

MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2022

5:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER - Present were Mr. Sabot, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Polan, 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 available on the Township website.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING PRAYER – was given by Rev. Richard Wilson

ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*****MOTION to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2022 Supervisor's meeting** was made by Mr. Quinn; seconded by Mr. Polan. Unanimously carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

BILL APPROVAL AND CHECK SIGNING

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

GUESTS

BUILDING PERMITS

Erin Dinch reported that there were two (2) building permits in the amount of \$185.00.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

1. *****MOTION to approve an amendment of the Zoning Ordinance to permit schools in all Zoning Districts** was made by Mr. Polan; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

2. *****Motion to amend Township Ordinance Section 425-58 to increase the penalty for throwing snow in the street from \$15 to \$200** was made by Mr. Polan; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

RESOLUTIONS

1. *****MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 7 of 2022 authorizing Erin Dinch, Director of Planning and Development and Jacqueline Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer to request a grant from the Local Share Account Statewide Program to replace the Township bridge on McElree Road and to complete and execute all documents and agreements between North Franklin Township and the Commonwealth** was made by Mr. Polan; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *****MOTION to approve the Development Plan for the Trinity School District Intermediate Middle School Additions and Alterations** was made by Mr. Polan; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

K2 ENGINEER'S REPORT

Sue Sepic from K2 Engineering reported that the HOP revisions were resubmitted through PennDot and that we were number 17 in line for review. She reported that the sewage information was submitted to WEWJA. She advised that the engineers were able to decrease the size of the retaining wall which would possibly cut its cost by half. She said they were about 95% done with final review.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER'S REPORT

Dave Leasure from Harshman Engineering advised that they needed to discuss how they were handling the permits.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Dave Bane reported that for February 2022 the Fire Department had 47 calls including one (1) cooking fire, two (2) building fires, seven (7) medical assists, five (5) motor vehicle accidents, two (2) brush fires, one (1) gas leak, fifteen (15) public service, one (1) covered assignment, and thirteen (13) false alarms. He stated that year-to-date they had 25 calls. They averaged 6 persons per call and the average response time was 9 minutes, and 72 calls year-to-date.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Dalton McCuen reported that there were six (6) properties being investigated - 2996 West Chestnut-junk and vehicles and 2920 West Chestnut Street-vehicles, 95 Hamilton-junk, 76 Fulton-junk, 2986 West Chestnut-junk, 8 Grove St-junk vehicles. He said they are also working

with Sunoco for the accumulation of rubbish and the Mall for unsafe structures. Mr. Sabot said to check over the hillside by Sunoco and cite them if necessary. He also advised them to check behind the businesses on West Chestnut to make sure no litter is accumulating. He said the Mall needed to attend to the notices they have been given. He asked Code Enforcement to follow through with the Mall violations.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sweat reported that the three Code Enforcement properties that his office has been working on are ready to go for demolition. He said there were certificates and releases needed to be signed including 22 Mill Street and 640 McElree Road. He advised that the swap of the PAWC property and the triangle could now proceed.

He reported that there are two lawsuits that the Township is involved in including the West Chestnut Street pipe and flooding issue. He explained that Judge Lucas canceled the argument of all the parties on the preliminary objection and ordered everyone to go to remediation. He said it was scheduled for March 23, 2022 at 9:30 am. The mediator suggested that the Township be willing to administer an escrow fund for maintenance or repairs to the pipe. He said that the Township's legal position is that the Township is not part of the issue.

He said a mediation concerning a personnel claim is scheduled for March 18, 2022.

Mr. Sweat also reported that the Bond sold for the General Obligation Series of 2022 and that the timing was good considering the market. He said the closing would be March 29th. Mr. Sweat advised the Township could invest some of the bond money as long as they don't receive an interest rate higher than what they are paying on the loan.

SUPERVISOR SABOT'S REPORT

Mr. Sabot advised he received an update from Federal Signal and they are planning to install the emergency sirens the week of March 21st.

SUPERVISOR QUINN'S REPORT – None

SUPERVISOR POLAN'S REPORT – None

PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Jody Borello from Buffalo Township advised that North Franklin Township, Canton, and South Franklin all have the abandoned Lincoln 1 mine in common. She reported that there is a fault line running through the mine and expressed her concerns about Range Resources installing a gas well.

Mr. Sabot reported that Range Resources has withdrawn their plans to put a gas well there.

Richard Blaha of North Franklin Township asked if the Township could look into updating their Ordinances in regards to oil & gas wells.

Mr. Sweat said his office would look at the Ordinances for oil & gas and make some recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION to recess at 6:15 pm and go into Executive Session to discuss New Township Building and personnel issues** was made by Mr. Sabot; seconded by Mr. Quinn. Unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert Sabot, Chairman


Jacqueline M. Kotchman, Secretary/Treasurer