

March 19, 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 Jr.; 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 to approve the February 20, 2024 meeting minutes. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the February 23, 2024 meeting minutes. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary Report-

REMINDER, Saturday, April 6 2024 – E-Cycling Event 9 a.m.-11 a.m. at the parking lot where the recycling center was located. (For Franklin Township Residents Only)

Reminder to Residents there will be a change for the Garbage Collection day for Good Friday, March 29, 2024. The Garbage will be collected on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Fishing Events- Phifer's Ice Dam Park:

May 4th- Lions Club, May 5th- Turkey Federation, May 11th – Pohopoco Rod & Gun Club, and May 18th – Beaver Run Rod & Gun Club

Please Note: Largest Dam- Exclusive use of children fifteen (15) years or under for the purpose of fishing beginning May 3, 2024 until June 1, 2024.

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

Zoning Report – Zoning Officer, Paul Jarrett submitted the zoning report from 2/19/24-3/12/24 Amount submitted was: \$738.90 Variances: \$0.00

UCC Building Code Official – Building Code Officer, Paul Jarrett submitted the UCC Building report from 2/19/24-3/12/24. Amount submitted was \$268.00.

Fire Chief's Report – Fire Chief Lynn Diehl submitted the February 2024 report for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company. Fire Police submitted the February 2024 monthly report for the Franklin Township Fire Police. Copies on file.

Police Reports - Chief Jason Doll submitted a monthly report from (2/4/24-3/2/24) Copy is on file.

Road Crew Report- Report submitted from (2/4/24-2/17/24) & (2/18/24 - 3/2/24)

Seo Report- Alt SEO Officer, Ian Farrell submitted his report from (12/28/23-2/29/24)

Central Carbon Municipal Authority – Received minutes of the February 26, 2024 meetings. Copies are on file.

Communications –

Received the 2024 Liquid Fuels Payment of \$224,940.81; Invite- Saturday, June 1st 9:00 a.m. – Noon –Tour the Carbon County emergency training facility: live scenarios etc.; EMAILS-COSTARS, PSATS, LTAP, NEPA.

Citizen Participation –

Township Resident Brian Smith was present to ask for help with an ongoing problem he and his neighbors are having with another resident that resides on Penn Street. This family currently has around fifteen cats that run around the neighborhood causing problems. They are defecating and spraying urine on porches, outdoor carpeting, scratching vehicles etc. He also stated their house needs a lot of work he sees birds flying in and out of the house, they also have family members living in a camper in the backyard. Mr. Smith said he tried talking to the owner three times and the third time she used some very harsh words, so he came into the township office and filled out a complaint form and submitted it to the Zoning Officer. Mr. Smith stated it has been well over thirty days and he has not heard back from our Zoning Officer. He recently spent a lot of money on new landscaping and the cats are ripping up the mulch etc. The last straw was recently one of the cats came in his garage and scratched his new truck. He feels something definitely needs to be done. Other residents present were Gary Shelly, Greg Bryfogle, and Charles Fadden they reiterated Brian Smith's concerns, they all have had damage to their property from the cats. They all agreed all they want is for the property owners on Penn St. to keep the cats under control, they need to be kept indoors. Chairman Kemmerer talked to Paul Jarrett (Zoning Officer) he said he did receive the complaint and will revisit the matter. Supervisor Cressley stated he will follow up with the Zoning Officer to make sure he sent the owners a violation letter or at least a warning letter. He apologize that the Zoning Officer did not follow up with him.

Larry Williams asked if the largest dam at Phifer's Ice Dam Park is the only one that was approved for the fishing contests, because he was under the impression that the Pohopoco Rod and Gun Club requested the use of the two dams, the same as last year. Secretary Cressley said at the February Township Meeting that the Lions, and Beaver Run Rod and Gun Club members just requested the largest dam; they said they didn't need the second dam, the large one was enough.

Franklin Township's representative to the Lehigh Canal & Recreation Commission (LCRC), Ty Poole was in attendance to state he spoke to Scott Christman and was informed they would not be stocking the Canal due to the construction being completed at the Canal. He also said the Canal is closed to all traffic including pedestrians, however they are still going through and moving the signs. The Canal is clearly marked, "Closed". Supervisor Cressley asked if the Township can help and Mr. Poole said if the Township could give them more Road Closed Signs or wooden barriers that would be helpful.

Unfinished Business- None

New Business

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to authorize Keystone Consulting Engineering, Inc. to advertise the bid on behalf of the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company's Parking Lot Paving & Concrete Improvement Project. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve reimbursing the Franklin Township Athletic Association for engineering fees already paid and to pay one hundred percent (100%) of the engineering fees in the future as we move forward with the Christman Ballfield Renovation Project. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Opening of Bids for 10,000 Gal. 87 Octane No/Lead Gasoline At-the-Pumps – No bid proposals were received. This was the second time the invitation to bid was advertised.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to purchase 87 Octane No/Lead Gasoline from the gas stations that are located within Franklin Township whenever possible. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to Proclaim the month of April as Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Palmerton Borough for the Franklin Township's Fire Police to assist with traffic control on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. for the Raising the House 5 K Race. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to grant all of the waiver requests listed below regarding the David & Irene Williams Lot Line Revision Subdivision: Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Waiver request -Section 702 & Section 703- Drawing Scale: allowing for the drawing scale of 1"=250' on the cover sheet.

Waiver request- Section #514: allowing more than 2-1/2 times lot depth to width ration for Lot 2A.

Waiver request - Section #702 ag/ah- requiring a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Search and Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission (PHMC) Notification are requested since there is no development proposed or permits required that warrant their requirement.

Waiver request- Section #519 – Dedication of Recreation Area for Franklin Township

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to give conditional approval to the David & Irene Williams Lot Line Revision pending all comments are fully addressed with our township engineer. Leroy Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Kemmerer Jr. made a motion to approve the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company's intent to apply for the Covid-19 ARPA Capital Projects Fund Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program Grant. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. (Fire Company would like to modernize the current pole building and add additional space and truck bays to the existing building.

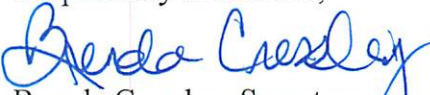
Robin Cressley made a motion approving Employees #55 & #105 to attend a two (2) day ESM Training for Dirt & Gravel /Low Volume Roads held on April 2nd & April 3rd. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Questions- None

Questions from the Press – None

Robin Cressley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,


Brenda Cressley, Secretary