve to have Chairman Kemmerer sign the 2022 (CDBG) General Application on behalf of Franklin Township. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Frey made a motion to approve the dollar an hour wage increase for Road Crew Employee #104 recommended from a letter of request from the interim Roadmaster. Supervisor Kemmerer explained at the beginning of the year they realized they do not pay enough to attract interested parties to work on our road crew. This was the first opportunity they had to improve the pay scale. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve a fifty cent an hour wage increase for Road Crew Employee #55. Jason Frey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

On behalf of the Township Supervisors, Chairman Kemmerer, who is a former all-star player commended the Franklin Township Athletic Association, coaches, parents, & kids who participated in the 2022 Baseball Season. He said he is very proud that Franklin Township is still able to give the kids the chance to play ball and the Franklin Township Baseball/Softball Leagues is still going strong. The Board of Supervisors would like to congratulate the Boys and Girls who participated in softball and baseball for another great year.”

Fred presented a list of statistics from the year of 2022 as follows:

Tball/Instructional: Had 4 teams

Boys Coach Pitch/Rookies: Had 3 teams. They traveled to other towns in the area and all teams were in playoff games.

Minors: Had 3 teams, traveled to other towns. FTAA Red Sox Team won the Championship!

Majors: Had 4 teams, traveled to other towns. FTAA Royal team won the Championship!

13/14 yr. old Connie Mack Boys: Finished 4<sup>th</sup> for the season

14/15 yr. old Connie Mack Boys: Finished 5<sup>th</sup> for the season

13/15 yr. old Parkland Boys: Finished 3<sup>rd</sup> for the season

Softball Teams: Had 4 teams (8u, 10u, 12u, 14u)

12u made it to the Championship game and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the league

14u currently in the playoff games

ALL STARS

7/8 yr. old boys: starting Hazelton Tournament soon

8/10 yr. old boys WON THE DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, beating a tough Valley East Team!! They are now preparing to go to sectionals.

11yr. old boys: Finished 4<sup>th</sup> in districts. Now in the Panther Valley Tournament

12 yr. old boys: Finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in districts. Now in the Panther Valley Tournament

We wish all of the teams still playing the Best of Luck!!!

Citizens Questions/Comments –

Fire Chief Lynn Diehl asked if the Township knew when Red Hill Road will be open? The Supervisors were only told the road would be closed from June 20, 2022 to June 24, 2022.

Questions from the Press - None

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Brenda Cressley, Secretary-Treasurer