

ORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 2, 2024

The Franklin Township Board of Supervisors met on the above date at the Franklin Township Administration Office. Present were Supervisors Fred Kemmerer Jr., Robin Cressley, Leroy Kemmerer Jr. and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Cressley; The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., by the Secretary. The meeting was opened by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Temporary Chairman. The Secretary called for appointment of a temporary Chairman to begin the meeting. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to appoint Robin Cressley as temporary Chairman. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman. Robin Cressley moved to nominate Fred Kemmerer Jr. as Chairman of the Board. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vice-Chairman. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to nominate Robin Cressley as Vice-Chairman of the Board. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Secretary-Treasurer. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint Brenda Cressley as Secretary-Treasurer. (at no additional money over the secretarial union position salary) Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Supervisor Cressley abstained due to personal relationship)

Citizen Participation – None

Presentation – Both Ronald Solt and Dennis Bauchspies decided to resign their respective board positions that they held as representatives of Franklin Township.

The Supervisors presented Ronald Solt with a plaque in recognition and appreciation of 20 plus years of serving as Franklin Township's representative on the Central Carbon Municipal Authority.

The Supervisors presented Dennis Bauchspies with a plaque recognizing him for serving as Franklin Township's representative to the Lehigh Recreation Canal Commission for many years.

Township Solicitor. Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Attorney Thomas S. Nanovic as Township Solicitor. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to appoint Attorney Robert Frycklund as Solicitor for the Franklin Township Zoning Hearing Board. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Officer/BOCA Code Officer. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint Paul Jarrett (LVIS) as Zoning Officer and BOCA Property Maintenance Code Enforcement Officer. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Fee schedule on file. (The Supervisors suggested a meeting be held with Paul Jarrett to review his job responsibilities)

Uniform Construction Officer/Assistant BOCA Code Enforcement Officers. Robin Cressley made a motion to reappoint the current UCC inspectors etc. Lehigh Valley Inspection Services, and Barry Isett & Associates Inc. & Bureau of Veritas. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewage Enforcement Officer (On-Lot). Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint Scott Bieber – Lehigh Soils and Wetlands as the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Fee schedule on file.

Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer (On-Lot). Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Steve Gitch & Ian Farrell as Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officers. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Township Engineer- Central Sewage. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint ARRO Consulting, Inc. as the Township’s engineer for central sewage related matters. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Township Engineer (General Purposes). Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Carbon Engineering, Inc. as our Township Engineer for general purposes. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Fee Schedule on file.

Alternate Township Engineer (General Purpose). Leroy Kemmerer Jr. moved to appoint Keystone Consulting Engineers as the Township’s Alternate Engineer for general purposes. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Emergency Management Coordinator. Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Larry Diehl as Franklin Township Emergency Management Coordinator. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Vacancy Board Member. Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Matthew Dorward as Vacancy Board Chairman. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission Member. Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Garrett Kistler as a Planning Commission Member for a five (5) year term. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Central Carbon Municipal Authority- Robin Cressley made a motion to appoint Derrick Rubin as Franklin Township's representative to the CCMA. Motion failed due to a lack of a second motion. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to appoint Fred Kemmerer Jr. as Franklin Township's representative to the CCMA for a five (5) year term. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Robin Cressley opposed. Motion carried.

COG Representative. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to appoint Robin Cressley as a representative to the Carbon County Council of Government (COG). Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alternate COG Representative. Robin Cressley moved to appoint Leroy Kemmerer Jr. as the Alternate representative to the Carbon County Council of Government (COG). Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sewer Inspector - Robin Cressley made a motion to appoint Guy Barry as the Sewer Connection Inspector. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RTK Officer Police Department. Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Jason Doll as the Open Records Officer for the Franklin Township Police Department. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RTK Officer Administration Office. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint Brenda Cressley as the Open Records Officer for the Franklin Township Administration Office. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Supervisor Cressley abstained due to personal relationship)

Alternate RTK Officer Administration Office. Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Christine Green as Alternate Open Records Officer for the Administrative Office. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Representative Carbon County Tax Committee - Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint Brenda Cressley as the Township's representative to the Carbon County Tax Committee for a one (1) year term. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Supervisor Cressley abstained due to personal relationship)

Alternate Representative Carbon County Tax Committee- Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Christine Green as the alternate representative to the Carbon County Tax Committee for a one (1) year term. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Authority Member – Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Robert Maholick as a member on the Municipal Authority Member for a five year term. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Representative Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to appoint Robin Cressley as Franklin Township's Representative to the Carbon County Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Advisory Recreation and Parks Board Member. Robin Cressley moved to reappoint Fred Kemmerer Jr. as a member of the Franklin Township Advisory Recreation and Parks Board for a five (5) year term. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Property Maintenance Code Appeals Board - Robin Cressley made a motion to appoint the following residents to the Franklin Township Property Maintenance Code Appeals Board for a two (2) year term. Willard Ahner, Eric Markell, Gail Maholick, Rod Green, and Michael Quinn. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Canal Commission Representative. Robin Cressley moved to appoint Ty Poole as Franklin Township's Canal Commission Representative. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief of Police. - Leroy Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint Jason Doll as Police Chief of the Franklin Township Police Department. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Interim Road Foreman/Roadmaster. Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint Kim Hunsicker as the Interim Franklin Township's Roadmaster/Road Foreman. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Voting Delegate – PSATS Convention. Robin Cressley moved to appoint Fred Kemmerer Jr. as Franklin Township's Voting Delegate for this year's PSATS Annual Educational Conference, April 14th -17th 2024, at Hershey, Pa. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chairman Kemmerer said he will go to the convention as long as the Township does not pay for anything.

Chief Administrative Official – Non-Uniform Pension Plan. Robin Cressley moved to adopt Resolution No. 2024-01 appointing Fred Kemmerer Jr. as Chief Administrative Official of the Franklin Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chief Administrative Official – Police Pension Plan. Robin Cressley moved to adopt Resolution No. 2024-02 appointing Fred Kemmerer as Chief Administrative Official of the Franklin Township Police Pension Plan. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to reappoint Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank and Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT) as depositories for various checking and savings accounts. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to set the Treasurer's Bond at \$500,000.00 for fiscal year 2024. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Supervisor Cressley abstained due to personal relationship)
H.A.Thomson Company's cost of the bond for the Treasurer is \$830.00 (1/1/24-1/1/25).

Robin Cressley moved to set the bond for Board of Supervisors as Trustees of the Police Pension Plan at \$500,000.00 for fiscal year 2024. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (Renews 8/1/2024).

Robin Cressley moved to schedule the year 2024 Township Meetings for the third (3rd) Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Franklin Township Administration Office. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to grant permission to the Board of Supervisors and the Secretary-Treasurer to prepay bills prior to the Township Meetings. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Supervisor Cressley abstained due to personal relationship)

Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to retain all present Township employees including employees in union contracts. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Supervisor Cressley abstained due to personal relationship)

Fred Kemmerer Jr. moved to increase wages of Non-Union and Non-Uniformed Township Full & Part-Time employees by approximately 3% for 2024. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley moved to approve the travel allowance set by the IRS to .67 cts per mile. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
(Note 2023 allowance was - .65.5 cts. per mile).

Robin Cressley moved to setting of the 2024 equipment rentals fees. (Per Hour) Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Rates are as follows:

Grader	\$125.00	Truck- (33, 00 gvw) -	\$85.00
Paver -	\$400.00	One Ton Dump Truck -	\$55.00
Roller -	\$200.00	Pick-Up Truck -	\$45.00 + \$20.00 extra for Plow
Loader-	\$125.00	Tractor w/Mower -	\$100.00
Backhoe-	\$200.00		
Hotbox -	\$100.00		

Robin Cressley made a motion to set the rate for cinders at \$25.00 per bucket load-(Komatsu)
Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion of setting of daily fees for storage at \$40.00 per day. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley moved to approve The Pohopoco Rod and Gun Club's 2024 monthly meeting dates (meetings are held at the Township Administrative Office). Dates are as follows: January 17th, February 21st, March 20th, April 17th, May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, August 21st, September 18th, October 16th, November 20th and December 18th. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer read the letter received from Barry Reed thanking the Township for use of our administration building and what accomplishments their club made in the year of 2023 and what they plan on doing in the year of 2024.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the letter of request from the Lehighon Men's Softball League to use Bunker Hill Ballfield for the 2024 season from April through September. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Supervisors advised that the Softball League be given the resolution/ordinance that state there is no alcohol allowed at our recreational parks and to review all other regulations regarding use of the ballfield.

Citizen Participation – None

Unfinished Business - None

New Business:

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-03 which appoints Buckno Lisicky & Co., PC-CPA in place of the elected auditors to examine all Township accounts for 2023. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-04 – Use of Escalator Clause for all Bituminous Materials and Petroleum Product purchase contracts either bid or entered into from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-05 approving the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company's 2024 Activity List. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-06 – Approving operational support activities for participating members of the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company for the year of 2024. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd –

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolutions No, 2024-07 thru No. 2024-12, (**General, Sewer, Payroll and Recreation Funds, Act 93 Fire Escrow, and Developers Escrow Account Fund**) changing Signatures on all Accounts at Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank. (Removing the name of Jason M. Frey as Supervisor and adding the name of Leroy Kemmerer Jr, effective, January 2, 2024). Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the revised Checkwriting Authorization Forms on all Franklin Township PLGIT Accounts, (Removing the name of Jason M. Frey as Supervisor and adding the name of Leroy Kemmerer Jr., effective January 2, 2024). Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

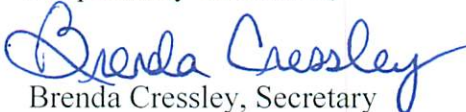
Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the Per Capita Tax Exoneration List submitted by Sara Keiser, Tax Collector re tax duplicate year 2023. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: None

Questions from the Press: None

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,


Brenda Cressley, Secretary