

**NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES**

December 8, 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 available 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

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

****MOTION to approve the minutes of the November 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.

BILL APPROVAL AND CHECK SIGNING

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

GUESTS

BUILDING PERMITS

Erin Dinch reported that there were eight (8) building permits in the amount of \$4058.00

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Demolition Update** – Mr. Sabot advised that Columbia Gas gave Reynolds Brothers the okay to demolish 16 Altamont.

2. ****MOTION to adopt the 2021 budget** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

ORDINANCES

****MOTION to adopt Ordinance No. 9 of 2020 an Ordinance to Approve, Adopt and Enact an Ordinance Codification for the Township of North Franklin, County of Washington, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to provide for the repeal of certain legislation not included therein; to save from repeal certain other legislation not included therein; and to provide penalties for tampering with the Code** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Sweat advised that the Ordinance was advertised to allow for public comment. He advised that it is a hard bound codification of the Township's Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance and all of the non-zoning Ordinances that the Township has passed. He said care was taken to remove any obsolete Ordinances.

RESOLUTIONS

****MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 13 of 2020 setting the 2021 Township Millage rate at 0.00125** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Sabot advised that the millage rate would give a tax reduction of approximately \$40 per year on a \$200,000 home in North Franklin Township. He said it was a 13.8 % tax reduction.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ****MOTION to advertise and set the 2021 Reorganization Meeting for January 4, 2021 at 5:30 pm with the January 2021 Supervisor's Regular Meeting immediately following** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
2. ****MOTION to approve a 3% annual raise for the position of Tax Collector of Real Estate and Per Capita for North Franklin effective at the beginning of the 2022 term** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
3. ****MOTION to approve the Washington Crown Center Subdivision contingent upon completion of all items listed in the Wind Ridge Engineer's Review and to be reviewed by the Township Engineer for compliance** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – None

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Erin Dinch read the Code Enforcement report sent by Matt Malik of Harshman CE Group. She reported that demolitions started yesterday at Altamont and Fulton and should wrap up soon. The report stated that they are supposed to receive a report from the Engineer working on 22 Mill Street and they haven't heard from the 640 McElree Road owner.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sweat reported that he reviewed the North Franklin Drive/Trich Drive issue concerning access through the Wild Things property to the Township Passalacqua Pavilion. He said to identify the 100-foot right-of-way by metes and bounds, the Township Engineers will plot to make sure the legal description is correct. He said it would be needed for a subsequent deed or a deed in an eminent domain taking.

SUPERVISOR SABOT'S REPORT – Mr. Sabot asked if there was any update on the architect's status on the new Township building? Erin Dinch reported they are working on a survey of the property and the architectural designs. Mr. Sabot also said there is a considerable litter problem on Vankirk Road, especially with dumping furniture and construction material. The Supervisor's discussed getting some cameras installed in that area. Mr. Sabot also said there were requests for speed bumps to slow down speeding. Mr. Sweat said they have to be approved by PennDot. Erin Dinch advised that a traffic study would have to be done. Discussion of electronic speed display signs ensued and Erin Dinch said she would research it. Mr. Sabot said a resident complained about the speeding on Ridgewood Drive and driver's failure to stop at stop signs. She also complained the snow plow drivers were going too fast. Mr. Sabot said some speed is necessary to move the heavier snow. Mr. Quinn asked the letter to be entered into the record for the meeting. Mr. Sabot explained that all the upgrades and remodeling to the Township Building was through the Covid-19 Cares Act Grant money.

SUPERVISOR PASSALACQUA'S REPORT – None

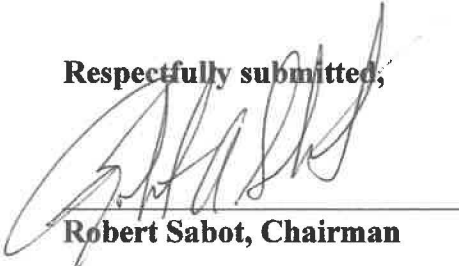
SUPERVISOR QUINN'S REPORT - None

PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS

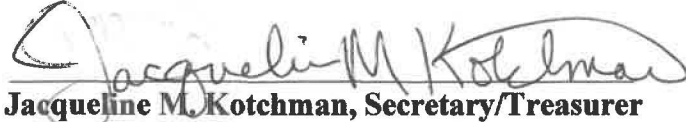
ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION to Adjourn the meeting at 6:03 pm and go into Executive Session to discuss Walnut Ridge and the Wild Things roads with no action to be taken was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Passalacqua. Unanimously carried.**

Respectfully submitted;



Robert Sabot, Chairman



Jacqueline M. Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer