

February 20, 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, Leroy Kemmerer Jr., Township Solicitor Thomas Nanovic, and Secretary 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 approving the minutes from the January 16, 2024 Township Re-Organization Meeting. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report- the Secretary announced the garbage bills were mailed out the end of January, and if anyone did not receive a bill they should contact the Township Office.

The Secretary also announced there will be an E-cycling Event held on April 6, 2024 (9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.)- It was noted: for Franklin Township Residents Only

Reminder- The Township is still selling Hoagie Tickets from Cindy's Deli until March 1, 2024.

A building committee meeting was held on 2/1/24 at 7:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Report – Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Officer- Zoning Officer Paul Jarrett submitted the February monthly Zoning Permits from (1/16/2024- 2/12/2024), amount of Zoning Permits issued were \$1,022.20. Copies on file.

UCC Building Code Official – Paul Jarrett, Building Code Officer submitted the February UCC Permits from (1/16/2024- 2/12/24), amount of UCC Permits issued were \$581.50. Copies on file.

Fire Chief's Report – Fire Chief Lynn Diehl submitted the January 2024 monthly report for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Co. (Copy on file)

Fire Police Reports – The Franklin Township Fire Police submitted their monthly report for January 2024. (Copy on file).

Chairman Kemmerer stated he attended both the Fire Company and Fire Police's meetings last week and said what a blessing that they are to be around to take care of all of the calls they receive. They are all volunteers that not only give their own time but they use their own vehicles too.

Police Reports – Chief Jason Doll submitted the police department's Criminal Activity Report from 1/7/24-2/3/24. (Copy on file)

Road Crew Reports – Reports were submitted from (1/7/24-1/20/24), (1/21/24-2/3/24). Copies on file.

SEO Report- None Submitted

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – No Report Submitted. (Meeting not until – 2/26/24)

All reports were approved as submitted.

Communications -

Received the 2023 fourth quarter (October-December) and the 2023 annual (January-December) account statement report(s) for the Franklin Township Police Pension Plan(s) from Girard Municipal Pension Services, LLC Investment Advisory Agreement for Municipalities with Nationwide Financial as Plan Custodian; and a copy of the quarterly Girard Pension Services, LLC invoice that was paid by our plan; Copies of both reports were given to each Supervisor; Received a letter of approval from DEP for the two electronic E-Cycling Events we are holding on April 6, 2024 and October 19, 2024; Copies of the reports were given to each Supervisor; Notice of Road Closure and Detour – Hatchery Road (Penn Forest Township) Received a letter from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Governor’s Office of General Counsel regarding the Loan Agreement, 2000 Promissory Note, Guaranty Agreement, Amended Guaranty Agreement , (22) Modification of Note and Other Loan Documents and Account Security Agreement for the CCMA which have all been stamped “PAID IN FULL”. Received a copy of the NPDES Permit renewal application for the Lehighon Water Authority’s Water Treatment Plant located along Long Run Road. Received a PADEP Inspection report for the Union Hill Pump Station; Received emails from PSATS, PENNDOT, NEPA, LTAP, and PIRMA.

Citizen Participation –

Township resident, Andrew Loudon was present from Old Mill Road to ask if he could be included in the safety zone. There is a Bird Range located along Grange Road and he said his house was hit by gunshots. He spoke to the owner “Dusty” and also Ben Monk from the Beltzville State Park and he said it is not a park issue the township allowed them there. He said he also spoke with the game commission office. All he was told was you cannot shoot within 150 yards of a safety zone. He was told they would place red buttons on trees that say Park Lands but they have never been placed on any trees. Mr. Loudon said the entire Old Mill Road is posted Safety Zone, Sawmill Creek Trail is also posted, but the area around his property is not. He would like help to have his property posted. He said he has never had an issue with this in the last six years but he believes since they have started to advertise more people are coming to use the facilities.

Bradley Akers from the Beaver Run Rod and Gun Club was present to ask if the same guidelines will be in place as last year’s fishing contest. He said their club is willing to include any child 15 and under in their fishing contest again. It worked out for the best for them, by doing so they can use their game of chance permit to give away prizes.

Citizen Participation Cont'd:

Maureen Lenar was also present. She and other neighbors were present at a previous township meeting to ask the supervisors to adopt a noise ordinance because one of their neighbors are running his heavy equipment vehicles at all hours of the night etc. Chairman Kemmerer said they have not explored a noise ordinance. He feels comfortable with our police following the State Ordinance by filing disorderly conduct charges against violators. She asked what can she do? Chairman Kemmerer told her to call the communication center and file a complaint to have our police officer on duty go to the residence.

Leon & Beth Kamowski were present to speak about the use of Gerald Drive & the maintenance. Beth said the new owners are now coming in with four wheelers etc. and have posted their property. They feel the Supervisors need to enforce the notes that were on the original Heere Subdivision plans and would like a public meeting regarding this matter. Atty. Nanovic's understanding was at the time the subdivision was signed the Road (Gerald Drive) complied with the plan and the property owners have the right to enforce the notes on the plan. The Kamowski's disagree with Atty. Nanovic and again asked for a meeting to be held with the Board of Supervisors, Township Engineer and Solicitor, themselves and other neighbors or owners that live near Gerald Drive to review the plans and notes. They said there is no proper drainage; the drains are blocked and the swales do nothing. They did say the drains worked at first. Atty. Nanovic said before the new owners can do anything to the property they will have to go by the new SALDO Ordinance to submit their plans and abide by that Ordinance.

Old/Unfinished Business – None

New Business -

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the requests from the Franklin Township Lions' Club, Pohopoco Rod and Gun Club, the National Wild Turkey Federation, and the Beaver Run Rod and Gun Club to have permission for exclusive use of the Phifer's Ice Dam Ponds (largest pond only) for the following dates:

- May 4- Franklin Township Lions' Club Fishing Contest
- May 5- National Wild Turkey Federation Youth Fishing Day Event
- May 11- Pohopoco Rod and Gun Club Youth Fishing Day Event
- May 18- Beaver Run Rod and Gun Club Children's Fish's Contest

Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer made a change to the agenda's motion to approve the limit of fishing in the largest dam (only) at the Phifer's Ice Dam to any youth less than sixteen (16) years of age for thirty (30) days beginning Friday, May 3, 2024 at midnight (12:00 p.m.) until Saturday, June 1, 2024 at 12:00 a.m. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd -

Opening of Bids for 10,000 Gal Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel & 6,000 Gal. Heating Oil – A bid was received from George’s Plumbing & Heating LLC. Robin Cressley made a motion to accept the bid on the condition that all the paperwork was in order for the 10,000 Gallons Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel - (\$3.37 per gallon) & 6,000 Gallons of Heating Oil - (\$3.18 per gallon); Escalator Clause in effect; bid prices quoted were in effect on February 16, 2024. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Opening of Bids for 10,000 Gal 87 Octane No/Lead Gasoline At-the-Pump – No bid proposals were received. Robin Cressley made a motion to re-advertise bids for 10,000 Gal 87 No/Lead Gasoline (At the pump prices in effect for March 15, 2024; Escalator Clause in effect, bids to be opened at the March 19, 2024 Township Meeting. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-01- Updated SALDO Ordinance. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to accept the resignation letter from Samuel R. Lux for the elected position of Franklin Township Auditor. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to accept the letter of request from employee #29 to be compensated under the Pennsylvania Heart & Lung Act retroactive to 1/14/2024. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to have Arro Consulting look into designing a standardized way to connect with all of the appropriate materials and methods needed to install a sewer connection to the main lateral on a township roadway. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to set up a meeting date to include the township supervisors, secretary, engineer, and solicitor along with the residents who live along Gerald Drive including the new owners of the Heere Subdivision; excluding Keystone Engineers who were the engineers for the Heere’s when completing the subdivision. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Robin Cressley opposed. Motion carried.

Robin Cressley made a motion to have Attorney Nanovic update our Sewer Resolution regarding increasing the hourly inspection fee from \$45.00 to \$90.00. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Carol Myers Stormwater Management Plan’s Operation and Maintenance Agreement (O & M). Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd -

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-14, Promulgation EOP Update Plan for Franklin Township completed by Larry Diehl, Franklin Township's Emergency Management Coordinator. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Franklin Township Athletic Association's (FTAA) request to hold their 2024 monthly meetings at the Township Administration Office on the following dates: Third Sunday of each month 1/21/24, 2/18/24, 3/17/24, 4/21/24, 5/19/24, 6/16/24, 7/21/24, 8/18/24, 9/15/24, 10/20/24, 11/17/24, 12/15/24). Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to appoint Larry Diehl as the Lead (point of contact) for the Building Committee. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Participation-

Robert Correll from Indian Hill Road was present to ask the Supervisors to repair the original part of Indian Hill Road. It has been at least four years since anything has been done on that portion of the road. It has very big potholes and the macadam is all broken up.

The interim road foreman wanted to have that portion of Indian Hill Road included in his road project last year, but was told from John Davis (District #5) Penn Dot rep that portion is not listed as a road we receive liquid fuels money for, so we cannot repair that road using liquid fuels money. Atty. Nanovic suggested that we find out if that portion of Indian Hill Road was ever vacated and if the Township has a deed to that road.

Questions from the Press – None

Robin Cressley made a motion to go into executive session regarding a personnel matter. Fred Kemmerer Jr. second the motion. Noting they returned from the executive session at 8:30 p.m.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Cressley, Secretary