



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the April 17, 2019, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Dea, Morris and Snyder. Supervisor Torres was absent. Also, in attendance were Solicitor Mark Thompson, Township Engineer Pete Eisenbrown, Manager/Treasurer Joan McVaugh, HARB/HC Chairman, Paul Lagasse and Secretary Sharon Norris. There were 3 members of the public in the audience.

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 March 20, 2019 v2 minutes were unanimously approved.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Supervisor Snyder, Resolution 2019-10, authorizing the erasure of the audiotape from the March 20, 2019, BOS meeting was adopted. The motion carried 4-0.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Mrs. Dea, the March 2019 Treasurer's Report was approved 4-0. The report includes the following disbursements and transfers: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$202,318.88; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$55,484.78; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,553.17; the Emergency Services Fund with disbursements of \$39,496.89; and the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$570,009.07.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mr. Snyder reported that during the month of March, 10 permits were issued, and 23 building inspections took place. \$2,799.28 was collected in building fees, \$-0- in Rec, Open Space, Impact Fees and \$1,785.00 was collected in miscellaneous fees. There are 2 zoning issues: 1620 New London Road has submitted a zoning permit to revert the use of the property to a single, "use permitted by right" and will be working with the Engineer on stormwater and the Zoning Officer on the permit. 3327 Appleton Road: The solicitor opined that the Township would have a decision from the Court of Common Pleas by summer time. The District Magistrate continued that case until the Court of Common Pleas Judge makes a ruling. 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 March.

HARB & Historical Commissions – The first official joint HC/HARB meeting was held on April 2. Mr. Lagasse explained that a lot of the topics discussed by these two commissions overlap so it made sense to try and combine the meetings. The voting process is separate. The Annual Reports were approved for submittal to the BOS. The meeting reviewed the 896 Improvement Plans and the walkability of the Village District. The Section 106 Evaluation of Historic Properties is coming to an end and is expected to finish in mid-May, when the response period to PennDOT's report on the possibility of a rural historic district along 896 ends. The HC

will begin doing deed research on the Church Hill African Cemetery in the coming months. The finalization of the Historical Resources Map of the Township, which will include several updates, will also happen in the coming months. There is a link on the Township's Historical Commission page to the new Historical Commission website which has many historical maps and interesting articles. The HC will update and expand its new website going forward. The HARB approved the COA application for 3303 Appleton Road. On May 9th the Historical Commission is cosponsoring a talk at the New London Academy on the Newlin Grist Mill, featuring Mill Director, Tony Shahan. The talk begins at 7 p.m.

Business:

COA – on motion by Supervisor Dea, 2nded by Mr. Auerbach, the Board granted a Certificate of Appropriateness for roof repair at 3303 Appleton Road on the findings that this application is in compliance with sections A-E of the Secretary of the Interior's standards (Sections F-J of the standards are not applicable) and the proposed work is in keeping with the current appearance of the structure and has no effect on the historical character of the structure and/or its environment.

Extension of Time – on motion by Mr. Auerbach, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board accepted an extension of time to the review clock for the Abel Subdivision through October 17, 2019. The motion passed 4-0.

MS4 Permit –The **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer** system permit that the Township is required to submit to DEP has been on the Board agenda for several months. The last permit application the Twp. submitted was rejected by the DEP (as were most other municipalities) even after the DEP provided training for Engineers on how to prepare a permit application that was in compliance with DEP regulations. An extension to the permit submission was granted to June 15, 2019. At last month's meeting, the Township authorized the Engineer to revise the application by removing the AG load from the calculations as recommended by the MS4 Consortium consultant and to add tree planting as a solution to reduce the pollutants. The Manager, after discussions with Shane Morgan of the White Clay Wild and Scenic, estimates that the tree planting costs would be approx. \$50,000 with about 2 years of initial maintenance required. Mrs. McVaugh explained that if the trees are planted in a manner to allow for mowing in both directions, vines and invasive species won't be as much of an issue. The Board has reviewed the new maps and calculations and on motion by Mr. Snyder, 2nded by Mrs. Morris, authorized the advertising of the MS4 Permit TMDL and PRP Plans for a public review period through June 19, 2019 and ultimate approval by the Board at the June 19th meeting. A hard copy of the plans is available at the Township Office. Public comments will be received in any form - via email (info@franklintownship.us); in person; at a public meeting; in writing through the US mail, etc. The Engineer will contact DEP to alert them that the permit application will be submitted by the end of June 2019.

Comprehensive Plan Discussion – As a result of last month's discussion, Mrs. Morris set up a meeting on April 10 with 3 members of the Chester County Planning Commission and 3 representatives from the Township (Mr. Auerbach, Mrs. Morris and Mrs. McVaugh). The meeting gave the Township a clearer path forward on how to ensure the Township Comp Plan aligns with the County's newly adopted Comprehensive Plan, Landscapes 3. The County will have the manpower to assist the Township in this endeavor beginning in the June timeframe. The Township can apply for a VPP Grant (Vision Partnership Program) to offset the costs. It was noted that it takes a lot of time and effort from the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Historical Commission and members of the public to have a successful comp plan that reflects the goals of the community but also has the appropriate zoning. It will also be necessary to include the Township Solicitor throughout this process.

Great American Clean Up of Franklin Township – Many thanks to those volunteers who came out to clean up our Township roads - We appreciate your efforts! This year, the Township-wide cleanup was not as well attended

as in year's past. Next year the Township will possibly partner with our neighbors in New London Township who reported a larger than usual number of volunteers.

Public Comment: Mr. Brent VanLith, Township resident, asked about the TMDL calculations and if MS4 addresses erosion (rock and dirt on the roads) caused by the heavy rains hitting steep slopes along the roads. He also expressed appreciation over the shoulder improvements on Walker Road.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.