

**NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES**

April 14, 2020

5:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER - Present were Mr. Sabot, Mr. Passalacqua, Mr. Quinn, Solicitor Gary Sweat, Secretary/Treasurer Jackie Kotchman and Erin Dinch, Director of Planning & Development. The Meeting was held via teleconference with no public attendance due to COVID-19. Those physically attending the meeting were seated at least 6 feet apart. The public could email questions using an email address that was advertised in the newspaper and also made available on the Township website.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING PRAYER – by Dr. Michael Roach, Trinity Bible Fellowship

ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA - None

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

****MOTION to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2020 meeting** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

****MOTION to file the Treasurer's Report for future audit** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

GUESTS - None

BILL APPROVAL AND CHECK SIGNING

****MOTION to approve total bills and check signing** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

BUILDING PERMITS

Harold Ivery reported that there were four (4) building permits totaling \$768.00, twelve (12) Occupancy permits and three (3) Road Occupancy Permits. He also reported that fifty-nine (59) Fire Inspections have been completed so far in 2020.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **West Chestnut Street Update-** Mr. Sweat advised that the Guttman Oil Attorney filed a complaint and a motion for an injunction with the Court of Common Pleas. He has sued Access Real Estate Company, dba Orion Development as well as the Rite Aid Corporation. The suit indicates that Guttman Oil and the Township have done everything in their power to address the situation and there has been no cooperation from the Rite Aid group. He reiterated that it is a very dangerous situation and a Public Nuisance. He said it would be assigned to a Judge and a hearing will be held on the injunction.
2. **Double Tar & Chip Seal Coat Project for McElree Road** – Mr. Sabot advised that as a result of heavy rains recently, the Township Engineer reevaluated McElree Road. He is recommending not to proceed with Tar & Chip but instead address some drainage and base repair then do a regular and complete paving job in 2021.

****MOTION to reject all bids for the Double Tar & Chip Seal Coat Project for McElree Road and East Canyon Drive** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Sabot advised that the Township would seek quotes for East Canyon Drive since it will come in below the contract bidding threshold.

ORDINANCES

****MOTION to adopt Ordinance No. 3 of 2020 Declaring Certain Trees, Shrubby or Brush as Nuisances and providing penalties to abate** was made by Mr. Quinn; seconded by Mr. Passalacqua. Unanimously carried.

****MOTION to adopt Ordinance No. 4 of 2020 amending the Township Zoning Ordinance to define Light Manufacturing and Light Manufacturing (High Technology Industries); to provide for said uses in the Master Overlay District, Planned Economic Development District and the Industrial District subject to certain regulations within the Township and will include recommendations made by the North Franklin Township Planning Commission** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

****MOTION to authorize Sweat Law Office to compose and advertise an Ordinance allowing backyard keeping of poultry** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

RESOLUTIONS

****MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 9 of 2020 – confirming the Chairperson’s Declaration of Emergency within the Township pursuant to the provisions of Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code, 35 C.S.A. 7101 ET SEQ. and Extending the State of Emergency until further notice** was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Passalacqua. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Sweat advised that by declaring a State of Emergency, the Township could avoid having to advertise for bids to deal with an emergency and that it would allow the Township to enter into Inter-Municipal Cooperation agreements to deal with an emergency.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ****MOTION to prepay \$30,000 to the North Franklin Volunteer Fire Company, which is the remaining portion of the 2020 annual donation** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
2. ****MOTION to extend the D. L. Johnson Contracting & Excavating On-Call agreement until July 1st, 2021** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - None

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Jarrold D'Amico of Harshman Group advised that two of the properties that were on the property maintenance list, 22 Mill Street and 16 Altamont, can be advertised in the paper to be demolished.

****MOTION to advertise bids for the demolition of 22 Mill Street, 16 Altamont Street and 640 McElree Road** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Mr. D'Amico advised that in regard to the essential-business-only order, he had to call the State Police on only one business. It was a security organization on Park Avenue. They did not have a waiver from the Governor. He also stated that he issued a Quality of Life ticket to the Sunoco station for trash behind the building on the hillside. He also thanked Jackie Kotchman and Erin Dinch for keeping him updated with the latest County updates from Jeff Yates.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sweat advised to put out information about the Census. Erin Dinch advised that it was on our website, Savvy Citizen and the sign in front of the building. Mr. Sweat also advised that the fourth phase of the Government stimulus package would be directed to local Municipalities and Non-Profits which would include reimbursement of wages paid to keep Township employees working during the State of Emergency. He said any revenue loss could also be covered.

SUPERVISOR SABOT'S REPORT - Mr. Sabot advised that he emailed the President of Columbia Gas and asked that the Township project be at the top of their list when contracted work starts back up. He also said A. Folino, the winning bidder on the 2020 Road Improvement Project, would have 120 days to complete the project once the Governor allows work to proceed.

SUPERVISOR PASSALACQUA'S REPORT – None

SUPERVISOR QUINN'S REPORT – Mr. Quinn advised that traffic is down 90% and this would be a great time for Columbia Gas to be working on the Franklin Farms Project.

PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

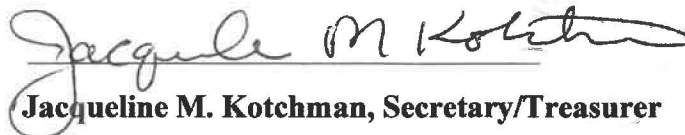
ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Sabot, Chairman



Jacqueline M. Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer