

June 15, 2021

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

Barbara Beltz made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2021 Township Meeting. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report – The Secretary announced the following:

There will be a change for the July 4, 2021 garbage collection. Monday July 5th collection will be picked up on Tuesday, July 6th.

- *Jason Shellhammer will be collecting storm water system information for Franklin Township. This information is needed for the MS4 Permit. He will be looking at drains, outfalls, etc. during evening hours and on weekends as time and weather permits.
- * Part-time Police Officer interviews were held on May 25, 2021
- * Loudermill hearing was held on June 3, 2021 regarding Employee #22
- * Meeting was held with Scott Confer (from DEP) with Robin Cressley & Rose Chapello regarding Franklin Township's MS4 permit on June 7, 2021.

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

Zoning Report – No Zoning Officer Report was submitted by the Zoning Officer Tracy Herman. No Variance Applications were submitted.

UCC Building Code Official – No report was received.

Fire Chief's Report – Fire Chief Lynn Diehl submitted the May, 2021 report for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Co. #1, as well as for the Fire Police. Copies are on file.

Police Reports – Acting Chief Frank Buonaiuto submitted reports from (5/2/21- 6/12/21).

Road Crew Reports – (5/2/21-5/15/21), (5/16/21-5/29/21), & (5/30/21 – 6/12/21)

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – None Received, Meeting for June is on 6/21/21.

Franklin Township Lions – June Newsletter was received

Communications-

We received a Certificate of Recycling for collecting 10,001 lbs. of electronic waste at our May 15, 2021 E-Cycling collection day; Lehigh Canal Recreation Commission (LCRC) requested another letter of support from Franklin Township for the LCRC's Weissport Canal Overflows Project; Received an email from PA DCED (Department of Community & Economic Development) informing Franklin Township that our LSA grant application for a License Plate Reader (LPR) and Computer with Accessories for the police department was approved for \$40,000.00; Emails NEPA, PSATS, DEP, LTAP.

Citizen Participation-

Township Resident Roger Crum was present to voice his concerns regarding a 100'x 150' Pavilion that was recently built at the RelaxNation Campground which is very close to his backyard. He said they recently held a wedding there which lasted until 11:30 p.m. and the music was very loud. They posted on Facebook this pavilion can be rented out for weddings, concerts, & graduations etc. and a wedding is scheduled for this coming September. He also said there is a back gate only to be used as an emergency exit, but is now being used as an entrance to this new Pavilion that was built. He also thinks people are living there permanently, they see the school bus goes by that way & picks children up for school and then drops them off. Residents are not allowed to live there all year long per the variance. He said he doesn't get how this is being allowed and asked for help in renting out the Pavilion. Mr. Krum and other residents who live on Rock Street would like to see a cease and desist order placed on the owners. Attorney Nanovic told Mr. Krum that the Board of Supervisors, himself, the Township Engineer, Greg Haas, held a executive meeting with the owners of RelaxNation and their attorney along with our Zoning Officer and UCC Building Official to try to iron out the issues that have been presented and that the Township is aware of the issues and are working on the matter.

Matthew Dorward was also present and agreed with Mr. Krum, but he also wanted to report a large divot in the road half way down Rock St. Mr. Cressley said they would take care of it in the near future.

Alan Rohlfing and Patricia Hartman from Interchange Rd. was present to complain about all of the junk cars outside of the garage located next to their home. Mr. Rohlfing said the new business owners never received the proper permits to have this business, he calls a Salvage yard. He said they bring these cars here and take parts from them and then sell them on the internet. He spoke to the Zoning Officer previously to inform her of the issues going on there. He also complained about the person who runs a business in the back of the building as well, he cleans out houses and then stores the garbage there. Mr. Rohlfing said something needs to be done. His last two concerns were that the Rockland Energy's Gas Station/Mini Mart is displaying a sign that says they will be opened for 24 hours. Per Mr. Rohlfing he says the variance states a certain time frame that the Gas Station/Mini Mart is allowed to be opened. Lastly, he says the owner has changed the way the water runs off and is now flooding his driveway.

Joseph Bennett was present hoping to hear positive news on the Intermunicipal Agreement. Atty. Nanovic told Mr. Bennett that he has now heard from Mahoning Municipal Authority's Atty. Heintzelman that they have a meeting tomorrow evening (6/21/21) and she plans on recommending the Agreement for approval.

Presentation- Chairman Jason Frey presented the annual contribution check of \$40,000.00 to Fire Chief Lynn Diehl representing the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company. The Board of Supervisors thanked Fire Chief Lynn Diehl and the Volunteer Fire Company for the excellent service they provide to our township and its residents.

Old Business- None

New Business-

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Junkyard Permit Application for Zaprazny (JME Land Inc.-DBA Lehighon Scrap Recycling. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (Copy is on file)

Barbara Beltz made a motion to ratify the suspension of Franklin Township's Employee #22 after the Loudermill Hearing that was held on June 3, 2021 for two (2) weeks. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve Christopher Lekka's attendance to Field Sobriety School retroactive from May 24th, 25th and 26th. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to approve the Modifications for the CDBG funding years of 2018, 2019, and 2020 regarding the Red Hill Road Project.

MODIFY FUNDS FROM:

Street Improvements (Red Hill Road Phase 1) FY 2018 -	\$47,724.15
Water/Sewer Improvements (Red Hill Phase 2) FY 2018 -	\$13,317.21
Water/Sewer Improvements (Red Hill Phase 2) FY 2019 -	\$76,183.00
Water/Sewer Improvements (Red Hill Phase 2) FY 2020-	\$77,839.00

MODIFY FUNDS TO:

Street Improvements (Red Hill Road) Culvert Replacement (MFY 2018, 19, 20) - \$215,063.36
Franklin Township used \$29,051.21 (FY 2017) and \$13,576.64 (FY 2018) in CDBG funds to complete the Street Improvements in Red Hill Road Phase 1. The Township will use funds from FY 2018, FY 2019, & FY 2020 (\$215,063.36) to replace the culvert on Red Hill Road. The township plans to use future CDBG funds to continue with water improvements along Red Hill Road.

Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to hire Jared Green as a Franklin Township Part-Time Police Officer retroactive to May 31, 2021. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to apply to DCED to receive funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to open a new PLGIT account to place the funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to advertise Ordinance No. 2021-02 No Parking Ordinance regarding Fresh Meadow Drive, Green St. and Pohopoco Drive. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to approve The Declaration of Disaster Emergency to extend the previous Declaration that will end on June 30, 2021 until September 30, 2021. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Franklin Township Fire Police to assist with traffic control at the car show in Palmerton on June 19, 2021. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments/Questions from Citizens-

Resident Larry Williams asked the Supervisors how the parking issue around the Beltzville State Park area went during the Memorial Day Weekend. They responded that were not aware of any problems mainly due to the fact it was a cool and rainy weekend.

Questions from the Press: None

Barbara Beltz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Cressley, Secretary-Treasurer

