

## **March 15, 2022**

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 Robert Simonelli at 7:01 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Present were Supervisors Robert Simonelli, and James Sachar, and Solicitor Gery Nietupski, and Secretary Ramona Junkins, and Zoning Officer Ralph Breiding.

Visitors present were Al Hauser, June Shelhamer and Andrew Macko

A Moment of Silence was observed.

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

None

### **MINUTES:**

James Sachar made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on February 15, 2022. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

### **REPORTS:**

**Roadmaster Report** – Guys have been out doing washouts and filling potholes, they are getting ready for spring and completing maintenance on the equipment so when the roads are ready, they can get out and start working. Ernie has put together a plan for Road Improvements for 2022 along with a road goal.

### **FINANCIAL AND TAXES**

**Bills** – James Sachar made a motion to approve the March 15, 2022, bill list for a total of \$27,697.36. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

Supervisor bills this month.

James Sachar made a motion to approve check number 5443 for Robert Simonelli in the amount of \$80.73 for mileage reimbursement. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

**Payroll** – Robert Simonelli made a motion to approve Payrolls # 5 & 6 of 2022 as presented. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

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

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** None

**ZONING:** A couple zoning permits have been issued.

**EACOG:** A meeting was held at Greene Township building regarding the bidding thresholds for 2022 and bidding out for Aggregates for the road materials and pipes. A discussion was held regarding joint bidding with some other townships in West County for Seal Coating.

**ECATO:** None

**WECEMA:** None

**TRAINING FACILITY:** None

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** The Chief put in a grant today from the American Rescue Plan, the department has been approved for a grant from the Fire Commissioners for \$14,000.00.

**SOLICITOR:** Is looking for guidance on where the Planning Commission was on a Noise Ordinance. Ramona stated the Planning Commission is looking for guidance from the Board of Supervisors as they reviewed the document Gery created, they have reviewed the Zoning Ordinance and have reviewed the Nuisance Ordinance. Gery has also spoken to Armstrong regarding the Cable Franchise agreement and

recommends signing the agreement, which does mean the township and fire department will no longer receive any free services (internet and tv) as the state law limits up to 5% franchise agreement to the municipality and Franklin Township currently is receiving the maximum 5% franchise in quarterly checks from Armstrong so they need to stop providing the free services to the township and fire department.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Noise Exemption- Gery will create a simpler document regarding a Noise Ordinance regarding the Edinboro McKean VFW and having outside music.

Cable Franchise Agreement Robert Simonelli made a motion to approve signing the Cable Franchise agreement with Armstrong Cable. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Falls Road intersection is still ongoing, tabled until next month.

Township Building was discussed, and Robert Simonelli wanted to make note that he looked into if the township does any upgrades to the current building, then the sprinkler system might need to be updated and that is going to be a headache as we are on a well and then you would need a holding tank for water. This is something that needs to be investigated further.

Dry Hydrants discussion is still an ongoing issue, tabled until we get more information from the Chief.

American Rescue Plan Funds was mentioned again, regarding still undecided on what to spend the money on, as some would like to put it towards the township building and it could be put back into the general fund for lost revenues during COVID.

Lease of Training Grounds, no new information.

West County Communications Building was discussed again, the Solicitor recommends just letting the fire department get out, it was discussed what benefits does it have to the taxpayers of Franklin Township? It was discussed that the building houses West County Paramedics and West Erie County EMA. The building is an asset, but it does need some work, the land the building sits on was donated for Emergency purposes only so it cannot be sold without going back to the person who donated it. No major benefit to keeping it to the taxpayers of Franklin Township.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Conditional Use Hearing for Andrew Macko.

Robert Simonelli made a motion to approve the Conditional Use for Andrew Macko to build an accessory structure with a side relief of 23 feet, along with the condition that with the building being a 40 X 64 that is quite a bit of water runoff of the roof, and the township wants to make sure the runoff water does not run off onto the neighbor's property. Andrew is to ensure that all water flow off the roof of the structure is diverted to stay on the property with it draining out to the front ditch or out behind the building to the pond. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

A discussion regarding a joint Seal Coat Bid opportunity at no cost to the township except part of the advertising cost, with the help from Josh Montgomery (PennDOT Rep) and Jessica (COG). James Sachar made a motion to put out for a joint sealcoat bid for a single sealcoat completing the (13) Aprons and Koman Road (KO2) with Optional work being Koman Road (KO1), Silverthorn Road (SI5) and if anyone is doing a surface treatment on New Road (NE3) and Eureka (5) and West Stancliff under I-79. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Resolution #4 of 2022- Proclamation declaring April 2022 Safe Digging Month.

James Sachar made a motion to approve Resolution 4 of 2022 the proclamation declaring April 2022 Safe Digging month. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

Resolution #5 of 2022

James Sachar motion to adopt Resolution 5 of 2022, A resolution to designate the 2022 County Liquid Fuels Project to include the Winter Road Maintenance, Equipment & Repair Wages for reimbursement for the County Liquid Fuels Project. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

A discussion on a cross pipe replacement on Mohawk Road that needs to be done very soon. The road is sinking where the cross pipe has collapsed, and Ernie is afraid that the road might give way especially on a school bus with kids on it. The pipe is a 48 X 40 which means it is going to be expensive and Green Distributor does not have one in stock and with the gas prices going up they need a full load before they send a delivery. James Sachar is going to call the Engineer Mark Corey to see what we should do.

A discussion on the Brine Truck that is at Crystal Lakes and the repair bill is around \$4,000, to fix things like the Kingpins and lights. Robert Simonelli made a motion to have Crystal Lakes to fix both front Kingpins on the Brine Truck and then the guys can finish rewiring and fixing the lights on rain days. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Old Grader was discussed and what the township plans on doing with it. Tom Allen who used to work for Hi-way Equipment has his own business now and a couple years ago it was between \$3,000 - \$5,000 to fix it, not sure how much it would be currently thought. Robert Simonelli made a motion to list the Old Grader on Municibid with a \$10,000 Reserve and sell it AS-IS. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Robert Simonelli made a motion that the ECATO Firemens Conference Dinner invitation be sent to the Board of Supervisors, Secretary/Treasurer, Solicitor, and 3 members of the fire department. James Sachar seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Alan Hauser asked about the Falls Road intersection and what the plans are.  
A question was asked about the Noise Ordinance.

James Sachar made a motion to adjourn at 8:13 pm. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Ramona Junkins, Secretary