

## **January 21, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Supervisors of Franklin Township was held in the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall, was called to order by Dennis Howard at 1901 hours. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Present were Supervisors Dennis Howard, Robert Simonelli, and James Sachar, and Solicitor Gery Nietupski, and Secretary Ramona Junkins.

Visitors present Tara Miller, Brian Alicia, Ben Sitek, Denny Russin, Bob Herman, Steve Weston, Goeroge Plavcan, Bob McDaniel, Teresa Brown, Maryann Mook, Alan Hauser, Dee Engel, Georgia Hudy, Timothy Aldrich

A Moment of Silence was observed.

Dennis Howard announced that three Executive Meetings have taken place on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss personnel issues.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None

### **MINUTES:**

James Sachar made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on December 17, 2019. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

James Sachar made a motion to approve the minutes from the Reorganization Meeting on January 6, 2020. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

### **REPORTS:**

**Roadmaster Report** – The staff has been plowing, working on ice control, they did work on a couple of roads when the weather permitted. The Tandem Dump truck has been fixed and is returned.

### **FINANCIAL AND TAXES**

**Bills** – Dennis Howard made a motion to approve the January 21, 2020 bill list for a total of \$89,864.47 with striking the lines that say Walmart and Amazon as no amounts were listed and they were last month purchases. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

There are no Supervisor bills this month.

**Payroll** – James Sachar made a motion to approve Payrolls #26 of 2019 and #'s 1 & 2 of 2020 as presented. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Dennis Howard made a motion that the Settlement for the 2019 Tax Duplicate that has been submitted by June Shelhamer, Tax Collector for the total accountable taxes in the amount of 269,400.75 which includes exonerations and interim billing. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

Dennis Howard made a motion to warrant the Tax Collector to collect for 2020 Real Estate taxes with adjustments as authorized through the Erie County Assessment Office by means of interim tax billing, exonerations, and refunds. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

The monthly recap was given to the Board of Supervisors.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** There was no meeting this month.

**ZONING:** No report

**EACOG:** No report

**ECATO:** The meeting is this Thursday at McKean Township.

**WECEMA:** At the last meeting it was discussed to make sure an alternate is designated.

**DRY HYDRANT:** The location of all the Dry Hydrants have been added to a layer with the county GIS system. So now all the data is plotted through the GIS system.

**TRAINING FACILITY:** A resident has asked if the community can walk the training grounds for exercise purposes, as they live on a busy state road where it is unsafe to walk. The consensus was yes, this is a good use for the community. The Solicitor is going to draft up a release agreement that releases the township from any liability for someone gets hurt while walking.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** The Chief reported there were 113 calls for last year, lots of good trainings have been going on. We will be doing a feasibility study to see about brining back the ambulance. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be having a Comedy night for a fundraiser, doors open at 6:30pm. The President stated that the Fire Department is struggling and needs some help with the financial part of the fire departments books meaning Quickbooks. She stated it is in best practice that the person who is writing the checks is not the one doing the data Entry. She asked if the township Treasurer could do the financial part in Quickbooks to help the department. The consensus was yes the township Treasurer is agreeable to help them at the township.

**SOLICITOR:**

No Report

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Dennis Howard made a motion to approve the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Edinboro Triathlon to use Crane Road through Franklin Township in June. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

James Sachar made a motion to authorize the Fire Police for traffic control in the township and when requested out by other townships/departments. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

Resolution #4 of 2020- Proclamation declaring April 2019 Safe Digging Month.

Dennis Howard made a motion to approve the proclamation declaring April 2020 Safe Digging month. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

A discussion was held regarding to Karl Ebert resigning as an Elected Auditor. The position is now vacant, and no one has come forth yet to volunteer for the position.

James Sachar read the following statement "there was a situation on January 10<sup>th</sup>, due to my actions, I will suspend my activities as roadmaster until a time so designated by other members of the Board of Supervisors, effectively immediately."

Robert Simonelli made a motion to suspend James Sachar as Roadmaster indefinitely with consideration for reinstatement after successful completion of a remediation process with the approval from the Board of Supervisors. Dennis Howard seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

Dennis Howard made a motion to reaffirm that Dennis (Bill) Russin as Assistant Roadmaster to fill this vacancy, until further notice. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

A letter from Eckert Seamans Attorneys at Law was reviewed about a Slot Machine Ordinance.  
An invite from the Erie County Redevelopment Authority was received.  
An invite for the Public Safety Dinner was received.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Tara Miller wanted to say spring is coming quick and heard that FEMA provides a Disaster Siren free of charge. Brian Brocius the Chief is going to look into this.  
Teresa Brown lives at the intersection of New & Eureka Road, she stated lots of cars either don't stop at the stop sign or hit ice and go into her front yard. Dan Netzler was working on trying to get a guard rail put in there to protect everyone.  
Steve Weston stated a couple concerns with the remediation process as after New Year's there was a period of glaring ice for almost 40 hours before a plow truck went out to put antiskid down. School buses were running at that time and it was unsafe road conditions for kids. James has been keeping the roads clean and safe over the last week as the roads were not addressed appropriately this past year.  
Denny Russin asked if on the bill list when a write a check out to Dennis (Bill) Russin and I put Bill in parenthesis as under Payroll I refer to him as "Bill".  
Ben Sitek Jr. stated that he rides his bike on the back roads a lot and that he felt the roads have improved over the last year. He wanted to thank Bill for his hard work.

Dennis Howard made a motion to adjourn at 1944. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Ramona Junkins, Secretary