

June 18, 2024

The Franklin Township Supervisors met on the above date at the Franklin Township Administration Building located at 889 Fairyland Road. Township Officials present were Supervisors Fred Kemmerer, Robin Cressley and Leroy Kemmerer, Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Cressley. A list of others in attendance at the meeting is attached to the Minute Book. Chairman Kemmerer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2024 Township Meeting. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report – The Secretary announced the following:
There will not be a change for the July 4, 2024 garbage collection.

Treasurer's Report – Robin Cressley moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Report – Zoning Officer Paul Jarrett submitted his report from 5/14/24 – 6/10/24. Revenue from Zoning Permits - \$502.60. No Variance Applications were submitted. Copy of Report is on file.

UCC Building Code Official – Paul Jarrett submitted his report from 5/14/24-6/10/24. Revenue from Building Permits- \$481.50. Copy is on file.

Fire Chief's Report – Asst. Fire Chief Kevin Lilly submitted the May, 2024 report for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Co. #1, as well as the Fire Police. Copies are on file.

Police Reports – Chief Doll submitted the Police reports to the Board from 4/28/24-5/25/24. Copy of Report is on file.

Road Crew Reports – Reports submitted from: (5/12/24 - 5/25/24) & (5/26/24 – 6/8/24). Copies on file.

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – Fred Kemmerer Jr. submitted the CCMA minutes and reports from the May 20, 2024 meeting.

SEO Report- Scott Bieber submitted his SEO report from 5/10/24-6/7/24; Copy is on file.

Presentation- Chairman Kemmerer presented the annual contribution check of \$50,000.00 to the Fire Chief Lynn Diehl representing the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company. For the past couple of years the contribution has been \$40,000.00, the Board decided to increase the amount in the 2024 budget by \$10,000.00, so they have incentives to get more volunteers. Fred stated what a vital part the Fire Company is to our community and they do an excellent job. Supervisors Cressley & Kemmerer thanked Lynn Diehl for all that the Fire Company does for Franklin Township and the residents.

Communications-

We received a copy of the Weissport Municipal Authority's 2023 Audit which was completed by Kirk, Summa & Co., LLP; Union Hill Cemetery Volunteers needed; EMAILS-Newsletters: COSTARS, DEP, PSATS, LTAP, and NEPA

Citizen Participation-

Township Resident, Robert Correll attended the meeting to inquire about the poor condition Indian Hill Spur is in. He has lived along that road for fifty years (50) and the township has always taken care of that portion of the road. He stated you are unable to see the Stop Sign located on the road because it is covered by tree branches and brush, there are some potholes on the road that are a foot deep. The Township used to always take care of the road by trimming the grass and brush and the ditch was always kept open but the last couple of years nothing has been done.

Township Resident, past Supervisor and Roadmaster Willard Ahner stated that he believes that Indian Hill Road was changed/constructed around 80-90 years ago and for all those years since Indian Hill Spur was maintained by the Township Road Crew, himself included. Supervisor Cressley said he could not find any record of Indian Hill Spur ever being vacated. Both Ahner and Cressley said they also plowed the snow too. Chairman Kemmerer said he does not micro manage the road crew, but the liquid fuels map provided to the Township in 2010 does not show Indian Hill Spur as a Township Road, therefore the township does not receive liquid fuels money for that road. Mr. Kemmerer said the road is in bad shape, but we have to find a way to be able to fix and maintain the roads. Supervisors said they would have the Roadmaster look at the road to see what needs to be repaired and at minimum, clear the Stop Sign from the brush.

It was noted Supervisor Leroy Kemmerer made a motion to maintain Indian Hill Spur like they used to and Supervisor Cressley seconded the motion, but Atty. Nanovic said the motion had to be struck because it was not on the agenda. He suggested we place it on next month's township meeting agenda.

Township resident Glenn Williams asked the Supervisors if the new Speed Signs are working. Mr. Williams said since the one sign came down he did notice the people are going faster than when the sign was up and working. Chairman Kemmerer said he believes the sign did not come down it just got spun around and he will check with the Police Department how the data is being collected on from the signs.

New Business-

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-01 – Prohibiting the use of electronic cigarettes or electronic nicotine delivery system in the Township Parks. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to add a wage scale to the Secretaries Union contract. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Robin Cressley opposed the motion due to the fact they had no figures to review for the wage scale. Motion carried.

New Business Cont'd-

Robin Cressley made a motion to have Gary Trainer paint a new Phifer's Ice Dam Entrance Sign upon recommendation from the Advisory Recreation and Parks Board as long as the fee does not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to allow the Advisory Recreation and Parks Board to hold a Community Yard Sale on Saturday, July 20, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Leroy Kemmerer made a motion to hire two Grass Mowers retroactive to May 30, 2024 at a rate of \$17.00 per hour. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to approve and sign the Engagement Letter from the law firm of Elliot Greenleaf regarding legal representation on environmental matters for future Land & Real Estate Acquisition. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Engagement Letter form R & T Environmental Services for Land & Real Estate Acquisition. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to approve the hiring of Andress Appraisal Service for Land & Real Estate Acquisition. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Lot Joinder for Lot #604 & Lot #605 (along Green Street) from the Subdivision Lands of Joseph & Lillie Kriss, submitted by Adam Kulig. Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Copy of the new recorded deed is required to be given to the Board of Supervisors.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the request from the Borough of Lehigh for Franklin Township's Fire Police assistance for traffic control for the annual 4th of July Fireworks on Thursday, July 4th from 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the request from the Carbon County Lion-Lioness Fair Association Inc. for the Franklin Township's Fire Police assistance during the week of the Carbon County Fair, August 5-10, 2024, from 5:00 p.m.– closing nightly. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to accept that Lehigh Site LLC, agrees to waive the requirement that a decision by the Supervisors needs to be made within ninety days from the date the plan was first submitted. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (The additional ninety days would end on August 8, 2024).

New Business Cont'd-

Fred Kemmerer made a motion to discuss tree trimming along Township Roads. Robin Cressley seconded the motion.

Supervisor Leroy Kemmerer wanted to discuss the trees hanging along the township's roadways. He is concerned his farming equipment will get damaged. His machine to bale hay is 13' 6" the legal height requirement. If the trees do not get cut soon they will end up bending his machine and will also knock over the bales of hay. He wants to know who will pick up his bales of hay and who will pay for the repair of his tractor. Leroy stated that Pohopoco is a heavily traveled road, but is not patrolled as much as needed. He also suggested that we reduce the speed limit on Pohopoco Drive. He suggested we paint lines on the road to catch speeders. Supervisor Cressley said a traffic study would have to be completed in order to reduce the speed limit.

Chairman Kemmerer made a motion to have the Roadmaster review and take care of the problematic roads, such as the low hanging trees.

Robin Cressley made a motion to hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on July, 16, 2024 (before the July Township Meeting) for the transfer of the Pennsylvania Liquor License R6077 to Maralkris, Inc. Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments/Questions from Citizens-

Lynn Diehl asked what numbers 6, 7, & 8 on the agenda were about. Chairman Kemmerer said as we all know we have a building fund in place to either build a new Township Building or purchase an already existing building. Therefore the purpose of these agenda items are to make sure we have all of our ducks in a row and have the proper people in place for when we are ready to build or purchase a building.

Questions from the Press: James Logue from the Times News asked how the traffic issue at the Beltzville State park was going. Fred Kemmerer responded that they are using the same plan as they did last year and it seems to be working. Noting the plan is to keep the traffic moving as much as they can.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Cressley, Secretary