

July 21, 2020

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 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.

Approval of Minutes –

Robin Cressley made a motion approving the minutes from the June 16, 2020 Township Meeting. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report –

Small businesses that are affected by Covid-19 may be eligible to apply for grant money online at [www.carboncounty.com](http://www.carboncounty.com). General Instructions are on their home page. Or- call Block Grant Administration Group- 1-570-325-3611

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

Zoning Report- Zoning Officer Tracy Herman submitted her report from 6/16/20 through 7/20/20. Revenue from Zoning Permits: \$1345.09. Variance Exception Request: \$0.00

UCC Building Code Official – Received report from Lehigh Valley Inspection Services from 6/16/20 through 7/20/20. Administrative fees turned in with report: \$500.00 Copy on file.

Fire Chief's Report - Received the June, 2020 report for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company, as well as for the Fire Police. Copies are on file.

Police Reports – Received report from 6/15/20-7/11/20

Road Crew Report - Report received from 5/31/2020-6/13/2020 & 6/14/2020-6/27/2020

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – Received minutes from the March 16, 2020 & June 18, 2020 meetings. We also received the 2019 Municipal Wasteload Management Annual Report. Copies on file. Please note April & May's meetings were cancelled due to the Covid-19.

Franklin Township Lions- Received July 2020 report/newsletter. Copy is on file.

Sewer Enforcement Officer- Received SEO report from 3/14/20- 7/17/20.

Communications -

Received an email from Lehighton Borough stating we were granted an extension until June 30, 2021 for the Map Grant regarding the update SALDO and Zoning Ordinances; Received the 2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter reports from Nationwide along with the Girard Benefits Group, LLC – Aggregate Report for the Police Pension Plan from the period of 4/1/20- 6/30/20 (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2020); Each Township Supervisor received a copy of 2020's second quarter reports; Received the approved revision to the Traffic Signal Permit regarding the traffic signal located at the intersection of SR 209- SR 248/SR 2015 (Canal St.) from PennDot; Letter from Roy Christman stating that the Gerrymandering Resolution that was previously discussed was dropped, attached was a report from what he learned from visits to other Townships; Letter from St. Luke's informing the Board of Supervisors they were unable to obtain all of the signatures needed to sign the tentatively approved Subdivision Plans for Lot #1 and Lot #4, they plan on having everything completed and ready for the August Township Supervisors Meeting; Emails from NEPA, PSATS, DEP, and LTAP.

Citizen Participation-

Todd Zellers was present to voice his concerns regarding a neighbor who lives on Pine Cove Court He feels that if Mr. Rehrig is indeed running a business is not allowed in an agriculturally zoned area. He is allowing people to park their vehicles on his property and charging a fee to park. There were cars from New York, New Jersey, etc. and they were walking on his property to get to the Beltzville State Park. Mr. Zellers said this was done last year and nothing was done about it. He feels the Board of Supervisors are failing to do their job. He would like to see an Ordinance put in place that would not allow this kind of "business" be done in his neighborhood. He also feels that by him allowing people to park in his yard it is adding to the issue the Beltzville State Park is having regarding the park being over crowded.

Mr. Rehrig was present to complain that Mr. Zellers drove into his driveway with his motorcycle and they began to argue over Mr. Rehrig parking the cars.

Other Township Residents were commenting that Mr. Rehrig is encouraging additional people to come to the Beltzville Lake adding to their problem of being over crowded, Comments were also made that Beltzville should have employees at the entrance gates taking attendance counting people instead of vehicles, this might help solve the parking issues.

Zoning Officer Tracy Herman was also present and said she discussed the situation with both property owners and explained what can and cannot be done. She thought the problem was resolved, but with both property owners present and still arguing she said she can see more has to be done if Mr. Rehrig continues parking cars on his property. Atty. Thomas Nanovic said that if Mr. Rehrig would choose to continue parking vehicles and charging a fee the Zoning Officer would have to investigate, determine if he is in violation of our Zoning Ordinance and if so send Mr. Rehrig a zoning violation letter. Mr. Rehrig would then have the opportunity to appeal the violation notice. The Court would then have to make a decision if it is allowed or not.

Citizen Participation Cont'd -

Township Resident, Tim Foster was present to thank the Road Crew for fixing his wash out problem. He also wanted to know how close the Township is to getting the Zoning Ordinance approved regarding Short Term Rentals. He is still having the issue with his neighbor renting his house out every week. The police have not responded when he has called. He feels if enforcement is used it would bring revenue to the Township. Supervisors said they are getting closer to adopting the new Zoning and Saldo Ordinances and hope to have them in place by end of this year (2020).

Residents in the Union Hill Area were present to ask what could be done with a rat issue that is happening in their neighborhood. They complained that a woman in the area is feeding cats and by doing so are bringing large rats into their neighborhood. They also complained about some residents who reside on Union Hill who have chickens on their property. The area is zoned Residential and having chickens etc. in that area are not a permitted use.

Joe Nester was in attendance. He said years ago he was hired to administer a grant the Township received and through that learned a lot about Zoning etc. He feels that Property Maintenance Code "has the teeth" needed to be able to help with the rat situation.

Zoning Officer, Tracy Herman said she would look into this matter. She planned on visiting the properties in question to help determine what can be done about these complaints.

New Business-

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-10- Commendation Award to Luke Daniel Wilusz for obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation of Plaque for Appreciation was presented to Eagle Scout Luke Wilusz by Supervisor Cressley. The Supervisors thanked Mr. Wilusz for the hard work he put into constructing the "Reading Station" located at the Phifer Ice Dam Park.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to reinvest maturing CD (Prudential Savings Bank, PA-\$212,000.00) which matured on July 20, 2020. Motion seconded by Robin Cressley. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to approve the Borough of Beaver Meadows request to participate in the current Joint Board of Appeals for UCC matters and agree to have an amendment made to the current by-laws reducing the quorum to be five (5) members. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the extension of the Declaration of Disaster regarding Covid-19 to the next Township Board of Supervisors Meeting on August 18, 2020. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd –

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the modification request from St. Luke's engineer, Thomas Serpico (Pennonni Associates). The waiver request is for SALDO Section 512 A. 5. E

(7)- Emergency Spillways are to be of concrete construction along its bottom and sides.

The applicant is formally requesting a waiver modification from this requirement of having the emergency spillways to be concrete construction. They are proposing to use cable concrete articulated blocks along the emergency spillway in place of a poured concrete area. They stated that the cabled concrete articulated blocks are more than adequate to prevent accelerate erosion protection if the emergency spillways are engaged. The calculations for the emergency spillways are attached to their request letter as well as the permissible velocity for the cabled concrete.

It was noted Township Engineer Gregory Haas had no issues with this request per letter dated June 30, 2020.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to approve the Shaner's Agreement, Deed of Dedication and Temporary Construction Easement request for the Red Hill Road Project. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-11- Disposition of Records following the schedules and procedures set forth in the municipal records manual that was approved on December 16, 2008. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to accept the resignation letter of Amanda Uyvari part-time clerk. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The Supervisors commended Amanda for the great job she did.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to advertise for the position of a part-time secretary/clerk. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Sewage Planning Modules for the Harold and Lori Schafer Subdivision. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens Questions/Comments –

Chauncey Hearn was present to ask for help regarding a person living in a tent in the woods next to his property. He wanted to be sure that the property in question was owned by the Township. It was clarified that the place where this person was living was owned by the Township. The Supervisors immediately called the police to have this person removed from the property.

Questions from the Press - None

Barbara Beltz made a motion to adjourn the meeting 8:15 p.m. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.



Respectfully Submitted,  
Brenda Cressley, Secretary-Treasurer