



## OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the January 17, 2018, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Dea, Morris and Torres. Also in attendance were Solicitor Mark Thompson, Historical Commission and HARB Chairman, Paul Lagasse, Manager/Treasurer, Joan McVaugh, and Secretary Sharon Norris. Ellen Kohler from the White Clay Creek MS4 Collaboration was also in attendance. There were 7 members of the public in attendance.

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

**Public Comment:** John Frank, who lives on Chesterville Road, spoke to the Board about Natural Land Trust's plans to plant several acres of trees on Peacedale Preserve. Mr. Frank feels that the planting of trees makes the area difficult to maintain and may also destroy the home of the red winged black bird. He would like the Township to ask that the trees be planted in another area of the preserve and that the field along Chesterville remains a mowed field.

Mr. Bernie Racey, who lives on one of the privately owned loops in Colonial Meadows, asked that the Board consider assuming responsibility for two private roads in Colonial Meadow. Solicitor Thompson stated that there is nothing in the Municipal Planning Code or the Second Class Township Code that requires the Township to take these two roads. Mr. Auerbach reminded the Board that there are two other subdivisions that have private roads: Twin Bridges and Landenberg Highlands. He also said he would ask our engineer to look into how these private roads in Colonial Meadows were constructed.

Daniel Sage stated that he was against the installation of speed bumps on Gypsy Hill Road. Chairman Auerbach stated that our experience with speed bumps on Old School House Road did not produce the results we had hoped for.

**Approval of Minutes:** On motion by Chairman Auerbach, 2nded by Supervisor Dea, the December 20, 2017 minutes v3 were approved 4-0.

**Disposition of Records:** On motion by Supervisor Torres, 2nded by Supervisor Dea, Resolution 2018-07 was approved 4-0. The motion authorized the erasure of the audiotapes from the December 20, 2017 BOS meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Supervisor Morris made a motion, 2nded by Mr. Torres, to approve the December 2017 Treasurer's Report which includes the following disbursements and transfers: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$413,465.46; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$1,052.38; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,974.10; the Capital Reserve Fund with disbursements of \$38,170.90; the Emergency Services Fund with disbursements of \$51,674.21; and the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$668,222.10. The motion carried 4-0.

**Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report:** Supervisor Dea reported that during the month of December, 5 permits were issued and 18 building inspections took place. \$5,800.00 in building fees; \$-0- in Recreation, Open Space, & Impact Fees and \$1,355.00 in miscellaneous fees were collected. Manager McVaugh updated the Board on the following zoning issues: **124 Partridge Way** – a complaint about barking dogs was received and a letter was sent to the property owner. The owner contacted the Township and no further complaints

were received. This issue is closed. **3190 Appleton Road** – There was a complaint regarding grading and the installation of field tiles. Chester County Conservation District and DEP were contacted to follow up the possibility of wetland encroachment. No violation was found. This issue is closed. **3201 Appleton Road** – A zoning permit for an agricultural building proceeded without Erosion & Sediment controls in place. This project is now compliant. **126 Carriage Run** – DEP visited the site and did not witness any burning. DEP sent the homeowner a registered letter notifying them of the burning laws. No additional complaints were received. **308 Heather Hills** – the bank mowed the front yard but has not picked up the trash and debris in the back yard. A notice of violation was issued December 28, 2017 requesting compliance by January 30, 2018. **1762 New London Road** – the Township filed a civil complaint against the owner with the District Court. As a result of the court hearing on January 17, 2018, the Township was awarded \$2,500 in fees. This property is now in compliance. **1620 New London Road** – the owner is in compliance with the conditions of the Conditional Use Decision so this issue is closed. The entire report can be reviewed on the Township website [www.franklintownship.us](http://www.franklintownship.us).

**PC Report:** There was no PC meeting in January.

**HARB & Historical Commissions** - The two commissions did not meet in January but Chairman Lagasse informed the Board that the Oxford Historical Society is holding a talk on Tuesday, January 23 at 7 p.m. The topic is the History of Longwood Gardens.

**Franklin Sportsman's Association (FSA) Report** – Jim German from the FSA reported that due to the weather, the harvest total did not increase. The FSA is waiting for better weather to schedule their clean-up project. Mr. German stated that hunting season ends this Saturday. Supervisor Morris asked about the status of the deer population in Franklin. Mr. German stated that Chester County has the highest deer population. 70,000 hunting permits were issued in Chester County versus 5,000 in Potter County.

**MS4 Collaboration Update** – Ellen Kohler reported that Franklin and all our surrounding townships met their load reductions except for West Grove Borough and Penn Township. The permit submissions are being reviewed and DEP should respond sometime in March. Ms. Kohler reminded us that although our initial requirements have been met, streams are still impaired and we should still be looking for future projects such as tree planting, rain gardens and inlet maintenance. Ms. Kohler also stated that our stormwater engineer, Linda Cluck of LTL did a great job compiling and completing all the required information. Shane Morgan from the White Clay Wild and Scenic organization updated us on the “Catch the Rain” project. She said there are 7 ongoing projects in Franklin. This was a result of website information only and not the direct mailing that occurred in some other townships who had the same level of response.

**Resolution 2018-08** - On motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Mrs. Morris, the Board adopted this resolution which approves the Paradox Vineyard Planning Module and allows the staff to submit it to the DEP for review. This motion passed 4-0.

**Cub Scout Pinewood Derby** – Mr. Craig Sims, Field Director for the Chester County Boy Scout Council and Ms. Tamara Christensen, Council Activities Director, spoke to the Board regarding a life size pinewood Derby in Crossan Park. A local troop has held a small derby there in the past with great success so now the County Council would like to hold an event of May 5<sup>th</sup>. They anticipate approximately 300 participants. The Council will provide portable restrooms, insurance coverage, supervision and all maintenance. They feel that Crossan Park is the perfect location for this event. The Board is supportive of the event.

**School Choice Proclamation 2018-01** – A motion was made by Supervisor Torres and seconded by Mrs. Dea for a proclamation recognizing School Choice week. After Board discussion, the motion was withdrawn by Supervisor Torres.

**Site Improvement Discussion** – the Board understands that work needs to be done to improve Municipal Lane before work to improve the office can move forward. Chairman Auerbach informed the Board that water

entered the building again as a result of last Friday's storm. Supervisor Torres recommended fixing the lane early in the road program so we can move forward with the additional plantings in the spring. Because of the number of snow storms and the cost associated with them, we need to wait until spring before any decisions on what roads will be improved in 2018 can be decided.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:47 p.m.

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