

July 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 1904 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 were Dee Engel, Denise Benedict, Brian Brocius and Shaun Thayer

A Moment of Silence was observed.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

I am a social member with the Firehall but I am talking as a concerned tax paying resident. As of July 1st there has not been a budget proposed yet for the firehall. There has only been 1 fundraiser to date which was Comedy night, does the Township review the proposed budget? I am retired and live on a budget and cannot afford to have the tax millage increased in the township. I am asking for the Supervisors to at least review the proposed budgets and keep an eye on how the money is being spent.

MINUTES:

Robert Simonelli made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on June 16, 2020. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

REPORTS:

Roadmaster Report – Sealcoating has been taken care of, we chipped Falls & Francis, Silverthorn north of Old State, Western Trail & New Road from 98 to the firehall. Wanted to do New Road but Suit-Kote said it would need a double coat. Guys are ditching up on Eureka Road getting ready for the gravel project.

FINANCIAL AND TAXES

Bills – James Sachar made a motion to approve the July 21, 2020 bill list for a total of \$91,551.76. 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 Payroll #'s 13, 14 & 15 of 2020 as presented. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

The monthly recap was given to the Board of Supervisors.

The Report is in from the Auditor General for our Liquid Fuels Report and we passed with no Findings.

PLANNING COMMISSION: The minutes were reviewed along with the annual summary. Denise, Ramona and Dennis attended a zoom meeting regarding the Joint Comprehensive Plan and updating it. Denise the Chairwoman of the Planning Commission wanted to discuss that the Planning Commission has been waiting since 2018 on data to fill out the Road and Future goals for the roads and for bridges and culverts, as there is no consistency between the various Roadmasters and the township still does not have a 5 year plan on the roads, and there is still not a list on the culverts in the township with a rating of the shape that the culverts are in, to know which ones need to be replaced sooner than later.

ZONING: The Nuisance Ordinance was discussed. The Solicitor said the complaint about chickens going on someone else's property is covered in this Ordinance and is a civil dispute it does not pertain to the township.

EACOG: No Report

ECATO: The last meeting was June 25th at 9am in Springfield. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday July 23, 2020 at Girard Township, a Roadmaster Roundtable will be held after the meeting. There was a UCC hearing for the old Family First in Summit township and their fire alarms.

WECEMA: Currently working on updating part of the Bylaws, and the procedure for paying expenses when it involves multiple municipalities.

TRAINING FACILITY: There has been a little bit of interest.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The Chief Brian Brocius wrote a letter to the Supervisors “ 1. Last year we had requested some millings off your pile to fill holes in our parking lot. After review we found it did well over the winter except where the snowplows moved it but, this will be hard to beat with our current parking lot status. We would like to ask again to use any type of aggregate you have available to us to fill in potholes and level bad area’s of our parking lot. 2. Looking for a firm date and time of the annual township clean-up day so we can notify our fire police to help. We will have EMS crews staged at our station for the event. 3. Dry Hydrants service/maintenance. We have had 2 fires this year and both times the dry hydrant failed to be drafted on. The ones that have failed so far are located at 8091 new rd, Mohawk and Frances rd and at West stancliff and Silverthorne rd. I’ve heard from a few residences of the Twp. that in the past when we tried to back flush through various dry hydrants in our area with the Pumper that it still didn’t fix the issue with drafting from them. It’s a terrible feeling when I hear a dry hydrant has failed during any type of fire when we need water fast. 4. We are reviewing Grant options available to us from the state due to the lack of fund raising due to Pandemic. 5. Status of maintenance of training grounds? I’d like to talk a little bit about its use and any prop fees for others to use. I’ll have 735 outside of station for review providing weather is ok. 735 has been on 3 fires and functioned very well for us. We very much appreciate the open line of communication with our township and your wiliness to help us address these pressing matters that occur. Working together is the only way of solving the challenges we face in the emergency services. “James said he would talk to the Road foreman to see that the potholes get filled in the fire department parking lot.

SOLICITOR: Supervisors have started looking at the new draft handbook. Regarding the personnel issue they have attended the requested class.

OLD BUSINESS:

A discussion on the draft version employee handbook. Please get any recommendations or changes to Gery ASAP so we can have a draft before the next Supervisor meeting.

The Recycle Day date has been changed to September 19, 2020, since the Albion Fair has been cancelled for this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dennis Howard made a motion approving the Supervisors, & Secretary to the ECATO annual picnic to be held Thursday August 27, 2020 from 4:00 to 7:00pm. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

A discussion on Dry Hydrants was held regarding who is doing the maintenance.

A resident called and asked if the Weight Limit sign posted on Crane Road at the NW Corner of Eureka & Crane Roads could be moved 30’ to the west. As of right now it is blocking the view to the west when trying to pull out. He called Penndot but they said it is the township’s sign. The sign is on Crane Road but is the township’s weight limit sign. James is going to look into this.

CORRESPONDENCE: PSATS Fall Forum, & a Seal Demo to be held at Summit Township

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Just an FYI, today I pulled out of Crane & Rt 99 going North, can someone from the township please call PennDOT and try to get them to trim the tree blocking the view of the intersection, as our school kids will be going back to school soon and this is a safety hazard.

The Planning Commission created a document to help the training facility and the plan for the future to what the goals are.

Dennis Howard made a motion to adjourn 2010. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Ramona Junkins, Secretary