



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the July 19, 2017, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Schenk, Dea, Snyder and Torres. Also in attendance were Solicitor Mark Thompson, HARB/HC Chairman Paul Lagasse, Manager/Treasurer, Joan McVaugh, Assistant Manager, Jeff Eastburn and Secretary Sharon Norris. Twp. Sanitary Engineers Sandi Morgan and Stan Corbett from AECOM were also in attendance. There were 9 members of the public in attendance.

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

Announcements: There was an Executive Session after the meeting to discuss a legal issue.

Public Comment: Ms. Suzie Harris spoke about the importance of improving visibility at the intersection of Peacedale and Kimbelot with a 3-way stop intersection. The Board agreed to look into it.

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Supervisor Dea, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, the June 21, 2017 minutes were approved 5-0.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Vice Chair Schenk, 2nded by Mrs. Dea, Resolution 2017-14 was approved 5-0. The motion authorized the erasure of the audiotapes from the June 21, 2017 BOS meeting and the June 1, 2017 Planning Commission meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Chairman Auerbach made a motion, 2nded by Mr. Snyder to approve the June 2017 Treasurer's Report which includes the following disbursements: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$82,616.49; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$3,985.53; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,974.10; the Traffic Impact Fund East with disbursements of \$3,500.00; the Traffic Impact Fund West with disbursements of \$20,000.00; the Capital Reserve Fund with disbursements of \$83,988.71; the Highway Aid Fund with disbursements of \$14,742.43; and the Emergency Services Fund with disbursements of \$49,704.20; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$1,166,755.72. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mr. Snyder reported that during the month of June, 13 permits were issued and 17 building inspections took place. \$1,811.50 was collected in building fees; \$0- in Recreation, Open Space, & Impact Fees was collected; and \$1,460.00 in miscellaneous fees was also collected. There is one ongoing violation which involves burning at 1006 Wickerton Rd. (The entire report can be reviewed on the Township website www.franklintownship.us. The Board authorized the Manager to arrange for the vacant Basics Gas station to be mowed. The Township has exhausted its efforts on trying to contact the station owner. When asked about what the Township could do about that unsightly lot, the Solicitor discussed the Blight Act and the Manager will check into what back taxes are owed on that property.

PC Report: Supervisor and PC Alternate Schenk summarized the July 6, 2017 meeting where the PC recommended that the BOS approve the Avon Grove Charter School Addition and also the cell tower ordinance. Full minutes of this meeting can be reviewed when they are available.

Historical Commission/HARB Report: These two commissions did not meet in July.

Avon Grove Charter School Addition – The Avon Grove Charter School, Kemblesville Early Learning Center, has submitted a Preliminary/Final Plan to expand the school, add additional parking, expand their existing rain garden, install a new underground stormwater system and add a new onlot septic area to accommodate an additional grade (3rd). On motion by the Chairman, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, the Board unanimously approved the plan with 9 waivers and several conditions. The Board also authorized the Manager to execute Resolution 2017-14, acknowledging that the Sewage Planning Module is complete and will be ready to submit to DEP once it is received from the applicant.

Lexington Point Discussion – Lexington Point is an approved 38-house subdivision located on S. Guernsey Road. 6 houses are built and occupied. Since 2008, waste from these houses is pumped to a holding tank and hauled away every 3rd day. This is called a Pump and Haul system. The holding tank is inspected 3 times per week. This type of sewage disposal is not intended to be a long-term solution. When the building permit for the 7th home is submitted, the developer must begin building the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). As part of the approved plan, once the WWTP is fully operational, the Township will take ownership of it; and the Lexington Point residents will pay for the service. The developer continues to search for less costly alternatives to deal with the sewage and does not want to build the approved treatment plant. They have spent the last 8 years exploring alternate systems which they claim to be less expensive. Sanitary Engineers Sandi Morgan and Stan Corbett discussed their concerns with the Board about the length of time this situation has dragged on and the recent alternate system that Keystone Custom Homes has proposed. They are concerned that Keystone has used incorrect data and the system will actually be more expensive than the WWTP. They noted that the way the infiltration beds are spread out across the development is unique and it will be difficult to find a skilled operator who knows how to run the type of system necessary to maintain these beds. They have not seen anything similar to this design in their careers. Eight years ago, Keystone submitted a plan to use the Orenco system, which at the time had no reportable data from this part of the county; they were being used only in Oregon. At that time, the Township was not interested in using a system that was not proven effective. Now that the Orenco system has 8 years of successful data in this area, our Engineers would approve the use of this system with certain modifications, should the developer proceed in that direction. Ms. Morgan advised that the recorded plan and agreements should be revised if Keystone chooses to proceed with a system that is not the already approved WWTP. The Solicitor added that the Township has repeatedly suggested to the developer to give up some lots and utilize a traditional onlot septic system similar to what the rest of the subdivisions use, but the developer is just not interested.

Supervisor Schenk reminded the Board that the Township has asked the developer to install a gate to stop illicit acts and mischief from occurring in the back, vacant area of the development. The developer was unresponsive. Residents do not let their children back there as it is “gross” with left behind paraphernalia, drug activity and other unsavory things occurring. It was also mentioned that the developer half-heartedly mows but the weeds are tall and unsightly. The entrance is well taken care of. Supervisor Schenk asked the Solicitor what the township could do to force the developer to install a fence. The Solicitor will contact the developer.

Strickersville/Appleton 4-way Stop Intersection Update – This will be a topic of discussion monthly until the 4-way stops are in place. PennDOT stated they will use both nonreportable and reportable accident data to determine if the intersection warrants a 4-way stop system. At last month’s meeting, Chairman Auerbach announced a Community Call To Action, and the following has been accomplished: Letters from Chairman

Auerbach, Senator Dinniman, Representative John Lawrence and the property owner at this intersection have been sent to PennDOT District Executive, Kenneth McClain. The Township engaged Traffic Planning & Design to perform an independent traffic study; the Manager contacted Lancaster County municipalities for their experience managing unique traffic safety issues (they are held to the same PennDOT standards that we are). To see copies of the letters, check the township website: (www.franklintownship.us).

Flood Plain Ordinance 2017-03: The Board must enact this ordinance no later than September 29 to allow for residents who live within a FEMA designated flood hazard zone to obtain flood insurance. On motion by the Chairman, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board authorized the Solicitor to advertise this ordinance for enactment at the September 20, 2017 BOS meeting. The motion was unanimous. Chairman Auerbach thanked Supervisor Dea for her efforts in reviewing and revising the ordinance.

MS4 Permit Application/TMDL Plan: MS4 is a DEP mandated program for managing stormwater. As part of the Township's MS4 Permit Application (due September 16, 2017), the Township must supply a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) Plan for sediment and nutrients in the Christina River Basin. The TMDL Plan must be advertised for public comment 30 days prior to submittal. On motion by Mr. Snyder, 2nded by Mr. Torres, the Board authorized the staff to advertise the TMDL Plan for public review and comment. Motion carried 5-0.

Mini Cell Tower Ordinance 2017-04: On motion by Supervisor Torres, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board unanimously authorized the Solicitor to advertise this ordinance for enactment at the September 20, 2017 BOS meeting. Mrs. Schenk noted that technology changes quickly and people rely on their technology more & more; therefore, the need for these mini cell towers to boost coverage is going to grow. The Township wants to have something in place to allow for these mini cell towers, but to also protect residents from having one placed in their front yard. Chairman Auerbach thanked Supervisors Schenk, Dea and Manager McVaugh for their perseverance in getting this ordinance completed.

Site Improvement Plan: This will be a monthly discussion until the municipal site improvements have been completed. The staff is going to contact the Contractor to get a design for the additional bins in the municipal yard. At that point, the Board can determine whether to plant some screening in time for the Fall planting season.

Public Comment: Paul Lagasse commented on the new speed limit signs on Walker Rd.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.