

December 17, 2019

The Franklin Township Supervisors met on the above date at the Franklin Township Administration Building located at 889 Fairyland Road. Township Officials present were Supervisors Jason Frey, Robin Cressley, and Barbara Beltz; and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Neeb. A list of others in attendance at the meeting is attached to the Minute Book. Chairman Frey called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Approval of Minutes –

Barbara Beltz made a motion approving the minutes from the November 19, 2019 Township Meeting. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report –

There will be changes in Garbage Collection Pick-up for Christmas & New Year's Day, the changes are as follows:

Wednesday, December 25th collection will be Thursday, December 26, 2019

Wednesday, January 1st- collection will be Thursday, January 2, 2020

Announced that Christmas Trees can be disposed of at the Phifer's Ice Dams Park using the Penn St. entrance beginning Saturday, December 28, 2019.

Announced: the Organization Meeting will be held on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. with the January regular Monthly Township Board of Supervisors Meeting to follow at 6:00 p.m.

Noted Supervisor Cressley met with the Franklin Township Athletic Association, anonymous donor and the Township Engineer to discuss the improvements to the Christmas Ballfield. Township Engineer Greg Haas submitted a sketch of the drainage improvements needed to be completed at the ballfield.

Treasurer's Report – Robin Cressley moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Barbara Beltz. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Report - Zoning Officer Tracy Herman submitted her report from 11/16/19- 12/15/19 Revenue from Zoning Permits: \$329.40. Variance application fees - \$0.00. A detailed monthly report showing the hours spent on zoning matters was also submitted.

UCC Building Code Official – Received report from Paul Jarrett, Building Code Officer from 11/16/19-12/15/19. Total fees turned in: \$150.00.

Fire Chief's Report - Received the November, 2019 reports for the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company and the Franklin Township Fire Police. Copies are on file.

Police Reports- Chief of Police, Jason Doll submitted the police criminal activity report from 11/3/19-11/30/19

Central Carbon Municipal Authority -- Minutes received, from the October 21, 2019 and November 18, 2019 meetings. The approved 2020 Budget was also received.

Franklin Township Lions Club- November 2019 minutes were received. Copy is on file.

SEO Report- Sewage Enforcement Officer. Scott Bieber submitted his report from 9/1/19 – 12/13/19. Total fees received: \$800.00

All reports were approved.

Communications –

Certificate of Recycling stating at the October 26, 2019 e-cycling pick up 9,767 lbs. of electronic waste was collected; The 2018 Liquid Fuels Audit report was received with no findings; Emails received- NEPA, PSATS News Bulletin, DEP, PSATS Grassroots, and LTAP

Unfinished Business-

Discussion was held regarding the Vargson water shut-off. Per emails received from Attorney Eric Filer he is currently waiting to hear from the Vargson`s attorney about the objection he filed to their plan.

Citizen Participation-

Roy Christman a Towamensing Township Resident was present to ask the Board of Supervisors if they would consider adopting a Resolution in support of Fair Legislative Districts in Pennsylvania. Fair Districts of PA is a nonpartisan organization to stop gerrymandering. His hope is to stop the gerrymandering of districts that favor one political party over others. He stated we pick the legislators but the legislators pick the district lines. To change this procedure it will take a Constitution amendment. He supplied the Supervisors with a copy of the Resolution to review. He said he will attend the February Township Meeting to hear the Supervisors decision.

New Business -

Robin Cressley made a motion giving final approval to the 2020 budget for all funds (General Fund, State Fund, (Liquid Fuels), Sewer Operating Fund, Recreation Fund, Fire Hydrant Fund, Road Equipment Fund, Capital Project Garbage Collection Equipment, Capital Reserve Police Vehicle & Equipment Fund; Capital Reserve Building Fund; and Capital Reserve Employee Benefits Fund. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Frey noted that there will be no tax increase, as the Township stayed within its budget and said there has been no tax increase since 2010.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-11 setting the Tax Rates for the fiscal year 2020. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-12 setting the Garbage Collection rates for 2020. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Frey announced there will be a ten (10) dollar increase for the 2020 Garbage Collection fees noting the last time there was an increase in the Garbage Collection Fees was in 2009.

Robin Cressley made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-04. "Requiring certain structures to have a key lock box installed on exterior of the structure to aid the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company in gaining access to the structure when responding to emergency calls." Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to decrease the Letter of Credit for Blue Mountain Machine from \$115,624.30 to \$4,235.00 (\$111,389.30 can be released to the Developer) per recommendation from Township Engineer Greg Haas. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Opening of Solicitor Request for Proposals (RFP's). The only RFP received was from Attorney Thomas Nanovic. Robin Cressley made a motion to table their decision until they could further discuss the proposal received from Attorney Nanovic. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to table the request received from Chief Jason Doll asking if Officer Christopher Lekka would be able to attend a free one week training course for accident investigations from 1/13/20-1/17/20. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the request submitted from the Pohopoco Rod and Gun Club to apply for a Stocking Permit from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for Triploid Grass Carp to be placed in the pond located at the Phifer's Ice Dam Park. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the change of Franklin Township Worker's Compensation carrier from State Worker's Compensation Insurance Fund to AmTrust North America beginning January 1, 2020. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to grant a time extension request from PSI Pumping Solutions until January 31, 2020 to complete the repair work at the Pump Station located on State Road. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to seek information regarding a mono pole cell tower. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd –

Robin Cressley made a motion to accept Matthew Neeb's resignation letter as Chairman of the Franklin Township's Planning Commission effective December 10, 2019. Mr. Neeb has relocated. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public – Questions/Comments - None

Questions from the Press - None

Robin Cressley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Brenda Neeb,
Secretary-Treasurer