



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the September 18, 2019, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Vice Chairman Dea called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors Morris, Snyder and Torres. Also in attendance were Manager/Treasurer Joan McVaugh, HARB/HC Chairman, Paul Lagasse, Assistant Manager, Jeff Eastburn and Secretary Sharon Norris. There was 1 member of the public (Jim German from the FSA) 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 Snyder, the August 28, 2019 v2 minutes were approved 4-0.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Mr. Snyder, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, Resolution 2019-15, authorizing the erasure of the audiotape from the July 11, 2019 PC meeting and the audiotape from the August 28, 2019 BOS meeting was adopted. The motion carried 4-0.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by Mr. Torres, 2nded by Mrs. Morris, the August 2019 Treasurer's Report was approved 4-0. The report includes the following disbursements and transfers: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$87,011.52; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$7,260.20; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,553.17; the Capital Reserve Fund with disbursements of \$93,146.51 the Highway Aid Fund with disbursements of \$148,285.93; and the Fire Hydrant Fund with disbursements of \$580.80; leaving a balance in all funds totaling \$961,101.68. Mr. Torres inquired about the difference in permitting revenues and expenses. Manager McVaugh explained it had more to do with timing than anything else.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mrs. Morris reported that during the month of August, 5 permits were issued, and 34 building inspections took place. \$624.00 was collected in building fees, -0- in Rec, Open Space, Impact Fees and \$700.00 was collected in miscellaneous fees. 4 Zoning Issues were reported: 3327 New London Road – the Solicitor will be contacting the Judge to inquire about the status of his ruling; 1620 New London Road is in compliance and is being used solely as a residential property. The civil complaint has been dismissed; 7 Bullock Road - the complainant notified the Township that the issue was resolved; 6 Kathleen Drive – the violation has been remedied. The entire report can be reviewed on the Township website (www.franklintownship.us).

PC Report: The Manager reported that the PC began their review of the Green Energy Ordinance. They worked on size limits and buffering for residential and small business vs larger commercial operations. For more details, please view the 9.5.19 PC minutes once they are approved.

HARB & Historical Commissions: Mr. Lagasse reported that the talk on September 12, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the New London Academy entitled “Setbacks & Successes: A history of Vines and Wines through the Years.” given by Ben Cody, co-owner of the 1723 Winery in Kemblesville, was a big success and that Mr. Cody was an interesting speaker. This program was cosponsored by the FT Historical Commission and the New London Historical Society. Mr. Lagasse also discussed a recent dialogue he’s been having with PennDOT’s Cultural Resource Professional regarding the proposed improvements at the intersection of Route 896 and Appleton Rd. He has asked the Supervisors to attend an onsite meeting with PennDOT on Oct. 8, 2019.

FSA Report: Mr. German reported that archery season officially opens this Saturday, Sept. 21. He said small dove and goose season is going on now in case people are hearing shots. The FSA is finishing up marking all of the hunting areas in the Township at the following preserves: Banffshire, Franklin, Goodwin and White Clay Crescent. The FSA has a full complement of 35 members with 4 recent vacancies filled with Township residents. Members are finishing up their proficiency testing. Since July, the FSA has provided the Township with 58 hours of community service. Currently they are working on installing 5 charcoal grills at Crossan Park. In the last 3 years, the FSA has contributed over 300 hours of service to the Township. Many thanks to the members of the FSA for their contributions to Franklin!

Business:

Radar Sign: The Board discussed with the staff and residents in attendance the high speed at which drivers exit Route 896 onto Appleton Road and the positive effect a radar sign may have to slow traffic down. It was noted that since there is nowhere to put up a sign to notify drivers of the reduction in speed from 896 to Appleton Road, the police are unable to ticket these speeders because of the short distance before the start of the 25 mph speed limit. On motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Mrs. Morris, the Board authorized the purchase of a radar sign and trailer not to exceed \$6500. The motion carried 4-0.

Plantings: Mr. Torres discussed the landscaping plan he and Mr. Kealy devised for the healing gardens at Crossan Park. They Board decided they would like to move forward with one more staggered row of trees at the municipal site to hide the concrete blocks in the yard. Additionally, on motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board decided if there was money left over from the tot lot project, they would implement the landscaping plan for the healing garden by the end of October 2019. The motion was unanimous.

Public Comment: With regard to the upcoming reconstruction of Route 896, Mr. Lagasse suggested having an “experts” section on the website which would give residents names of local contractors and arborists/tree experts to assist them with understanding if their offers from PennDOT are reasonable and how to replant/fix their property after PennDOT comes through and takes down their trees or moves their driveways. The group discussed how to be impartial if we were to attempt this.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.