



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the January 16, 2019, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Dea and Torres. Supervisors Morris and Snyder were absent. Also in attendance were Solicitor Mark Thompson, Manager/Treasurer Joan McVaugh, Assistant Manager Jeff Eastburn, HARB/HC Chairman, Paul Lagasse and Secretary Sharon Norris. Jim German from the FSA and Corporal Weibel from the Avondale State Police were also in attendance. There was one member of the public in attendance as well as a court reporter.

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Supervisor Dea, 2nded by Chairman Auerbach, the December 19, 2018 BOS minutes v2 were approved with one change. The motion carried 3-0.

Disposition of Records: On motion by the Chairman, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, Resolution 2019-05 was approved 3-0. The motion authorized the erasure of the audiotape from the December 19, 2018 BOS meeting.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Mr. Torres, 2nded by Mrs. Dea, the December 2018 Treasurer's Report was approved 3-0. The report includes the following disbursements and transfers: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$392,785.42; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$1,526.80; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,768.42; the Emergency Services Fund with disbursements of \$53,930.62; the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$765,917.33.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mrs. Dea reported that during the month of December, 7 permits were issued, and 26 building inspections took place. \$10,426.65 was collected in building fees, \$14,091.98 in Rec, Open Space, Impact Fees and \$5,425.00 was collected in miscellaneous fees. There are 6 zoning issues. The Manager updated the Board that the fence at 207 Highland Drive is in compliance; 223 Highland: the Zoning Officer has asked the contractor to obtain a letter from Hillcrest confirming completion as per the plan; 1651 New London Road has brought in their ZHB application for a change of use; 3327 Appleton Road: the Court of Common Pleas hearing is scheduled for February 12, 2019 and the District Court date is February 21, 2019 (to address the newest violations); 206 Fox Run Road: the property is for sale. The existing structure must be demolished but the block foundation can still be used. 1620 New London Road: The Solicitor updated the Board on his conversations with the attorney for the property owner. They have two weeks to comply. The entire report can be reviewed on the Township website (www.franklintownship.us).

PC Report: the PC did not meet in January

HARB & Historical Commissions – Chairman Lagasse reported that the HC and HARB reorganized at their January 8 meetings. They discussed the 896 improvement project as it relates to certain historic structures. Specifically, they spoke about the Plow and Harrow Inn and the Cavender House. Although the results of the study show the Cavender House to be ineligible, Paul is working with Karen Marshall of CCPC, to show that it should be included. It could prove to be the oldest house in the township and was once a tavern. It can also be tied to Ben Franklin. Eligibility protects the property and allows for more input from the property owner. They also discussed Natasha Manbeck’s talk from last month and agreed that reducing speed in the District will go a long way in making it more walkable. The Church Hill AME Cemetery research project was put on hold. Both the HARB and HC will be meeting jointly moving forward and they don’t plan to meet again until April unless a COA is submitted. Both commissions discussed Training Opportunities.

Franklin Sportsman’s Association – Mr. Jim German reported that the FSA has harvested 3 more deer bringing the total to 18 to date. Harvest Report: 5 buck/6 doe from Franklin Preserve; 1 buck/3 doe from White Clay Crescent; 3 doe from Banffshire. He reported that archery and shotgun season started back up December 26 – January 26th. After that is goose season. He alerted everyone that gunshots in the morning are probably for goose. The next community service project for the FSA is a Chesterville/Creek Road Cleanup.

Ordinance 2019-01 – Additional Dwelling Unit Ordinance – Since this is a revision to the Zoning Ordinance, a public hearing was held. The Solicitor opened the Public Hearing with the following exhibits: proof of advertising 2x in the Daily Local News; the approval letter from the Chester County Planning Commission; a copy of the ordinance and an explanation of the ordinance which allows for an additional living unit to be part of an existing home or as an accessory to a home on eligible properties. The Solicitor and Board acknowledged that this Ordinance was considered at length (for over a year) by the Township Planning Commission and was considered by the Board on multiple occasions. On motion by Supervisor Torres, 2nded by Supervisor Dea, this ordinance was enacted on a 3-0 motion.

Referendum on the Ballot – This is a continuation of last month’s discussion. To stimulate economic opportunities, the Board agreed that trying to allow the sale of alcohol would be a benefit. This can only be achieved by placing a referendum on the ballot. Registered voters who are at least 18 years old, and who live in the Township can take the petition around and gather signatures from other registered voters in the Township. The petition must be signed by at least 558 FT registered voters and the signatures must be gathered between February 19 and March 12 to be able to get the referendum on the ballot. The Board has developed a letter which will be mailed to residents in the near future and which the Chairman read aloud. The Board is asking residents to get involved by getting a petition and collecting signatures in their own neighborhoods. If any registered voter is interested in helping with this cause, please contact the Township at 610-255-5212. This discussion will continue next month.

Public Comment: The Chairman asked the Manager to follow up with the 2 residents on Peacedale Road who were asking about wetlands on a specific parcel. A resident of Hillcrest Rd. fulfilled a new year’s resolution by attending a BOS meeting. He was pleased that there was the ability for residents to converse. Corporal Weibel, from the Avondale State Police introduced herself. She previously had been a life-long resident of Erie, PA with 20 years on the force and was recently transferred here. She

isn't too familiar with the Township yet, but will follow up on a question stemming from the latest Police Activity Report. She announced that there is a prescription drug drop off at the Barracks which is open 24 hours a day. It gets emptied frequently which demonstrates that it is regularly used. Supervisor Torres asked her about the use of Narcan.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.