



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the February 17, 2016 Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting. Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Schenk, Snyder and Torres. Supervisor Dea was absent. Also in attendance were Planning Commission Chairman, Dave Hoffman, Historical Commission and HARB Chairman, Paul Lagasse, Solicitor Mark Thompson, Manager/Treasurer, Joan McVaugh and Secretary Sharon Norris. There were 4 members of the public in attendance.

Announcements: There was an Executive Session after the meeting to discuss land, personnel and legal issues.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Chairman Auerbach, 2nded by Supervisor Snyder, the January 4 and January 20, 2016 minutes were approved 4-0.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Chairman Auerbach, Resolution 2016-09 was approved 4-0. The motion, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, authorized the erasure of the November 5, 2015 PC meeting audio tape and the January 4 and January 20, 2016 BOS meeting audiotapes.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Auerbach made the motion, 2nded by Supervisor Snyder, that the Board approve the January Treasurer's Report which includes the following disbursements: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$149,354.49; the Park & Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$4,460.40; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$87,363.94; the Emergency Services Fund with disbursements of \$149.97; and the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80 leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$459,432.68. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Torres pointed out that on page 3 of the report, the snow removal entry should be moved to Category 430.420.

2015 Audit – Ms. Pam Baker, partner at Barbacane Thornton, the Township's auditing firm, presented the 2015 audit findings. Ms. Baker explained the auditing process and what controls the auditors look for. She also clarified when and where the audit report should be filed. Ms. Baker complimented the Township on its management and processing of the township financials. The audit will be advertised in the Daily Local News and posted on the Township website (www.franklintownship.us) in the near future.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Chairman Auerbach reported that during the month of January, 5 new permits were issued (3 for new homes) and 13 various inspections were performed. Building/zoning fees collected: \$7,126.15; Recreation and Impact fees \$14,675.07 and \$2,000.50 in miscellaneous fees. There are no ongoing zoning issues.

Historical Commission/HARB Meeting Report – Chairman Lagasse reported that the Historical Commission and HARB did not meet in February.

Franklin Sportsman’s Association (FSA) Year End Report – Mr. Jim German of the FSA reported that the season ended on January 21, 2016. The total harvest was 12 deer as follows: Goodwin Preserve: 0; Banffshire: 1 buck/2 antlerless; White Clay Crescent: 1 buck; Franklin Preserve: 1 buck/7 antlerless. The Township is very appreciative of the FSA’s many community service projects which included: cleaning up the Goodwin Preserve, Roadside cleanup of Parsons, Chesterville and Creek Roads; Cutting the Form Farm Trail, and installing the flagpole at the municipal office complex. Chairman Auerbach also thanked the FSA for being good stewards of the land.

Planning & Zoning:

Planning Commission Report: Chairman, Dave Hoffman reported that on February 4th, the PC welcomed new member Brent VanLith and alternates Penny Schenk and Zach Elwyn. The PC organized as follows: Dr. Hoffman as Chair, Dr. Harris as Vice Chair and Mr. Gontarz as Secretary. The PC discussed the Keen 3-lot land development plan. They recommended that the Board waive the requirement for a Preliminary/Final Plan due to the rural character of the area and that the Board also not require sidewalks or street lighting. However, they recommended that the Applicant grade the property in such a way that sidewalks could be installed easily at a later time. Dr. Hoffman explained this was not really for a future sidewalk, but more for pedestrians and runners to get off the road when a car is coming. The PC also discussed Ordinances Revisions. The “Horses” ordinance is complete and ready for the Solicitor to review before it goes before the Board; and the Definitions are still being discussed. Dr. Hoffman pointed out that although the Attorney General’s Office had issued the language for certain definitions, she may consider the PC’s recommendations for suggested language which the PC feels is better suited for Franklin Township. The PC also discussed the use of Alternates when there is a lack of a quorum. More details of this meeting can be found in the minutes when they are approved.

Escrow Release – on motion by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Mrs. Schenk, the Board, based on the recommendation of the Township Engineer, authorized Escrow Release #11 in the amount of \$41,818.81 for Wyndemere Phase 2. Motion carried 4-0.

Keen 3-lot Land Development Plan – on motion by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board granted a waiver to Section 401.3B of the Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance requiring separate preliminary and final plans and they did not require sidewalks (as noted in Section 22-710) or street lighting (Section 22-711) due to the rural character of the area and that the waiver and notes be added to the final, approved plan. Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Auerbach explained that the original Keen plan which included the conservation of most of the original property and the creation of these 3 lots was approved in late 2012 and the plan was recorded in Fall 2013.

Appointment of HARB Member – on motion by the Chairman, 2nded by Mr. Torres, Mr. Chuck Phillips was appointed to fill the Architect vacancy on the HARB to a term to expire on 12.31.17. The motion passed unanimously.

Communication Tools for the Township – The Chairman began this discussion by explaining the time consuming process of producing and the cost of publishing the newsletter. His experience from 6 months of knocking on doors is that generally, the residents don’t read the newsletter. He suggests that the Township develop a Facebook page as a way of getting information to the residents. The Township’s webmaster will work on upgrading the website to allow the Township to post information on Facebook to link back to the website and to allow people to view the website easily on their smartphones. At next month’s meeting, the Board will have a more detailed discussion when all Board members are in attendance.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.