



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the November 14, 2018, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Dea, Morris, Snyder and Torres. Also in attendance were Solicitor Mark Thompson, Manager/Treasurer Joan McVaugh, HARB/HC Chairman, Paul Lagasse and Secretary Sharon Norris. Shelly McCoy, the Franklin Township Representative to the AG Library was also in attendance.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There will be an Executive Session after tonight's meeting to discuss legal issues.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Supervisor Morris, 2nded by Supervisor Snyder, the October 17, 2018 BOS minutes were approved with one revision. Motion carried 5-0.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Supervisor Dea, 2nded by Supervisor Snyder, Resolution 2018-22 was approved 5-0. The motion authorized the erasure of the audiotapes from the October 17, 2018 BOS meeting and the October 4, 2018 Planning Commission Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Chairman Auerbach, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, the October 2018 Treasurer's Report was approved 5-0. The report includes the following disbursements and transfers: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$148,206.45; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$3,971.69; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,768.42; the Traffic Impact Fund East with disbursements of \$255.00; the Capital Reserve Fund with disbursements of \$541.15; the Highway Aid Fund with Disbursements of \$50,226.40; the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$937,000.17. Supervisor Torres asked the Manager about the EIT tax and noted the difference in what we have received to date vs. the same time period last year.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mr. Snyder reported that during the month of October, 9 permits were issued and 31 building inspections took place. \$1,049.50 was collected in building fees, \$0 in Rec, Open Space, Impact Fees and \$2,450.00 was collected in miscellaneous fees. There are 5 zoning issues. The Manager updated the Board that 1651 New London Road will be going to the Zoning Hearing Board for a change of use; 3327 Appleton Road: the owner is contesting the District Magistrate's guilty verdict and will be going to the Court of Common Pleas at a date to be determined. Additionally, Jeff Vogels will be sending another violation letter soon; 223 Highland Drive's water issue has been resolved; 1620 New London Road is an ongoing issue that is being discussed during Executive Session; 206 Fox Run Road: the bank has secured the property and there is nothing more the township can do other than make sure the property is secure. The entire report can be reviewed on the Township website (www.franklintownship.us).

PC Report: Mrs. Dea summarized the November 1, 2018 meeting where the PC finalized their discussion on Additional Dwelling Units with the Zoning Officer in attendance and recommended that the Board approve the ordinance. Once the minutes are approved, they will be posted to the Township website.

HARB & Historical Commissions – Chairman Lagasse reported that both of these groups met on November 7th. The HARB considered 3 Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) applications: one for a new roof, one for a shed and one for the porch roof on the Township building. Mr. Lagasse said the talk on the 1918 Influenza was fairly well attended and that Roberta McManus was an interesting speaker. They discussed the 2009 Traffic Study and the state of the Kennedy House. Mr. Lagasse announced that the HARB and HC meetings will now be held on the 1st Tuesday of the month to better accommodate the Zoning Officer’s schedule. He also said that the HARB and HC are considering combining their meetings since a lot of the membership and topics overlap. The HC talked about the PennDOT 896 cultural resources surveys and how the Cavender House (100 Peacedale Rd.) and other houses situated very close to 896 will be affected by the 896 improvement project. Paul has been working with the CCPC regarding the Historic Resource Atlas. They also discussed Talks and Training. Paul heard back from a representative of the African Methodist Historical Congregation who did not know specific details about the Church Hill African Cemetery but referred him to the AME historiographer. Finally, the HC said goodbye to a long-time member who is moving from the area.

FSA Report – Mr. Torres read from a written report provided by FSA member Jim German who could not be in attendance tonight. Mr. Torres reported that to date, 2 bucks and 2 doe have been harvested from Franklin Preserve and 1 buck from White Clay Crescent. The FSA has provided a total of 100.5 hours of community service so far this year. Most recently, they cleaned the Keen Farm Trails and the trails in Crossan Park. They will be doing a roadside cleanup on Chesterville and Creek Roads on November 17th beginning at 9 a.m.

Avon Grove Library Update - Shelly McCoy, the Township Representative to Avon Grove Library presented the Board with the Library’s 2017 Annual Report. Mr. Torres led the questioning asking how municipal contributions compare to their usage. Ms. McCoy talked about how our small library continues to transform to meet the needs of the community. Attendance is increasing as well as computer usage and an understandable decrease of CD and DVD usage. Library members can get audio books and audio periodicals on their mobile phones as well as Kindle books using the online system. The Township has an additional library representative position that is vacant and needs to be filled. If any resident is interested, they should contact Library Board President, Sue Geiger. Ms. McCoy encouraged all to visit the Ringler Room, a quiet spot in the library created in memory of the former director Kim Ringer who recently passed away. Ms. McCoy discussed library financials and the library’s desire to secure grants and funding from various foundations. Several Board members expressed their positive opinions of the library.

Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) – on motion by Mr. Torres, 2nded by the Chairman, the Board unanimously granted a COA to 3312 Appleton Road for roof repair.

On motion by Mrs. Morris, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board unanimously granted a conditional COA for the installation of a shed at 1735 New London Road.

On motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Mr. Torres, the Board unanimously granted a COA for the construction of a porch roof across the front of the township office building.

Additional Dwelling Unit Ordinance – After discussion among the Board, on motion by the Chairman, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board authorized the Solicitor to send the draft ordinance to the Chester County Planning commission for review. The motion carried 4-1 with Supervisor Morris voting nay.

Referendum on the Ballot – It may not be a well-known fact that Franklin is a dry Township. In an effort to stimulate some economic opportunities, the Board agreed that trying to allow the sale of alcohol would be a benefit. After the Solicitor explained that there were at least 18 various questions that could be put on the ballot regarding the sale of alcohol and liquor licenses, the Board thought that allowing the retail sale of malt beverages

and granting a liquor license for the sale of liquor in the township would be the two questions voters would like to consider. The Solicitor explained the process. Registered voters 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 approximately 600 FT registered voters and the signatures must be gathered between February 19 and March 12. The solicitor was asked to get some more information and will report back in December.

2019 Preliminary Budget – On motion by Mr. Torres, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board authorized the Staff to advertise the 2019 budget for adoption at the December 19, 2018 Board of Supervisors Meeting. The motion carried 5-0. The Chairman commented that the Treasurer is a task master and sticks to a tight budget and that the weekly staff meetings are an excellent cost control practice.

Public Comment: Regarding ways to make the Historical District walkable and more livable, Paul Lagasse met with Natasha Manbeck of McMahon Engineering who participated in the 2009 Taming Traffic Study. She is willing to come and speak to the Board about different options the Township could consider to make the area more walkable and what the steps would be to prepare a plan for possible grant funding. The Board requested that Mr. Lagase invite Ms. Manbeck to the Dec. 19th BOS meeting. The Chairman stressed that we must be completely compatible with PennDOT and Mr. Lagasse agreed that was the goal, but it was also important to discuss options that PennDOT may not be looking at.

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

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