

October 19, 2021

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 7:01 pm. 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 Tara Miller, Denise Benedict, John Howell, Dee Engel, Brian Brocius and Georgia Hudy.

A Moment of Silence was observed.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Was the Erie County Conservation – dirt and gravel road grant applied for, for next year?

MINUTES:

Robert Simonelli made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on September 21, 2021. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

A public budget meeting was held on October 10, 2021, at 1:00pm. It was recessed to be reconvened, which will be decided tonight.

REPORTS:

Roadmaster Report – Relatively light month, Fred was out with a family emergency, it is hard to get things done with only one employee working. Ernie did meet with Bethany from Erie County Conservation regarding Fry Road and Eureka South and grants for dirt and road program.

The City of Erie sent over the revised new agreement to be signed if the municipalities would like to continue getting millings from the City of Erie then it must be resigned. James Sachar made a motion to sign the agreement with the City of Erie to continue to get recycled millings. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

FINANCIAL AND TAXES

Bills – James Sachar made a motion to approve the October 19, 2021, bill list for a total of \$97,497.48. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

There are no Supervisor bills this month.

Payroll – Robert Simonelli made a motion to approve Payrolls # 20 & 21 of 2021 as presented. Dennis Howard seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

The monthly financial recap was given to the Board of Supervisors.

A discussion regarding possibly looking at moving some money into the Credit Union, as right now we are not getting much money on interest where we are now.

PLANNING COMMISSION: reviewed minutes from their last meeting.

ZONING: Looking at a permit needed for adding to a cell tower.

EACOG: None

ECATO: The ECATO convention was cancelled that was supposed to be held last Friday. Dennis did attend the annual meeting held in Hershey.

WECEMA: The 2022 proposed budget was handed out.

Dennis Howard made a motion to accept the 2022 Proposed Budget for 2022 in the amount of \$2,140.15 for the West Erie County Emergency Management Agency. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

TRAINING FACILITY: The burn tower has a lot of locks and hinges that are rusted and broken that need to be replaced. A burn pit was removed from up at the training grounds that the fire department used as is irreplaceable. There is an ESTA pond and underground water tank that need to be reviewed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Presented the Report of Expenditures for last year, with a request for \$30,000 out of their operating fund. The Chief's report is: The work that was done in the parking with filling of our pot holes this summer was a big help to us during our events we've had at the FD. No one complained about the lot! Keep up the good work. We have started flushing dry hydrants again for the second time this year. We should complete this task by the end of November. I will update the Twp and the Erie County 911 on their status once completed. With the help of local property owners in which the dry hydrants are located we have had better success flushing them this time around so far. The dry hydrant located at 98 and Crane Rd has been black bagged and placed out of service permanently. Supervisor Bob S has interest in that appliance once removed to be used in his pond on his property if possible. As mentioned before in an earlier note to have a stronger QRS/ EMS response in our district we needed more qualified personnel to be trained as EMR & EMT to make this happened. UPDATE: 4 out of the 5 personnel enrolled in EMR class passed but not one has passed the National registry test yet. It's a very tough test to take and this is happening all over the state with low passing scores. PA Dept. of health is looking onto why. We do have a member in EMT class, fingers crossed he passes and stays with dept. to help out. On training grounds at the burn tower, there are door hinges and locks that need attention. They are broken and need replaced. Not sure exactly how to make this happen? UPDATE: I have collected info but this project won't be ready to submit until first of the year. There was some discussion among our member's that maybe that pond being primary supplied by runoff water from roadway was the best pond to place this pump house at. I'm aware of the American Rescue Plan Act 2021 that has been extending to municipalities. I'd like to plant a seed with your group for consideration; I'd like to see funds to be set aside from this grant for a new pump house and a new 1,000 per minute water pump to be placed at the esta pond near the recycle bins. This move would be dual serving for both the Township and the Fire Dept. I'm sure that the Township has many projects of its own for these much-needed funds but, I wanted at least put it out there for discussion. The 2nd annual Fall Fire Days had a great turnout from mutual aid dept. bring their apparatus for show and tell. We figured maybe a few hundred people tuned out for event. We have Purse Bingo schedule for this Sunday for a much-needed fund raiser along with our regular bingo restarting for the first time the 27th of this month since Covid hit. We will continue to apply for any grants that are available to us, we have had success in securing a few. Our President will be present at tonight's meeting to request our annual monies from millages. 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.

SOLICITOR: The issue is still on-going with working on a Noise Exemption form for the township to fill out regarding the Edinboro McKean VFW.

Is in the process of reviewing the cable franchise agreement. Communication has been going back and forth with Armstrong. Hoping to have more next month. The General Manager did resend the diagram with a color code to define what the colors signify.

Did address a conditional use complaint.

Also researched the possibility of a municipality using a Credit Union to deposit monies in them.

OLD BUSINESS:

New Administration offices, Dennis has started working on a 2-dimensional CAD drawing of the current township building and then measured the distances of road right of ways along with the setback requirements. Still working on laying it all out.

Noise Ordinance was tabled as the Planning Commission is still reviewing and looking at the current Nuisance Ordinance to see if a better fit for our community.

The fire department has been going out and completing assessments on all the Dry Hydrants within in the next couple of months, then the chief will report back to the Board of Supervisors. Some homeowners have fixed their own.

Falls Road intersection discussion, Dennis is still waiting to hear if any culverts are at the intersection and if so where they are located.

NEW BUSINESS:

The proposed project is the installation of an elevated system technology to service a single existing subdivided lot being Lot "A-2" of Woods, Ball, and Harvey Subdivision. This lot was initially crated with the use of a non-building waiver and this Component 1 is to satisfy planning requirements for this subdivision. The Taylors are proposing a four-bedroom, single story home with a full basement. The design flow for the new system is 500 GPD. Anticipated disturbed acreage for the installation of the proposed septic system and home is less than 1 acre. The lot will be used for residential purposes with the construction of a home in the near future. This needs to go to the Planning Commission first.

A discussion on hiring some new employees. An interview will be set up between James, Ernie and Fred on Friday morning.

The next Budget Workshop meeting has been rescheduled to Monday October 25, 2021, at 7:00pm at the fire department social hall.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tara Miller – Is there anywhere that the township has that could house the EMA mobile command unit where it is inside and plugged in.

There are washouts from June Shelhamer's house down and ponding water around the culvert on Eureka Road.

Dee Engel- It is that time of year again, can the township consider donating to Trunk or Treats being held at the fire department again as our township is so rural holding this event at the fire department really is a great thing for the community kids. Dennis Howard made a motion for the township to donate \$100.00 to the fire department for Trunk or Treats. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

James Sachar made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Dennis Howard seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Ramona Junkins, Secretary