



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the December 19, 2018, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:04 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. Natasha Manbeck from McMahon Engineering was also in attendance. There were 13 members of the public in attendance.

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 Morris, 2nded by Supervisor Dea, the November 14, 2018 BOS minutes were approved. The motion carried 5-0.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Supervisor Dea, 2nded by Supervisor Snyder, Resolution 2018-23 was approved 5-0. The motion authorized the erasure of the audiotape from the November 14, 2018 BOS meeting.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Chairman Auerbach, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, the November 2018 Treasurer's Report was approved 5-0. The report includes the following disbursements and transfers: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$110,329.24; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$12,290.79; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,768.42; the Highway Aid Fund with Disbursements of \$78,712.17; the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$918,472.28. Supervisor Torres noted a typographical error and Supervisor Morris asked about the Stoltzfus payment. Mr. Torres also questioned an item on the AECOM report regarding the telephone line on the Lexington Point sewage facility. Ms. McVaugh confirmed that it was for the automatic dialer and would follow up with Sandi Morgan.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mr. Snyder reported that during the month of November, 5 permits were issued, and 23 building inspections took place. \$1,498.64 was collected in building fees, \$0 in Rec, Open Space, Impact Fees and \$860.00 was collected in miscellaneous fees. There are 6 zoning issues. The Manager updated the Board that 207 Highland Drive agreed to bring the fence into compliance by the end of the year; 1651 New London Road will be going to the Zoning Hearing Board for a change of use; 3327 Appleton Road: the owner has asked the Court of Common Pleas for a continuance (which has been granted) as he has retained a new attorney and the Zoning Officer has sent another violation letter; 223 Highland Drive's water issue has been resolved and their Engineer is supposed to be sending the Township a confirmation letter; 1620 New London Road – the property owner is supposed to apply for a Use and Occupancy Permit. Mr. Vogels will send a follow up letter.

206 Fox Run Road: the property maintenance company for the Bank was contacted. The Zoning Officer requested that they demolish the structure. The entire report can be reviewed on the Township website (www.franklintownship.us).

PC Report: the PC did not meet in December.

HARB & Historical Commissions – Chairman Lagasse reported that just the HARB met in December to consider a COA application for storm doors at 3313 Appleton Road. They also discussed Training Opportunities and traffic on 896.

Franklin Sportsman's Association – Mr. Bob Macknis was in attendance. He reported that archery and shotgun season starts back up December 26 – January 26th. 5 buck and 4 doe were taken from the Franklin Preserve, 1 buck and 3 doe from the White Clay Crescent preserve and 2 doe from Banffshire were harvested for a total of 15 to date. The FSA has provided over 124 hours of community service to the Township. The Chairman thanked Mr. Macknis for the FSA's contribution to the Township and for being stewards of the land.

Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) – on motion by Mrs. Morris, 2nded by the Chairman, the Board unanimously granted a COA for storm doors to 3313 Appleton Road.

Avon Grove Charter School - On motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board authorized Escrow Release #2 in the amount of \$435,084.07. The release was recommended by the Township Engineer.

Resolution 2018-24 was adopted by a unanimous vote on motion by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Torres. This resolution was requested by Chester County Department of Emergency Services and specifies West Grove Fire and Ambulance Company and Avondale Fire and Ambulance Company as our fire and ambulance providers, Medic 94 as the Township's advanced life support provider and Harold Walls as the Township's Emergency Service Coordinator.

Final Budget – On motion by Mr. Snyder, 2nded by Mrs. Morris, the 2019 Final Budget was adopted 5-0.

Resolution 2018-26 - On motion by Mr. Torres, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board adopted Resolution 2018-26 setting the tax rates for 2019. The overall tax rate remains the same as 2018. However, since the Park loan will be paid off in early 2019, the distribution of funds to the Park is changing from .27 mills to .20 mills and the extra .07 mills will go into the General Fund. The Board intends to authorize some much-needed maintenance at the Park including an update to the bathrooms.

Fire Hydrant Resolution 2018-17 – on motion by Mrs. Morris, 2nded by Mrs. Dea, the Board adopted Resolution 2018-27, setting the tax rate of \$36.00 per parcel located within 780' of a public fire hydrant. This amount covers the cost of the water bill from Chester Water. The motion carried 5-0.

January 2019 Meeting Schedule – On motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Mrs. Morris, the Board authorized the staff to advertise the January 2019 meeting schedule. The Organization meeting will be held on Monday, January 7th at 7 p.m. and the regular Board meeting will be held Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 7 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.

Kemblesville Village/896 Traffic – The HARB Chairman has been working with Karen Marshall of the Chester County Historic Preservation Network on ways to make the Kemblesville Historic District and Village more livable. Ms. Marshall suggested inviting Ms. Natasha Manbeck, an Engineer with Planning expertise, to come to the Township to talk about traffic taming, feasibility studies, grants, etc. Ms. Manbeck now with McMahon Associates, was previously the Director of Transportation Services for the Chester County Planning Commission. She was part of the group who performed the 2009 Traffic Taming Study for 896. She is very familiar with the area and she and Mr. Lagasse recently walked the Village together. There was some lively discussion about what can be done to calm traffic. The interest of the residents is to make things safer by slowing down the traffic. They asked for more of a police presence, for flashing lights and to reduce the speed limit to 25. Ms. Manbeck gave examples of how other villages used methods of traffic taming. She also gave suggestions on grant opportunities and talked about the next step for the Township which is to contact PennDOT and find out what they have planned for this area. She believes the Township should make this a priority. She also suggested that once the Township knows what PennDOT has planned, it should decide exactly what it wants as a priority and then engage a feasibility study to see if it would be possible. Ms. Manbeck stated that grants are available, but all require match sometimes up to 30%. Ms. Manbeck is going to provide additional information to Mr. Lagasse and he will share that with the Board once he receives it.

Additional Dwelling Unit Ordinance – On motion by the Chairman, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board authorized the Solicitor to advertise the Additional Dwelling Unit Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Commission for enactment at the next available meeting. The motion carried 4-1 with Supervisor Morris voting nay.

Elected Auditor – on Motion by Mr. Snyder, 2nded by Mr. Auerbach, the Board appointed Mr. Larry Jones to fill the vacant Elected Auditor position through December 31, 2019. Mr. Jones has lived in the area a long time, having his law office in the borough of West Grove for over 40 years. The previous Elected Auditor, Nicole Morley, has moved out of the Township. The motion carried 5-0.

Referendum on the Ballot – This is a continuation of last month’s discussion. To stimulate some economic opportunities, the Board agreed that trying to allow the sale of alcohol would be a benefit. It is a daunting task. Registered voters who are at least 18 years old, 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 Board discussed different ways of getting information to the public such as a mass mailing, utilizing the Township website and starting a Facebook page. This discussion will continue next month.

Public Comment: Ms. Dowling and Ms. Huston of 121 Peacedale Road discussed their concerns about the property next door - 117 Peacedale Road - and the fact that it was recently sold, and an environmental company is performing perc testing. Mr. Auerbach explained that the Chester County Health Department issues septic and well permits. The Township has no jurisdiction over that. The Township understands their concerns; however, the Township cannot prevent a property owner from developing their property if they secure all the required permits. Manager McVaugh will check with Chester County to get a wetlands map and will look at the FEMA Flood Plain maps to check the status of the property.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.