

Chairman Grey Godshall called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order on Monday, December 14, 2015 at 7:02 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 671 Allentown Road, Telford, Pennsylvania 18969.

Present were Chairman Grey Godshall, Vice Chairman David Fazio, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-chairman Robert H. Nice, Supervisor Curtis N. Kratz, and Supervisor Steven P. Barndt. Also in attendance were Township Manager Jon A. Hammer, Chief of Police Joseph Kozeniewski, Township Solicitor Eric Wert, Esquire, Township Engineer Douglas Rossino, P.E., Mr. Robert Harley, Court Reporter, and interested residents of Franconia Township.

**OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Chairman Godshall opened the meeting to the public.

Ms. Tara Gray addressed the possibility of holding a Community Day on August 2, 2016. The residents would like to stick with that date and will not use the National Night Out title at all. She further explained why the fall would not be a good time to hold this night. Chairman Godshall responded that he felt that if you are going to hold it on National Night Out and say that it is not a National Night Out would be confusing. Ms. Gray stated that they are still looking for the Township to be involved as far as insurance coverage. Mr. Godshall did not feel that we should have officers available to assist on that night when it is a NNO in other townships. Ms. Sclafani requested that the Township advertise the night in its emails, on the website, and in the newsletter. All other monies will be secured through fundraising. Mr. Godshall continued that he is not comfortable with sponsoring any event on that night. Mr. Killough and other residents voiced their willingness to volunteer their time and did not understand why the date is not working. Mr. Fazio suggested a weekend date. Mr. Godshall responded, that he would like to support the event whole heartedly if it could just take place on another night. Ms. Shirley Hackman stated that she feels that choosing the date that would have the greatest turnout is why August 2<sup>nd</sup> would be best. Ms. Sclafani requested that Chairman Godshall choose a date so that the plans could move forward. Mr. Godshall suggested any Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday in September.

Mr. Gerald Thiel, 811 Allentown Road, reported that he and Township Manager Jon Hammer had been in contact regarding answers to questions presented to Mr. Hammer pertaining to the projected 2016 budget. Mr. Thiel then presented copies of his written response to Mr. Hammer and the members of the board. He again questioned the percentages used in the power point presentation that was presented to the public on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Mr. Thiel felt that the actual budget numbers should be applied to the projected budget. He also acknowledged that budget projections are merely predictions and felt that the 2015 projected budget was off and therefore feels that the 2016 budget will also be off by a similar percentage. Mr. Theil is requesting that the 2016 budget be prefaced with the factors that directly affect it.

Ms. Shirley Hackman questioned the board about the car show that is held at The Heritage, which will take place on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. She wanted to know if the board needs to approve this event. Ms. Sclafani interjected that it is not a township organized event, that it is exclusively organized through The Heritage.

Ms. Bonnie Miller requested a timeline for the Finance Committee. Mr. Hammer responded that appointments are made for the committees at the annual organization meeting to be held on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> 2016. Ms. Miller asked how many vacancies there are that will be filled on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Godshall responded that he will have to check to be certain. Mr. Theil explained that each year he gets a letter of reappointment from the township. Ms. Miller mentioned that the Finance Committee interviews took place 5 months ago, she also requested that the meetings be posted onto the website in the future.

Ms. Sclafani asked about the status of the Township Assistant Manager position. Manager Hammer explained that Ms. Ami Tarburton will be assuming the role of the Assistant Township Manager and continuing with her duties as the Finance Director. Ms. Beth Gooch will be assuming the role of Planning and Zoning Coordinator and taking over those responsibilities from the previous position. He also stated that two part time employees have been hired to man the front desk.

### **APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 16, NOVEMBER 30, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Fazio made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 regular meeting. Mr. Nice seconded the motion. Mr. Nice made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 regular meeting, with a correction to a figure for the amount of the promissory note. Mr. Fazio seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Solicitor's Report – Eric Wert, Esquire**

Ordinance 389 Public Hearing- An Ordinance amending the Franconia Township Zoning map to include certain land identified as 329 East Township Line Road, 330 Leidy Road, and 340 Leidy Road within the Mixed Residential Development (MRD) overlay. Mr. Wert read through the legal notice, the dates of the posting of the properties, and listed the appropriate exhibits. Mr. Garrity and Mr. Canovan were present to discuss this Ordinance. Mr. Canovan was sworn in by Mr. Harley, who was present to provide a complete transcript for the records. Mr. Canovan provided an aerial view of the property, explaining where it is currently zoned R-100 and LI and noting that it does already abut the MRD overlay. He commented that Indian Valley Regional Comprehensive Plan does include this tract in its designated growth area. The plan showed a possible 50 residential units and this request would not be a change in zoning it would be to allow another land use. It was presented that the proposal would still need to go through Land Development. Residents James Yoder and Ed Tosten shared their concerns regarding the proposed density and the potential increase in traffic congestion especially during rush hour along Cowpath Road. Chairman. Godshall assured them that a traffic study will be conducted to determine if the road can handle it. He noted that his wish was not to discount the residents concern but it will be addressed at a later time during the Land Development process. A motion was made by Chairman Godshall and seconded by Supervisor Fazio to approve Ordinance 389. Approved 5-0

Ordinance 385 Public Hearing- An Ordinance amending the Franconia Township Code modifying the regulation of detention basins and moving said regulations from chapter 145 (Zoning), Section 145-28.3(D) (Detention Basin Regulations) to Chapter 122 (Subdivision & Land Development), Section 122-15(11) General Requirements and Standards. Mr. Wert

read through the legal notice, and appropriate exhibits. Township Manager Jon Hammer was sworn in and explained that the relocation of this ordinance to the SALDO, as it functions in Land Development, can now be looked at on a case by case basis. Mr. Hammer recommended the Ordinance for approval. Ms. Bonnie Miller questioned if it was permissible to change the depth of the detention basins. Mr. Hammer responded yes, that as long as it meets the Engineer's requirements. Supervisor Barndt made a motion for approval and Supervisor Fazio seconded the motion. Approved 5-0

Resolution 15-40-14-12 – A Resolution adopting Franconia Township's total maximum daily load ("TMDL") strategy for the Skippack Creek Watershed. Mr. Wert read the legal notice and listed the exhibits. Mr. Douglas Rossino, Township Engineer, was sworn in and then explained the TMDL, and that DEP allocated the load and sets the restriction. He went on to say that the reductions need to be taken by the Township. Franconia must reduce the sediment load that it releases into Skippack Creek. Mr. Wert asked if all were in favor, all responded aye. Approved 5-0

Resolution 15-34-14-12 – A Resolution for the adoption of the 2015 Indian Valley Regional Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Hammer summarized the IVRCP and its purpose. He noted that it does not involve any significant policy changes and that is it an update of the 2005 plan. Mr. Fazio made a motion to approve the resolution and Mr. Barndt seconded the motion. Approved 5-0

Resolution 15-35-14-12 – A resolution authorizing the repayment of certain transfers from the Township's Open Space Fund to the Township's General Fund in the amount of \$1,100,000, as determined by Maillie, LLP through its extensive audit of Township records from 2009 through 2015. Mr. Hammer presented that this payment schedule would include a 2.5% interest rate on the repayment. Chairman Godshall stated the there is no history to refer to on how to pay this money back. He explained that the board is comfortable with the payment schedule. Supervisor Fazio made a motion to approve the resolution, Supervisor Kratz seconded the motion. Approved 5-0

Mr. Thiel noted that no public comments were asked for. Mr. Wert informed him that the time for public comment was at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Theil stated that he does

not have comment around the amount and the restriction of improper transfers and it would not stop us from doing this again. Mr. Godshall responded that that would be addressed with the annual audit.

Resolution 15-36-14-12 – A Resolution requiring employee contributions of 5% of all wages to the Police Pension Plan for 2016. Mr. Wert asked for a motion for all in favor. All said aye. Approved 5-0

Resolution 15-37-14-12 – A resolution setting the real estate tax rate for the 2016 General Fund Budget, setting the Fire Service Tax, setting the Library Tax, assessing various properties for fire hydrants and assessing properties for street lights. At this time, Ms. Gray asked for clarification if the Library tax was approved. Mr. Hammer confirmed. Chairman Godshall made a motion for approval of the resolution and Supervisor Nice seconded the motion. Approved 5-0

Resolution 15-38-14-12 – A resolution authorizing the settlement and issuance of a \$500,000 tax anticipation note through Quakertown National Bank. Mr. Nice stated that it was a short term loan and Mr. Hammer included that it will have a 1.35% interest rate. Supervisor Fazio made a motion to approve the resolution and Mr. Godshall seconded the motion. Approved 5-0

Resolution 15-39-14-12 – A resolution for the approval of the 2016 Budget documents. Mr. Thiel pointed out that in two places in the budget the TMDL and MS4 legal fees were \$15,000 and the engineering services were also \$15,000. Ms. Tarburton stated that it is an estimate. Mr. Thiel questioned if the stormwater costs will remain in the budget in the future or will this cost be transferred to the Franconia Sewer Authority. Mr. Hammer responded that it will have to be a fee that will be assessed through the FSA in the future. Mr. Godshall clarified that the township is working with the legal team to determine who can collect a fee. Supervisor Barndt included that as the township goes forward it looks like the engineer and planning function comes out of the township and the implementation comes out of the Authority. Mr. Godshall took this time to acknowledge Mr. Nice and Mr. Hammer for their involvement in handling the past 20 months of the budget discrepancies and noted what a

good job he felt they did. Supervisor Fazio made a motion to approve the resolution and Supervisor Kratz seconded the motion. Approved 5-0

**POLICE REPORT- CHIEF JOSEPH S. KOZENIEWSKI**

Chief Kozeniewski submitted his report. Chief Kozeniewski noted that the fatal accident that occurred on 113 and Keller Creamery Road was still being reconstructed to piece it back together. He additionally commended Sargent Moyer with his involvement with the arrest of the Univest Bank manager who was found to be responsible for numerous thefts from various accounts. Resident, Bonnie Miller asked if based on the accident if the board is going to take a look at the danger of the Roadway. Chief responded that it is mostly rear end accidents, and not a lot but when there is an accident it does tend to be more significant. Mr. Nice asked if there was plans for a turning lane on the new turnpike bridge that is to be installed. Chief Kozeniewski responded that he has not seen the final plans yet.

**HIGHWAY REPORT-PAUL R. NICE**

Mr. Nice submitted the Highway Report. He reported that they are ready for winter to begin next week. He also reported that the four way stop at Reliance Road will begin on Wednesday and the appropriate sign will be in place .Mr. Godshall asked about the construction schedule on 113 over the next two years. Mr. Nice directed him to speak with Mr. Douglas Rossino for additional information.

**ENGINEERING REPORT- DOUG ROSSINO, P.E.**

Mr. Rossino submitted his report and provided a summary of the projects.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – JON A. HAMMER**

A motion was made by Mr. Godshall and seconded by Mr. Fazio to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, and to provide authorization for the Treasurer to pay all bills for the respective funds as presented on Voucher No. 15-14-12 dated December 14, 2015 in the amount of \$229,592.47. The motion carried unanimously.

**PAYROLL**

A motion was made by Mr. Fazio and seconded by Mr. Godshall for the Treasurer to be authorized to pay all employees during the current pay period through December 31st, 2015 according to the hours worked as listed on the Payroll Journal for the aforesaid period. The motion carried unanimously.

**SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Barndt made a motion to approve Resolution 15-40-14-12 – A Resolution granting conditional preliminary/final approval for the “Godshall Farm Lot Line Adjustment” located along Godshall Road and Lower Road reference to the Zoning Hearing Board Approval Condition. Mr. Fazio announced that Mr. Godshall would be abstaining from the vote. Mr. Nice seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The annual organizational Board of Supervisors Meeting will be held on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 5:00 pm at the Franconia Township Municipal Building, 671 Allentown Road, Telford Pennsylvania 18969. The next regular Board of Supervisors meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 18, 2016 at the same location.

The Franconia Township Planning Commission will hold its regular meeting on Monday, January 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Franconia Township Municipal Building, 671 Allentown Road, Telford, Pennsylvania 18969.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Mr. Fazio and seconded by Mr. Nice to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth T. Gooch  
Planning and Zoning Coordinator