

January 20, 2026

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING

A regular meeting of the Franklin Township Supervisors was called to order, by Chairman Dennis Howard, at 7:02pm and took place at the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Members present were Supervisors Dennis Howard, Robert Simonelli, Ernest Robinson, Secretary Ramona Junkins and Gery Nietupski Solicitor.

An executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel issues with our Solicitor.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM – None

Motion by E, Robinson, seconded by R. Simonelli to approve the regular meeting minutes from 12/16/2025. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. D. Howard abstained.

Motion by R. Simonelli, seconded by E. Robinson to approve the conditional use hearing minutes from 12/16/2025. Passed by unanimous roll call vote. D. Howard abstained.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA WHICH INCLUDES:

The **MEETING MINUTES** from 1/6/26.

The **INVOICES** from 12/17/25 through 1/20/26; in the amount of \$47,764.69

The **PAYROLLS** # 27 of 2025 & 1 of 2026.

The **TREASURERS REPORT** dated 12/31/2025

Motion by R. Simonelli, seconded by E. Robinson to approve the Consent Agenda. Passed by unanimous roll call vote.

REPORTS/COMMITTEES/FIRE DEPARTMENT/ROAD REPORTS

E. Robinson gave his road report they had plowed the roads, put cinders down and worked around the shop. Planning Commission report was handed out and reviewed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Franklin Township was awarded an LSA grant in the amount of \$486,000 on December 18, 2025.

Conditional Use Verizon Cell Tower

Motion by R. Simonelli, seconded by D. Howard to approve the construction of a Verizon Cell Tower to be situated on property owned by Tom Bauer with a parcel # 22002014000100 subject to the following conditions:

(a.) In order to provide protection from a tower collapse in whole or in part, and to also protect from any falling debris of any kind, the area surrounding the Tower must be INCREASED to provide a radius of 195'. This increases the overall size of the project from 2.0 acres to a minimum of 2.74 acres. (b.) Applicant shall provide engineering schematics demonstrating the additional space to be provided for the protection from the referenced potential hazard. (c.) Prior to construction, Applicant shall provide the FTVFD with all the information it requires to allow pre-planning for any emergencies, including back-up batteries in the fire load for suppression services. Such as physical size and weight, chemistry, lithium ion, flooded in lead acid, etc., and capacity in kw. (d.) Applicant shall maintain full access to the tower at all times including all snowplowing when necessary, and necessary road maintenance.

Motion by D. Howard, seconded by R. Simonelli, to appoint Liana Thayer as an Auditor for a term of one (1) year. Passed by unanimous roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by R. Simonelli, seconded by D. Howard, to approve \$7,600 dollars as a fire department stipend for 2026 from the General Fund. Passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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Discussion on a Municipal Building – Michael Grabb has reworked the design layout to slightly shrink the footprint to make it more efficient. Ramona and Dennis will continue to work with him next to see about elevations.

Motion by R. Simonelli, seconded by E. Robinson to adopt and amend the Employee Handbook to include sections on Personal Vehicle Use, Timecards and Emergency/Call Outs

COMMENTS FROM THE SOLICITOR

Worked on the Conditional Use and the Employee Handbook

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dee Engel about the proposed Verizon cell tower if there was a way to ensure they keep the driveway cleared of snow in case of emergency that the fire department could get through.

Motion by D. Howard, seconded by E. Robinson to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ramona Junkins, Secretary