

**September 17, 2024**

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 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Present were Supervisors Dennis Howard, Robert Simonelli and Ernest Robinson, Solicitor Gery Nietupski, and Ramona Junkins and Zoning Officer Ralph Breiding.

Visitors present: Brian Tinko, Cheri Tinko, Calvin Lydic, Ken Bawol, James Sachar, Alan Hauser, Steve Weston, Cindy Weston, Tara Miller, Gary Gebhardt.

A Moment of Silence was observed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** –

James Sachar asked Is there a decision on using the township building for personal gain?

**MINUTES:**

Ernie Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on August 20, 2024. Dennis Howard seconded. Robert Simonelli Abstained due to not being present at the last Meeting. Motion Passed.

**REPORTS:**

**Roadmaster Report** – Completed some more shoulder cutting on Eureka Road to West Stancliff, Mohawk from New Road to Francis Road and West Stancliff heading East. The Surface Treatment on Fry Road has been completed. Did some ditching on West Stancliff and Mohawk. Gary has been doing some mowing.

**FINANCIAL AND TAXES**

**Bills** – Dennis Howard made a motion to approve the September 17, 2024, bill list for a total of \$152,525.94. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

**Payroll** – Robert Simonelli made a motion to approve Payrolls # 18 & 19 of 2024 as presented. Ernie Robinson seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

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

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** No meeting this month.

**ZONING:** A couple minor building permits were issued, and Ramona and I attended a Zoning Class.

**EACOG:** The audit that was performed is under new business, the current administrator has resigned, and they are interviewing candidates for that position.

**ECATO:** No meeting last month.

**WECEMA:** EMA New Budget under new Business

**TRAINING FACILITY:** No report

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** No Report

**SOLICITOR:** Has worked on a couple miscellaneous items including PSATS has recommended not to do a stand-alone Ordinance regarding Wind, Solar and Short-term rentals. We could possibly be looking at amending our Zoning Ordinance.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Falls Road intersection – No update.

Township Building – Michael Grabb emailed and stated that he reached out to David laird's office and he discussed the next step and agreed that their office will put together a proposed Site Plan with the new building, parking, stormwater conditions, utilities, etc....John Laird needs our input regarding the scope of work and the related future plans for the site that may affect his design.

Dry Hydrants discussion – Not good news on this, on the hydrant route this month we went down Carbury Road and had 2 failures with dry hydrants. The one at Crane and Rt 98 bis no longer a working hydrant so that is limiting our current water supply. We need to look at getting a diver to go down in the ponds but that will not be until next year. Even the dry hydrant on the township property is missing the screen/filter causing all the nasty seaweed to come out. Right now, Franklin Township only has one qualified fire fighter currently.

EMS/Fire Concerns – The EMS focus group for Edinboro, McKean and Franklin Fire Departments next meeting is Sunday September 29, 2024, at 5 pm. The last meeting was very informational for the cost of calls. J.R. Henry Consulting has done a review of our EMS which is currently only staffed to complete approx. 49% of calls.

Blinking light at Old State and Route 98. Ernie did call a contractor to come and look at the light but his truck is in the garage and will be getting it back soon so he will be in contact to come and look. We will need to provide fire police when it does happen.

Ramona presented the board with Pension options; they will need time to review the packet that was supplied.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Resolution 13 of 2024. Dennis Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 13 of 2024, approve the Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report of the Erie Area Council of Governments for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2023. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried.

As our employee handbook covers what to do when an emergency call-out occurs, Robert Simonelli stated he thinks it is sad that we have Personal Use of a vehicle in the middle of the night when an emergency occurs. When severe weather is in the forecast, he would like to recommend that the Roadmaster put the chainsaw in the back of the truck and drive the Roadmaster truck home at night. Robert Simonelli made a motion to approve the Roadmaster to drive the Roadmaster truck home at night with the chainsaw in the back on storm nights when severe weather is in the forecast or high winds to be able to respond quickly to road emergencies. Dennis Howard seconded. Robert and Dennis voted yay. Ernest Robinson abstained due to being the roadmaster and he would be the one driving the truck home. Motion passed.

A discussion on the shared agreement between Washington township and Franklin Township on equipment. Washington Township would like to trade ownership of their Planes for our Paver. Washington Township did take the Paver and performed maintenance on it and spent \$1,500 plus labor to bring it up to working condition as it sat for a couple of years. They are willing to trade ownership for Franklin Township to own the planes which were purchased through Co-stars and Washington Township to own the Paver, along with when Franklin Township needs some skim paving completed Washington Township would assist us by bringing the Paver, a brush and roller and their labor to help us complete our roads as we do not have enough staff to appropriately run the paver. Ernie would complete the one road within Washington Township that they used the Planes on. Dennis Howard made a motion to approve the ownership transfer of the Planes from Washington Township to Franklin Township and the Paver from Franklin Township to Washington Township and to have the Solicitor write up an agreement. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Resolution 14 of 2024. Reviewed a Single Residence Sewage Treatment Plant for the Estate of Richard Pulinski located at 9671 Mohawk Road, Girard. The proposed system is intended to replace the failing on-lot septic system located on this parcel. Dennis Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 14 of 2024 approving the Single Residence Sewage Treatment Plant for Estate of Richard Pulinski located at 9671 Mohawk Road, Girard. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Resolution 15 of 2024. Reviewed a Small Flow Treatment Facility for Steven Walker and Heather Morrison located at 11897 Silverthorn Road, Edinboro. The sewage treatment facility is intended to serve

a proposed single-family residence. Dennis Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 15 of 2024 approving the Small Flow Treatment Facility for Steven Walker and Heather Morrison located at 11897 Silverthorn Road, Edinboro. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

The roadmaster from Columbus township has called the office several times stating that our Athey is sitting outside, and he was told we spent \$5,000 to buy it and they are interested in purchasing it for what we paid for it. Ernest Robinson made a motion to sell the Athey Belt Loader to Columbus Township for \$5,000. Dennis Howard seconded the motion. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

The West Erie County EMA proposed budget for 2025 was handed out. Dennis Howard made a motion to approve the 2025 EMA budget which was slightly reduced by adding Fairview Township with a per capita being \$1,352 for 2025 at \$2,038.82. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

A discussion on the purchase of a new Hotsy which is a hot water pressure washer. Our old one is approximately 25 plus years old and the cost to repair it is only about \$1,000 short of the purchase of a new one. A new one will run about \$5,000 and Ernie is currently working on trying to get a quote.

A discussion on redoing the pole building behind the gas pumps. Ernie did get one quote from an Amish company in the amount of \$49,250 that does have a 10% discount on the metal for the month of October. A different company gave a quote for \$92,475.00. The garage door has quit working, and they no longer make that motor. The new motor is going to cost about \$1,500 from Plyler Overhead door. Dennis felt we need a conceptual list of what all is needed, for example concrete, will it be heated or cold storage. Ernest is going to work on this.

Resolution 16 of 2024. Supports Erie County in designing a Comprehensive Housing Plan to help address housing needs throughout the county. Dennis Howard made a motion to support Erie County in designing a Comprehensive Housing Plan to help address housing needs throughout the county with Erie County. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Five letters of appreciation have been received regarding the Surface Treatment on Fry Road. They are all happy and very pleased with the work that has been completed. Recycle Day is this Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>. and we are still looking for volunteers.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Tara Miller- Thank you Ernie for filling that hole that was discovered on a fire call.  
James Sachar – Thank you for fixing the holes on Francis and Gudgeonville.

Dennis Howard made a motion to adjourn at 8:00pm. Robert Simonelli seconded. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. Carried

Ramona Junkins, Secretary