

October 18, 2022

The regular meeting of the Supervisors of Franklin Township was held in the Franklin Township Building, was called to order by Dennis Howard at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Present were Supervisors Dennis Howard, Robert Simonelli, and James Sachar, and Solicitor Gery Nietupski, and Ramona Junkins and Zoning Officer Ralph Breiding.

Visitors present were Alan Hauser, Marge Hetz, Ernie Robinson, Dee Engel and Tara Miller.

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 September 20, 2022. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

REPORTS:

Roadmaster Report – We have one truck fitted and ready for winter, working on finishing up road work, and equipment maintenance, putting equipment away inside before winter. Cutting some trees back so they do not become an issue.

FINANCIAL AND TAXES

Bills – Dennis Howard made a motion to approve the October 18, 2022, bill list for a total of \$41,990.85. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

Payroll – Dennis Howard made a motion to approve Payrolls # 20 & 21 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: The minutes were reviewed from the October 4, 2022, meeting.

ZONING: Have processed several zoning permits, followed up with some logging complaints that are happening around the township.

EACOG: Dennis stated the COG held a well-attended seminar on Solar Utility.

ECATO: The Convention is coming up next Thursday night at Nick's Place.

WECEMA: No Update

TRAINING FACILITY: No update

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Dee Engel reported the fire department will be holding a trick or treat for the community at the fire hall on Sunday October 30 along with the Edinboro McKean VFW holding a trunk or Treat at the same time. They will also be having a fire school day for Kids for two days in the beginning of November. Dee asked the Supervisors if they would consider a donation again this year. Dennis Howard made a motion to contribute \$60 to the fire department for the events of Trick or Treat and the kids Fire school. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

SOLICITOR: They have been in the process of relocating to 3204 State Street in Erie.

OLD BUSINESS:

Falls Road intersection, no new update currently.

Township Building, no new updates.

Dry Hydrants discussion – no new updates.

American Rescue Plan Funds, no new updates.

The Recycle day numbers were reviewed, there was a total of 478 households, 78 households were Franklin Township, there were 1,893 tires collected, 148 freon units and 686 E-Waste was collected.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reviewed a Small Flow Treatment Facility for Joseph and Mildred Farrell located at 10255 Silverthorn Road, Edinboro. The sewage treatment facility will serve an existing 3-bedroom home, it is intended to replace the failing on-lot septic system located on this parcel.

Dennis Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 10 of 2022 approving the Small Flow Treatment Facility for Joseph and Mildred Farrell located at 10255 Silverthorn Road. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Resolution 11 of 2022, To Implement Act 57 of 2022 Property Tax Penalty Waiver Provisions
Dennis Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 11 of 2022 to implement Act 57 of 2022 Property Tax Penalty Waiver Provisions amending the Local Tax Collection law. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Dennis, Robert, and Ralph attended a training regarding Utility Scale Solar installations and things to consider are setback requirements, reflectivity, transformer banks, can be upwards of 2,000 acres that include high voltage transmission lines. The Supervisors would like the Planning Commission to investigate this for Franklin Township. It brings a host of issues with it that our current Zoning Ordinance does not govern.

Robert brought up Short Term Rentals and how commercial entities are buying houses and turning them into short term rentals, they could even be renting to drug lords and the goal he would like to get is looking at absentee landlords who are not anywhere around to see what is happening on those properties.

Dennis Howard made a motion to have the Planning Commission investigate Utility Scale Solar, Utility Scale Wind Turbines and Short-Term Rentals, and for the Planning Commission to work with our Solicitor Gery. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dee Engel, does the township currently permit Airbnb's? As the one across from her house is very nice and has improved the neighborhood.

Tara Miller commented that Solar panels on even on top of houses can be very toxic, big solar farms are just big toxic sites. The fire department cannot get on top of a roof if solar panels are installed up there and when they burn, they become toxic to the air.

James Sachar made a motion to adjourn at 7:46 pm. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Ramona Junkins, Secretary