



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the May 15, 2019, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, Assistant Twp. Mgr., Jeff Eastburn and Secretary Sharon Norris. There were 2 members of the public in the audience including Bob Hotchkiss, CEO of Medic 94. At approximately 7:40 p.m., another member of the public arrived.

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

Announcements: There will be an Executive Session after tonight's meeting to discuss a legal issue.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Supervisor Morris, 2nded by Supervisor Dea, the April 17, 2019 v2 minutes were approved 4-1 with Supervisor Torres abstaining since he was absent last month. Mr. Auerbach made a slight correction on page 3 from Vision Partnership Grant to Vision Partnership Program Grant.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Supervisor Snyder, Resolution 2019-11, authorizing the erasure of the audiotape from the April 17, 2019, BOS meeting was adopted. The motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, the April 2019 Treasurer's Report was approved 5-0. The report includes the following disbursements and transfers: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$393,125.18; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$9,688.03; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,553.17; the Emergency Services Fund with disbursements of \$5,910.00; and the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$1,288,342.59. Mrs. Dea asked Manager McVaugh about the \$21,604 in grant money received. Mrs. McVaugh explained it was for the Dirt & Gravel Roads. Mrs. Morris remarked favorably on applying for grants and was complimentary of the condition of Franklin Road since the contractor has done the work.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mr. Snyder reported that during the month of April, 11 permits were issued, and 27 building inspections took place. \$9,001.14 was collected in building fees, \$5,290.19 in Rec, Open Space, Impact Fees and \$3,550.00 was collected in miscellaneous fees. There are 2 zoning issues: 1620 New London Road states he is working with his Engineer on stormwater and buffering. The Zoning Officer has issued a Violation letter stating the owner must comply with the Conditional Use requirements. 3327 Appleton Road: Still waiting for the Court of Common Pleas Judge to make a ruling. Manager McVaugh noted that the owner of 3300 Appleton Road has paid his fine. The entire report can be reviewed on the Township website (www.franklintownship.us).

PC Report: Having no business before them, the Planning Commission did not meet in April.

HARB & Historical Commissions: Chairman Lagasse reported that these two committees did not meet in May. There is a link on the Township's Historical Commission page to the new Historical Commission website which has many historical maps, old postcards and articles from old newsletters. The HC will update and expand its new website going forward. On May 9th the Historical Commission cosponsored a talk at the New London Academy on the Newlin Grist Mill, featuring Mill Director, Tony Shahan. The talk was well attended, informative and enjoyable. The Township takes turns with the New London Historical Society paying for talks and Mr. Shahan's talk was paid for by Franklin. Mr. Lagasse noted that Mr. Shahan will be welcomed back in the future. Mr. Lagasse said he hasn't made any progress on finding ownership of the abandoned Church Hill cemetery, but when things slow down, he has a plan to move forward. On May 29, the Oxford Area Historical Society is presenting a program with the Oxford Area School District entitled "On the Homefront – Tales of the Revolutionary War" told by Susannah Brody, a Revolutionary War storyteller. This program will be held at the Penn's Grove Elementary School, 301 S. Fifth St., Oxford, PA and begins at 7 p.m.

Business:

Bob Hotchkiss: Medic 94 – Mr. Hotchkiss, CEO of Medic 94 presented the Board with a detailed report outlining all calls in the Township in 2018. Medic 94 was founded 36 years ago and Bob has been with them for 34 of those 36 years. Medic 94 are partners with West Grove Fire Company, Oxford Fire Company, Avondale Fire Company and Christiana Fire Company. When a call comes in for an ambulance, 50% of those calls require paramedics. Mr. Hotchkiss explained that Medic 94 is like an ER on wheels. They can make a diagnosis and begin treatment immediately where an ambulance can only make the victim comfortable on their way to the hospital. They have a high retainage of employees because they invest in their employees and believe in continuing employee education. Their organization and individual employees have won many awards - some of them state-wide! The Medic 94 Board is made up of community members who bring a business sense to the organization. Franklin Township Emergency Management Coordinator, Harold Walls, is currently the Board Chairman, 3 other municipal representatives as well as Judge Scott Massey also serve. Medic 94 is based out of Jennersville Hospital but not employed by them. The hospital charges them \$1/year for the rent. They have a very positive working relationship with the new owners of the hospital. As we have discussed over the years, funding is a big issue. Half of their patients are Medicare/Medicaid patients and Medicare/Medicaid only pays back a very small amount for transport and care. Often times insurance companies reimburse patients for the transport and care; however, the patient doesn't realize they should send the check to Medic 94 and keeps the money. One third of their funding comes from municipalities and the rest comes from their fund raising. Over the summer, Mr. Hotchkiss will be meeting with representatives from the municipalities they serve to come up with a more "fair share" method of funding. Currently they use millage. Finally, they will need to replace 4 cardiac monitors in the next 2 years which is a tremendous expense. Hopefully they will be able to secure grants for these purchases; however, last year they were turned down. In answer to a question about Narcan, Mr. Hotchkiss said overdoses and administration of Narcan is up 40% this year, however, they, along with other organizations, are implementing newer strategies (Reading Hospital calls it the "turkey sandwich strategy") when a victim overdoses and recovers from the Narcan, rather than sending them on their way, they offer them a turkey sandwich and a sprite. While the patient is waiting for that, it gives time for a counselor to visit with the patient and try to get them to go to rehab rather than just discharging the patient who often goes right back to doing the drugs. The Board thanked Mr. Hotchkiss for Medic 94's commitment to the community.

2019 Road Program: on motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Mrs. Morris, the Board authorized the Township Manager to move forward with the 2019 road program. The roads the Township will work on this year are: Walker Road, S. Guernsey Rd. (Lower) S. Guernsey Rd. (Upper) Peacedale Road with the possibility of Church Hill Road if funding becomes available. The motion passed unanimously.

New Heater Discussion: the heat exchanger on the unit in the Township building went bad. The Board discussed whether to replace just the heater or both the heater and air conditioner at the same time since they are the same age. The consensus of the Board was to do more research on condensation heaters. Mr. Auerbach recommended not purchasing a new air conditioner at this time.

MS4: the Township has received zero comments regarding the MS4 Permit Application.

Public Comment: Township Resident Dan Salvaterra expressed his extreme dissatisfaction over his neighbor not complying with the terms of their Conditional Use Decision and asked about the possibility of rezoning the SU District to Residential. Mrs. Morris noted that she was approached by a resident interested in installing a solar farm on his property. She asked the other Board members their opinion on solar farms. The Manager explained that if a solar farmer sells electricity to PECO, then they are running a commercial business which would be a different permit process than an individual or farm who uses the electricity strictly for their own use. Mrs. Morris will have the resident contact the building/code/zoning official, Jeff Vogels. Mr. Torres asked if any progress has been made on the list of park improvements. With the money available this year, replacing the bathrooms is the priority.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.