Township Communications

Some time ago, the Township discontinued the distribution of newsletters by mail.

Why?

Over the past years, Supervisors and Staff have had many contacts with Township residents through a wide range of venues: door-to-door contact, email, phone, Board & Planning Commission Meetings, visits to the Township Office, encounters at various places in the area, letters, etc.

During many of these contacts, we learned that very few people were reading their newsletters. It is not hard to understand why as newsletters are lost in a blizzard of junk mail and other mail marketing notices.

Paper communications are not timely or as complete as people expect. The reader typically has more questions than the short paragraph can address. The Township website provides the ability to connect residents to more information and allows the reader to explore other areas of interest

Newsletter preparation and distribution is costly, not timely, and ineffective.

Today's Township communications are based on timely website postings, emails, text messages, social media, and phone.

The Township website is the primary source of Township information. Phone calls, emails, and short text messages are welcome by the Supervisors and Staff. The website provides this contact information. Click on the Contact Us button at the upper right corner of the main Page. <u>https://www.franklintownship.us/.</u>

The website provides a complete detailed overview of all financial information. The Township uses Quick Books software to manage all financial transactions. Many reports are available upon request.

The Township budget is posted in PDF and EXCEL formats. The EXCEL version provides anyone with the ability to use the numerical information to perform their own arithmetic or analysis.

The budget is a spending plan developed and approved by the Board. All financial transactions are documented monthly in the Treasurer's Report. Every check and every transfer in an out are listed in detail. The format of this report also indicates compliance to the budget. Monthly Treasurer's Reports are available and posted on the website on the Friday before each Board Meeting.

Board meetings are recorded by audio and video systems. The audiotapes are the basis for developing official meeting minutes which are posted on the website (after approval) approximately 5 weeks after the meeting. Videos are available on the website the day after the meeting. Additionally, the Staff develops a summary document of the meeting (the Franklin Township Official Update) and distributes this report by email (to those who have provided their email) the day after the meeting. The Official Update is also posted on the website the day after the meeting.

Besides the information noted above, the website provides an enormous amount of information covering a wide range of subjects.

Residents are encouraged to browse the website and find information of interest. Questions and inquiries are always welcome.

Sincerely,

John Auerbach, Chairman Franklin Township Board of Supervisors