



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the January 18, 2017 Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting. Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Dea, Schenk, Snyder and Torres. Also in attendance were Solicitor Mark Thompson, HC/HARB Chairman, Paul Lagasse, Manager/Treasurer, Joan McVaugh, Assistant Manager, Jeff Eastburn and Secretary Sharon Norris. There were 4 members of the public present.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

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

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Supervisor Dea, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, the December 21, 2016 v3 minutes were approved 5-0.

On motion by Supervisor Schenk, seconded by Mrs. Dea, the January 3, 2017 v3 minutes were approved unanimously.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Chairman Auerbach, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, Resolution 2017-05 was approved 5-0. The motion authorized the erasure of the audiotapes for the December 21, 2016 and January 3, 2017, Board of Supervisors meetings and the December 1, 2016 Planning Commission meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Manager/Treasurer McVaugh read a statement, acknowledging that this month's Treasurer's report was not posted on the website at its usual time due to her being out of the office because of an illness and eventual passing of a close family member. She thanked the Board members for their support during the past several weeks and appreciated their consideration during this time. On motion by Mr. Snyder, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, the Board unanimously approved the December Report which includes the following disbursements: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$540,483.07; the Park & Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$4,300.59; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$7,172.61; the Highway Aid Fund with a credit of \$29.99; the Emergency Services Fund with disbursements of \$51,788.98; The Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$697,428.61. Supervisor Torres had several questions regarding budgeted money that was not spent on snow, the Reserve Fund and the FEMA reimbursement for Hurricane Irene. Ms. McVaugh explained that any money not spent on snow removal or road maintenance is transferred to the capital fund at the end of the current year for the next year's road program and other major projects. She also stated that the FEMA reimbursement which was budgeted in 2016 was not received until January 2017.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mr. Torres reported that during the month of December, 2 new permits were issued. There were 15 various inspections. Building/zoning fees collected: \$749;

Recreation and Impact fees ~~\$-0-~~; and \$455.00 in miscellaneous fees. There are 2 ongoing zoning issues. Mrs. Dea questioned whether it was appropriate to “nudge” the owner of 1621 New London Rd. to continue the Conditional Use process. The solicitor stated that it was appropriate to request the Zoning Officer to send a letter to the homeowner.

PC Report: Supervisor Schenk, who is also an alternate on the Planning Commission, summarized the 1.5.2017 PC meeting where the PC recommended that the Board approve the Conditional Use application of Two Boys LLC with the following conditions and waivers:

- 1) Work with Zoning Officer to determine appropriate amount of parking for indoor and outdoor activities.
- 2) Show overflow parking on the plan.
- 3) Remove large pieces of concrete from the walking path and redress as necessary with soil and seed.
- 4) Waive the land development requirement.

The PC tabled the Mini Cell Tower Ordinance review until their February meeting. For more details, please see the approved PC minutes when they are available.

Historical Commission/HARB Report: Chairman Paul Lagasse reported that the Historical Commission organized. Mr. Lagasse continues as Chair, Lou Mandich is Vice Chair and Sara Beth Kohut is the Secretary. The HC discussed Eastern Shore Natural Gas’s 2017 Fairhill/Jennersville Expansion progress which went from a preliminary plan to the formal approval process very quickly. The Kemblesville Loop is completed and FERC granted ESNG’s request to put the new pipeline into service. They also discussed training opportunities and many members will be attending the Winter Chester County Historical Planning Network Workshop this Saturday. The HC acknowledged the need to prepare their annual report due in March. The HARB also organized and Mr. Lagasse is Chair, Mr. Mandich is Vice Chair and Tracey Schreiner is the Secretary. They reviewed PennDOT roadwork and its impact on the historic district (there were no updates), training opportunities and the need to prepare an annual report by March.

FSA Report: Supervisor Dea gave the monthly FSA report as no FSA members were available to attend the meeting. Firearms and archery season closes on January 28th. 14 deer have been harvested to date: 7 in Franklin Preserve; 4 in White Clay Crescent Preserve and 3 in Banffshire Preserve. Supervisor Dea applauded the FSA for their community service projects as did Chairman Auerbach who mentioned that the FSA saves the Township approximately \$6,000 a year with all they do for the township. Some of their projects include roadside cleanup, trail maintenance and dead tree removal. In addition, the FSA members adopted a family in need, providing them with a nice Christmas, contributed to a local scout troop and donated to the High School Boosters. They recently cleared some overgrown trails in Crossan Park.

Andrew Delaney [Troop 10] Eagle Scout Bridge Project

Andrew presented his plan to rebuild a bridge on the trail behind the lower pavilion in Crossan Park. He will also be creating a sitting area. He said he chose this bridge because he has spent many afternoons with his scout troop hiking and orienteering in the Park woods and he noticed how the bridge has deteriorated over time. Andrew plans to work on the bridge April 22 & April 23 with a rain date or additional work days planned on May 6 and 7th. Mr. Auerbach reviewed Andrew’s plans and offered his comments on securing the rails. When asked whether he or a family member were skilled carpenters, Andrew said a family friend would be overseeing the project and that members of his troop would be assisting him. Andrew also mentioned he would be seeking donations of material and time to complete this project. The Chairman recommended Andrew contact the FSA for assistance and perhaps a donation. On motion by the Supervisor Dea, 2nded by Mr. Torres, the Board was happy to authorize \$500 in support of Andrew’s bridge project.

Harvest Run Half Marathon

Mr. David Berger, runner, resident of Landenberg and running events organizer, revisited the Board to answer any more questions they may have about his plan to hold a Half Marathon race in the Township on October 14th benefitting various local agencies. PennDOT will issue a permit once the Township gives their OK for the event. He has secured West Grove Fire Company to perform traffic safety and ensure participant safety. The race will start and end at Fox Chase Farm on Appleton Road. On a motion by Mrs. Schenk, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Berger's request for this event and hope that many residents will participate.

Ordinance 2017-01 – On motion by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Snyder, the Board authorized the Solicitor to advertise Ordinance 2017-01, providing 100% EIT and 20% municipal real estate tax relief for residents who are volunteers of fire companies and nonprofit emergency medical services agencies. It will be the responsibility of the Fire Chief to verify the required number of hours each volunteer must work to qualify. The fire chief anticipates approximately 6 residents will be able to take advantage of the tax relief. The Board recognized the tremendous commitment of time and energy, not to mention the courage it takes to be an emergency responder and each felt that providing this relief, which is the maximum allowed under Act 172, was the best way to recognize our volunteers and let them know “the Township has your back.” Due to the advertising requirements, this ordinance will be enacted after a public hearing at the March 15th BOS meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2017-02 – On motion by Mr. Snyder, seconded by Mr. Auerbach, the Board authorized the Solicitor to advertise Ordinance 2017-02, adding a new Part 2 to Chapter 2, governing animal control. This ordinance will allow the Treasurer to recover expenses paid to the SPCA and bill residents who allow their animals to run loose and have been picked up by the SPCA. This ordinance will be enacted at the February 15th BOS meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

2017 Road Program and Capital Projects Discussion.– the Board reviewed a prioritized list of road projects created by Assistant Manager, Jeff Eastburn. Board members were encouraged to not only review the list, but drive around and identify roads they feel need addressing. The Chairman would like to schedule a workshop meeting in the next 2 weeks to determine which roads will be part of the 2017 Road Program. Mr. Auerbach pointed out that in prior years, the roads were so bad that the mill and overlay strategy was the only way to get them in decent shape fairly quickly. Last year, the Township made a fundamental change from that strategy and approached road repair from a different perspective. It was determined that if the base of the road was in good shape, the road should last about 10 years and after that, just an overlay would bring it back to a good standard. Moving forward, as part of the road program, the contractor performs “coring” tests to determine the makeup of the road. And if necessary, a road will be rebuilt to ensure its longevity. Mr. Snyder pointed out that after a winter season, potholes are always a problem and wanted to make sure enough money was left in the budget to address them. Mrs. Schenk was hoping that the Township parking area could be improved in advance of the major site improvement plan that is in its beginning stages so that people could park and not have to walk through mud.

ADA Bathroom Update – the Chairman is working on a material list for this project. He discussed the need to frame up the new walls so that the grab bars are secure and the importance of installing the proper hardware to make the room ADA compliant. He wants to have the fixtures on site when the framing begins to enable the carpenter to add support to the walls as needed. Once the materials are purchased, the framing of the walls can begin. The Board also discussed paint colors.

Public Comments: A young man from the Avon Grove Charter School attended the meeting to earn A scouting communications merit badge. Mr. Auerbach thanked him for coming and explained that the Board has 4 core functions: Road maintenance, Traffic safety (signs, etc.), Emergency Management, and

Land Development. Mr. Auerbach also mentioned that the BOS meetings are videotaped and are available about 3 days after the meeting for viewing on the Township website. The scout said he found the meeting interesting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.