

**NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES**

May 11, 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 Gary Saler, Unite Church

ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Sabot added a Motion to create Team Leader position for the Road Department under New Business No. 5

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

****MOTION to approve the minutes of the April 13, 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

BUILDING PERMITS

Erin Dinch reported that there were eight (8) building permits in the amount of \$1983.50.

ORDINANCES

*****MOTION to set hearing date for June 8, 2021 at 5:00 pm for the proposed Ordinance Amending the Township Code, specifically Chapter 390 Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, to provide for regulations for minor Land Development** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *****MOTION to extend D.L. Johnson Contracting On-call Agreement until July 1, 2022** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
2. *****MOTION to approve and sign the contract with PORT Architecture and Urbanism, LLC for the Master Site Development Plan for North Franklin Township Waterside Park** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
3. *****MOTION to hire part-time summer office help at \$9.50 per hour with a budget of \$2000** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.
4. *****MOTION to make a recommendation to the NFVFC to turn all 3 Emergency sirens on effective immediately** was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Quinn advised that a lot of residents have called asking why they are not in operation. He said they are used to alert the presence of emergency vehicles and could be used to alert residents about tornados and other emergencies. Mr. Sabot said he was in favor of the sirens because we have state roads in the Township and a hazardous spill on the highway could affect residents. He advised that the Township was willing to accept any costs involved. Lisa Quinn, President of the NFVFC, said the reason they were turned off is because each fireman is provided with a pager and they are notified immediately of emergency calls. She said they also pay for Active 911 which sends a text message to the fireman's phone detailing what the call is, including a map. She said the sirens are Civil Defense sirens that are very expensive to have repaired and rewound.

Dave Bane, Fire Chief reported that the controllers and the sirens are old. He said the Gabby Station is set to run for 3 minutes which he felt was excessive. He said the purpose of the sirens, before pagers, was to notify the fireman of a fire call. He said today's cell phones alert people to many things and questioned whether residents would know if the siren was a warning for a tornado or a fire call. He said you could run them one cycle and it could alert children playing outside to stay off the streets during a fire call. He said the sirens used to do a 3-minute cycle for a tornado and patrol would set them off 3 times for a 9-minute cycle. This would alert residents to turn their radio on to WJPA to find out what the emergency was. Mr. Bane also said the fire alert system lights at Franklin Farms and Sylvan have not worked for years and the cost is \$12,000.00 to upgrade to working

order. Mr. Sabot asked Mr. Bane to discuss the siren use with the Fire Company and get back to the Board at the Supervisors' next meeting.

5. *****MOTION to advertise a Team Leader position to oversee Road Department projects to be posted within the Road Department according to Section 5.4 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**

Mr. Sweat reported that the Teamsters Union #585 met with him and the Supervisors to create the position of Team Leader. He said a Memorandum of Understanding would be attached to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) detailing the position and any related documentation.

RESOLUTIONS

*****MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 9 of 2021 – Authorizing Erin Dinch, Director of Planning and Development and Jacqueline Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer to complete and execute all documents and agreements between North Franklin Township and the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Watershed Restoration and Protection Program (WRPP) grant to be used for streambank restoration of Chartiers Creek was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**

*****MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 10 of 2021 - Authorizing Erin Dinch, Director of Planning and Development and Jacqueline Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer to complete and execute all documents and agreements between North Franklin Township and the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Orphaned or Abandoned Well Plugging Program (OAWP) grant to be used for plugging an orphaned well on property located at 301 Franklin Farms Road, Washington, PA was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**

*****MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 11 of 2021 - Authorizing Erin Dinch, Director of Planning and Development and Jacqueline Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer to complete and execute all documents and agreements between North Franklin Township and the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) grant to be used for rehabilitation of the former Citizens' Water Company filter House located at 301 Franklin Farms Road, Washington, PA was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – Fire Chief Dave Bane reported that for May 2021 the Fire Department had 33 calls including three (2) brush fires, nine (9) medical assists, six (6) motor vehicle accidents, one (1) power line down, one (1) cooking fire, three (3) public service, one (1) animal rescue, nine (9) false alarms, and one (1) dispatch cancel enroute. He stated that year-to-date they had 113 calls. They averaged 5.1 persons per call and the average response time was 8 minutes and 18 seconds.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT – Matt Malik reported that there were seven (7) investigated violations; three (3) being trash & junk, two (2) structural, and two (2) other. He reported someone is interested in buying 22 Mill Street. He also recommended that the Road Department cut the grass at 640 McElree. He also reported that they could do after hour code enforcement at time and a half.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Sweat advised to talk about the PA American property swap in Executive Session. He said they are taking steps to get BSI Way into the Liquid Fuels program but the Township could hit a road block if Penn Dot requires a Cul-de-sac. He wasn't sure if just an easement would satisfy Penn Dot. He said his office received preliminary agreement from legal counsel from the Mall's owners on the 100-foot right-a-way and he hoped that would get resolved without a formal condemnation. He advised the minor subdivision hearing was scheduled. He also reviewed American Rescue Plan uses.

SUPERVISOR SABOT'S REPORT – Mr. Sabot recommended that everyone gets a Covid-19 vaccine. Mr. Sabot said he would entertain the proposal from the fire company to upgrade the emergency light at Franklin Farms & Sylvan Drive. He asked Chief Bane to get a cost on the sirens and the emergency light for next meeting.

SUPERVISOR PASSALACQUA'S REPORT – None

SUPERVISOR QUINN'S REPORT - None


PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION to Adjourn at 6:26 pm and go into Executive Session with no action to be taken and continue the meeting on Friday May 14, 2021 at 12:00 noon was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Passalacqua. Unanimously carried.**

Respectfully submitted,


Robert Sabot, Chairman


Jacqueline M. Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer

**NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES**

(Continuation of May 11, 2021 Regular Board of Supervisors meeting to May 14, 2021)

May 14, 2021

12:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER - Present were Mr. Sabot, Mr. Quinn, Secretary/Treasurer Jackie Kotchman and Erin Dinch, Director of Planning & Development. Mr. Passalacqua was absent from the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS

1. *****MOTION to create the position of Team Leader which is not a management position and has no disciplinary authority with the main duties of the position being to direct the Road Crew for assignments and weekly work and lead the maintenance on all department vehicles, lead on PA One Calls and coordinate all work with contractors and sub-contractors in the Township for a probationary period between May 17th and November 1st, 2021 was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**
2. *****MOTION to appoint Todd Lanch as the Team Leader in the Road Department for the probationary period May 17th – November 1st, 2021 with an increase of \$1.00 per hour effective beginning May 17th was made by Mr. Passalacqua; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**
3. *****MOTION to set hours for the Road Crew from 6:30 am -2:30 pm from March 1st through October 31st per the agreement with the road crew was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**
4. *****MOTION to use the Road Department employees on an as needed basis to maintain and oversee Pavilion rentals at the Park working two hours on a Saturday and/or a Sunday in exchange for time and a half or 3 hours of comp time which must be taken by the end of the following month was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. *****MOTION to donate \$3000.00 towards the Wild Things 4th of July Celebration with the understanding that North Franklin Township is listed as a co-sponsor for the event was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.**

Mr. Quinn asked if the Road Crew was going to work at the park until the end of their contract or the end of the year? Mr. Sabot advised that the Township is in a transition period and will

cover the Park until October this year. Mr. Quinn asked if a Park Commission would be established to take over the Park work.


There was discussion about Road Crew employee Andy Moore and his interest in becoming a volunteer Fire Fighter. The question was whether he would stay punched in at the Township if he answered a call during work hours. Mr. Sabot said if that was the case, he could not also receive the Volunteer stipend per call. They said they would revisit the subject when it came to fruition.

PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION to Adjourn the meeting at 12:15 pm** was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert Sabot, Chairman
Jacqueline M. Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer