



OFFICIAL UPDATE

This is a summary of the October 16, 2019, Franklin Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.

Chairman Auerbach called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were Vice Chairman Dea and Supervisors Morris, Snyder and Torres. Also in attendance were Solicitor Mark Thompson, Manager/Treasurer Joan McVaugh, HARB/HC Chairman, Paul Lagasse, and Secretary Sharon Norris. There were 4 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 September 18, 2019 v3 minutes were approved 5-0.

Disposition of Records: On motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Supervisor Snyder, Resolution 2019-16, authorizing the erasure of the audiotape from the September 5 PC meeting and the audiotape from the September 18, 2019 BOS meeting was adopted. The motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report: On motion by the Chairman, 2nded by Supervisor Torres, the September 2019 Treasurer's Report was approved 5-0. The report includes the following disbursements and transfers: The General Fund with disbursements and transfers of \$86,909.86; the Park and Recreation Fund with disbursements of \$9,247.57; the Open Space Fund with disbursements of \$6,553.17; the Traffic Impact Fund East with disbursements of \$38,199.00; the Capital Reserve Fund with disbursements of \$25,829.24; 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 \$844,287.46. Supervisor Morris asked for an explanation about the Traffic Impact Fund East payment of \$38,199.00 and the Manager explained it was part of the Road Program specifically for the work done on Peacedale Rd. Supervisor Torres asked the Manager about the Park & Rec budget figure and if the millage had been adjusted to reflect the change due to the Park loan being paid off. The Manager said the millage was adjusted but would do some research and get back to the Board with an explanation as to why the budget number did not reflect the correct amount.

Mr. Torres brought up the Open Space Loan and pointed out that although the rate is low at 2.78%, paying the interest once a year may not be ideal. Since interest rates are low right now, he would like the Manager to contact DelVal and check to see what new terms could be. He would also like to know what the amortization schedule is.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Report: Mr. Snyder reported that during the month of September, 10 permits were issued, and 19 building inspections took place. \$1,435.22.00 was collected in building fees, -0- in Rec, Open Space, Impact Fees and \$1,400.00 was collected in miscellaneous fees. Mr. Auerbach reminded everyone that the building fees collected are to cover costs of inspections and permit issuance. The following Zoning Issues were reported: 3327 New London Road – the Solicitor reported that the Township won the Appeal in the Court of Common Pleas and he will be contacting the District Court Judge to address the 6 violations on hold until this

decision was reached. Re: 6 Kathleen, the Manager will speak with the Zoning Officer to see if the business owner applied for a home-based business license. The entire report can be reviewed on the Township website (www.franklintownship.us).

PC Report: Brent Van Lith reported that the PC is continuing to review the Green Energy Ordinance. At this month's meeting, they spent a lot of time considering how to manage the stormwater on large parcels if stormwater management is not required in some way. Supervisor Morris recommended calling other townships that have these ordinances in place to see what is working and what isn't. She doesn't want Franklin to be the Township that is requiring additional stormwater if DEP isn't requiring that.

HARB & Historical Commissions: Mr. Lagasse reported that only the HARB had a quorum on October 1st so the HC will have to meet once before the end of the year. They discussed 896 roadwork in advance of the Oct. 8 meeting; They have found someone to assist with deed research on the Church Hill African Cemetery; the update to the Historic Resources map is completed and will be submitted to CCPC who will issue a revised map. On November 14, in conjunction with the New London Historical Society, the HC is hosting Marshall Decker, Professor Emeritus at West Chester University, who will speak about the Lenape Indians. The talk is at the New London Academy beginning at 7 p.m. Mr. Lagasse said the Oct 8 PennDOT meeting went well. PennDOT will be installing crosswalks at the new 3 way stop and is considering additional ones north and south of the gateway islands which they also agreed to install. They discussed ways to add greenery where the Village "Green" will be replaced by new pavement markings, signage for the crosswalk and stop signs. Mr. Lagasse was pleased that PennDOT considered his letter and their consideration of the requests for crosswalks and gateway islands.

FSA Report: Mr. German reported that 1 buck was harvested from Franklin Preserve and 1 doe from White Clay Crescent. 23 members have passed their archery proficiency test and 21 members have successfully taken their shotgun proficiency test. There are 35 members in the FSA with a long waiting list of Township residents. He pointed out that since all members do not use both shotgun and archery for hunting, there will never be 35 members who complete one test or the other. This year, the FSA has provided 139 hours of community service to the Township (wow!) most recently installing 5 charcoal grills in various locations around Crossan Park. Their next project is to sand and stain the girl scout table near the middle parking lot. The Board thanked the members of the FSA for their many contributions to the Township.

Business:

Tiny House Discussion – Mr. Benson McConkie gave a slide show presentation on a variety of tiny house communities around the country. His goal for coming before the Board is to introduce his vision of a tiny house Airbnb community consisting of no more than 15 tiny houses, for people to rent when visiting the area, specifically when visiting Longwood Gardens. He would own and manage all of the houses and property. People would not be living in them full time. His abbreviated presentation highlighted a similar community in Elizabethtown, PA which ideally is what his community would emulate. This concept is still in its infant stages and he is visiting neighboring municipalities to see how receptive they are to this idea; to see if the zoning would allow for it and if it is even feasible. At this time, tiny homes would be considered manufactured housing by our Zoning. The Board advised him to check with the CC Health Department as they saw the septic as being the one issue that could be a stumbling block for him. The Board invited Mr. McConkie back once he had investigated how he would provide septic, water and how he would deal with stormwater for a tiny home community.

Server Discussion: The Township's Server will reach the end of its life in January 2020. Pegasus, the Township's computer support company, has given the Township 3 options to replace it. The options are: 1) continue with an onsite server 2) Onsite Server will host everything except for emails which will be uploaded to the cloud. Once

the emails are transferred, we will never have to do anything with them again. Migrating emails is expensive because it is time consuming; 3) Everything is in the cloud which would require an annual fee paid to Microsoft for Cloud Programs. The Supervisors asked for a chart outlining the cost of each of these options over 5 years. This topic will be considered again at the November 20 BOS meeting. Mr. Jim German participated in this discussion.

Resolution 2019-17 – on Motion by Mrs. Dea, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board adopted Resolution 2019-17, authorizing the sale of 0.028 acres of property designated as a required right of way in the Wyndemere Subdivision to PennDOT to allow PennDOT to install a culvert pipe on N. Clay Creek Road. The motion carried 5-0. There was a light hearted discussion about charging PennDOT more for the ROW and using that money to fix Chesterville Rd.

Ordinance 2019-02 - on motion by Mr. Torres, 2nded by Mr. Snyder, the Board authorized the Solicitor to advertise Ordinance 2019-02, regarding the installation of two “No Brake Retarder” signs on Appleton Road, for enactment at the next available BOS meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

Abel Subdivision - On motion by Mrs. Morris, 2nded by Mrs. Dea, the Board of Supervisors accepted the extension of time to the review clock for the Abel Subdivision through April 16, 2020. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment: Jim German asked about the diamond shaped orange markers on top of the speed limit signs on Appleton Road. They are there to draw attention to the sign so drivers will see the speed limit is 25.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.