



## OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the April 20, 2016 Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting. Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Dea, Schenk, Snyder and Torres. Also in attendance were Planning Commission Chairman, Dave Hoffman, Historical Commission/HARB Chairman, Paul Lagasse, Solicitor Mark Thompson, Manager/Treasurer, Joan McVaugh and Secretary Sharon Norris. There were 2 members of the public in attendance and one court reporter.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the March 16, 2016 minutes was withdrawn due to revisions identified by Supervisor Dea. The Board will review the revised minutes at the May meeting

**Disposition of Records:** On motion by Chairman Auerbach, seconded by Supervisor Torres, Resolution 2016-14 was approved 5-0. The motion authorized the erasure of the audio tape for the March 3, 2016 PC meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** On motion made by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Supervisor Schenk, the Board approved the March Treasurer's Report which includes the following disbursements: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$167,843.92; the Park & Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$56,859.02; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$7,172.61; the Capital Reserve Fund with disbursements of \$6,204.64; the Emergency Services Fund with disbursements of \$34,943.99; and the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80 leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$581,565.38.. The motion passed unanimously. Supervisor Torres had a question about the balance in the real estate tax category in the General Fund. Manager McVaugh explained that since the end of March, the Township has received another disbursement of the real estate tax monies and the balance in that account is currently greater and more in line with last year.

**Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report:** Chairman Auerbach reported that during the month of March, 4 new permits were issued and 36 various inspections were performed. Building/zoning fees collected: \$712.60; Recreation and Impact fees \$0 and \$685.00 in miscellaneous fees. There are 2 zoning issues.

**PC Report:** PC Chairman, Dave Hoffman, reported that the PC discussed the draft ordinance on Brewery as Accessory to Agriculture which will be discussed again at the May 5, 2016 PC meeting. Please see the minutes from that meeting when they are available for more details.

**Historical Commission/HARB Meeting Report** – Chairman Paul Lagasse reported that the HC discussed Eastern Shore Natural Gas (ESNG) surveying and archeological activity with regard to historical properties located within ESNG's Fair Hill Loop. He also reported there are 2 historical talks in May. On May 12th, at the New London Academy at 7 PM, the New London Area Historical Society and the Franklin Township Historical Commission will present a talk by local historian Emily Kilby, who will speak about the former residents of Fair Hill.

On May 19th, the Kennett Township Historical Commission will present Catherine Quillman, who will talk about "Agricultural Roots: How We Grew What We Grew." It will be held at the Kennett Township Building (801 Burrows Run Road, Chadds Ford, PA 19317) at 7 PM. The Kennett programs are often popular, so an early arrival is suggested.

The HC and HARB have submitted their annual reports to the Board of Supervisors. The HARB did not meet in April.

**Old Business:** Since the ordinances being enacted at this meeting are regulated under the Municipal Planning Code (MPC), the Board must hold a public hearing. The Solicitor opened each hearing by submitting exhibits for each Ordinance and allowed time for comments from the Board and public to be entered into the record. After the hearings were closed, the Chairman offered the following motions:

- A motion to enact Ordinance 2016-02: Amending Chapter 27 to add and delete definitions, to permit Agriculture and buildings related to Agriculture in the AR Zoning District, provide for building setbacks, permit a commercial compost fertilizer or mulch operation in the Special Use District, delete Section 1506 governing composting, add a new section 1720 governing design standards for Normal Agricultural Operations, repeal Part 26 governing mushroom substrate processing and amend Chapter 22, Subdivision and Land Development to add the definition of Normal Agricultural Operation and amend Parts 6 and 7 to specify provisions applicable to Normal Agricultural Operations. This motion was 2nded by Supervisor Snyder and passed unanimously. Resident Pat Talwin had questions regarding setbacks and definitions.
- A motion to enact Ordinance 2016-03: Adding a new Section 1515 to Zoning Chapter 27 governing the Keeping of Horses. This motion was 2nded by Supervisor Schenk and passed unanimously. The purpose of this ordinance was to allow more residents to have horses. After enactment, two horses are allowed on three acres. Previously, residents needed four acres to have one horse.
- A motion to enact Ordinance 2016-04: Amending Zoning Chapter 27, Section 802 (Village), Section 904 (TND) and Section 1102 (Light Industrial) to allow Agriculture as a Use by Right in these districts. This motion was 2nded by Supervisor Snyder and passed 4-1 with Supervisor Torres voting nay. Resident Paul Lagasse had several comments regarding agriculture in the TND and the Village Districts.
- A motion to enact Ordinance 2016-05: Amending Zoning Chapter 27 to add, amend and delete Definitions to Part 2, Section 27-202. This was 2nded by Mr. Snyder and passed unanimously. Mr. Pat Talwin had a question about the definitions. Mr. Auerbach explained this ordinance deleted and added definitions regarding horses, kennels and exotic pets.

**FEMA Reimbursement:** On motion by the Chairman, 2nded by Mr. Torres, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution 2016-13, appointing Manager McVaugh, as agent to process the necessary paperwork for reimbursement funding from FEMA for 75% of our cost in a 48-hour period during Winter Storm Jonas. Ms. McVaugh stated that we had equipment out for an entire 48-hour period at one time during the storm. The Township should receive approximately \$50,000 in reimbursement monies.

**Hazard Mitigation Plan:** On motion by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board adopted Resolution 2016-15, adopting the County's updated Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Chester County. The motion carried 5-0.

**New Business:**

On motion by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Ms. Schenk, the Board endorsed the Great American Cleanup of Franklin Township on Saturday, April 23 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Anyone who wants to participate should come to the Township Office to pick up supplies. You can clean up your neighborhood or any township roadside. It is your choice! Bags of trash can be returned to the Township office for disposal or residents can dispose of them. Gloves, safety vests and bags are provided. Flags will be provided to mark large objects for later pickup.

**White Clay Wild and Scenic Collaboration** – the Board briefly discussed how the White Clay Wild and Scenic organization secured a grant which can be used to assist interested municipalities with their MS4 requirements. The townships in the impaired Christiana Watershed are seeking permission from DEP to collaborate and develop one plan for all the interested townships. Ms. Shane Morgan of the WCWS will come to the May BOS meeting to discuss the details of the grant.

**Extension:** On motion by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Mr. Torres, the review clock for the Abel Subdivision was extended to September 22, 2016. This was a unanimous vote.

**Township Office Renovation** – The Chairman discussed the plan to renovate the Township Office in stages. Top priority would be to repair the wall separating the office from the former salt bin which has been leaching salt into the storage area for quite some time. Also discussed was making the bathroom in the meeting room area into a handicapped accessible bathroom, making an office for the Township Manager, creating 2 offices in the storage area and also moving the cabinets out of the meeting room into the storage area. Mr. Auerbach presented a plan he made using some architectural software. Supervisors Dea and Schenk have also been working with the Township staff on this project.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Lagasse commented on the Winery/Brewery Accessory to Agriculture Ordinance which will be discussed further at the PC meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting adjourned** at 9:19 p.m.