

**NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES**

April 13, 2021

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 public attendance. 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 – was given by Pastor Stephen Ramey, Mt. Hermon Baptist Church

ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Sabot added Road Crew weekend hours as No. 6 under New Business

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

****MOTION to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 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

Pamela Medley of 137 Cumberland Avenue was scheduled to discuss property maintenance at 140 Cumberland Avenue but she did not attend the meeting.

BUILDING PERMITS

Erin Dinch reported that there were five (5) building permits in the amount of \$3,337.30.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

*****MOTION to authorize Sweat Law Offices to draft and advertise an Ordinance Amending the Procedures for Minor Subdivisions, Minor Land Development and Plan Adjustments** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *****MOTION to approve the Interstate Golf & Activity Center Subdivision** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
2. *****MOTION to donate \$1,000 to Lincoln Heights Community Park/Playground** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
3. *****MOTION to accept and award bid for the 2021 Township Road Project to Alex Paris Contracting in the amount of \$285,155.00 with work to be completed in 150 days** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
4. *****MOTION to appoint Port Architecture and Urbanism, LLC for the development of a Master Site Development Plan for the North Franklin Township Waterside Park to be submitted for DCNR approval** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
5. *****MOTION to pay a stipend of \$200 to any North Franklin Township employee receiving a Covid-19 vaccine by August 15, 2021 with the understanding that if they have a bad reaction to the vaccine, it will not be counted against their sick days or paid time off** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
6. *****MOTION to authorize the Road Crew employees to clean and inspect the pavilions for rentals on the weekends with the minimum of a two-hour call-out on a rotational basis in exchange for comp time at 1.5 hours per hour** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

RESOLUTIONS - None

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – Fire Chief Dave Bane reported that for March 2021 the Fire Department had 39 calls including three (3) building fire, twenty (20) medical assists, two (2) motor vehicle accidents, one (1) chimney fire, one (1) grass fire, two (2) public service, three (3) cover assignment, three (7) false alarms. He stated that year-to-date they had 80 calls. They averaged 4.4 persons per call and the average response time was 9 minutes.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT – Matt Malik reported that there were seven (7) investigated violations; two (2) being trash & junk, three (3) structural, and two (2) other. He

reported the owners of the structures at 22 Mill Street and 640 McElree Road have not held up their end of the deal and that the Township has a court order granting permission to demolish them. He recommended that the Board move to demolish the structures.

*****MOTION to condemn and demolish 22 Mill Street** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

*****MOTION to condemn and demolish 640 McElree Road** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Sabot asked Matt Malik to inform owners at 490 Palm Street not to burn the rubbish they are piling up in their back yard.

Matt Malik reported on 140 Cumberland Avenue. The owner is turning a house into a garage for the past two years. He said it has been in a state of demolition with walls open and dirt piles, cars and other debris on the property. He informed the Board that they have taken him to court before and nothing happened but it is back in the court's hands again.

Mr. Sabot asked what the cost to the Township would be for Harshman to do some evening Code Enforcement work in the Township. Matt said he would check with Jarrod D'Amico.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Sweat reported that they would talk about the PAWC property swap and the Orphaned Well issue in Executive Session. Mr. Sweat advised the Board about the financing for the new Township building. He said the money has been appropriated for the building but would not be released until the Township does a formal construction loan closing. Mr. Sweat said there would need to be a design and plans, bidding and plans appraised by an independent Real Estate appraiser to verify that the amount of money in the construction loan is equivalent to the value of the new building. Once that is done then there can be a closing. He said any bills would have to be paid out of the General Fund, then reimbursed through a draw-down, which allows the bank to release funds as certain phases of construction are completed. He said the Township would pay interest on any monies advanced and then would have an amortized mortgage with a monthly payment.

Mr. Sweat asked if the engineer gave us any numbers on tar & chipping the Wild Things roadway. Mr. Sabot said the Road Crew would sweep the roadway with the street sweeper and patch some of the holes. Mr. Sweat asked if Alex Paris could help at all. Mr. Sweat also was trying to get a formal easement laid out. Mr. Sabot reported that Paris was going to pave the Township parking lot in exchange for the use of Township property as staging areas.

SUPERVISOR SABOT'S REPORT – Mr. Sabot asked Erin Dinch what the next step was once the core drillings on the new building site were completed. She explained that they would have to complete the construction drawings and then go out to bid.

SUPERVISOR PASSALACQUA'S REPORT – None

SUPERVISOR QUINN'S REPORT - None

PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Haskey discussed the condition of the old USA Steak Buffett. Mr. Sabot asked Matt Malik to look into any possible violations.

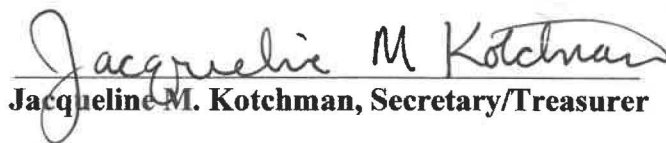
ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION to Adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm and go into Executive Session 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