

FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman Grey Godshall called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order on Monday, December 19, 2016 at 7:06 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 671 Allentown Road, Telford, Pennsylvania 18969.

Present were Chairman Grey Godshall, Vice Chairman David Fazio, Supervisor Robert Nice, Supervisor Curtis N. Kratz, and Supervisor Dr. Charles Amuso. Also in attendance were Township Manager Jon Hammer, Detective Sargent George Moyer, Township Solicitor Frank Bartle, Esquire, Township Engineer Douglas Rossino P.E, and interested residents of Franconia Township.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Chairman Godshall opened the meeting to the public. Mr. Jerry Thiel, 811 Allentown Road, announced that he had presented questions to Manager Hammer, in writing earlier in the day, regarding the proposed budget. Mr. Thiel is requesting that the same cover page, into to the general fund, from previous years be used again for the 2017 budget. He also questioned line items that have increased from 2016 including auditing and accounting services, building and maintenance, and asked why the pension contribution has decreased. Chairman Godshall responded that the decrease is due to having less police officers. Mr. Thiel also requested that the line item for operating transfers as an income line item be removed as it had been for the 2015 and 2016 budget. Manager Hammer will respond to Mr. Thiel later in the week addressing his concerns. Mr. Hammer did explain the procedure for transferring funds from unrestricted accounts into the general budget to cover expenses.

Approval of November 21st, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Fazio made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 21st, 2016 regular meeting. Supervisor Amuso seconded the motion. The motion passed.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – FRANK BARTLE, ESQUIRE

a) Motion to approve Resolution No. 16-30-19-12 – A Resolution requiring employee contributions of 5% of all wages to the Police Pension Plan for 2017. Supervisor Nice made a motion and it was seconded by Supervisor Kratz. All were in favor, 5-0.

b) Motion to approve Resolution 16-31-19-12 – A Resolution setting the real estate tax rate for the 2017 general fund budget, setting the fire service tax, setting the library tax, assessing various properties for fire hydrants and assessing properties for street lights. Supervisor Fazio motioned for approval. Supervisor Amuso seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

c) Motion to approve Resolution No. 16-32-19-12 to authorize the settlement and issuance of a \$500,000 tax anticipation note through Quakertown National Bank. The motion was made by supervisor Kratz and seconded by Supervisor Nice. All were in forvor 5-0.

d) Motion to approve Resolution No 16-33-19-12 for the approval of the 2017 budget documents. Supervisor Fazio motioned for approval and Supervisor Nice seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

INDIAN VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mr. Victor Verbeke was present to introduce the library’s new executive director, Ms. Margie Stern. Ms. Stern complimented the library staff, the volunteers, and the municipal support that Franconia and surrounding municipalities provide to the Library. Mr. Alexander Grande informed the board that a strategic plan has been approved by the Indian Valley Library Board and once the changes are finalized he would like to come back before the Supervisors and present it to them. Mr. Verbeke then commended Ms. Joanne Strom for her service and commitment to the volunteers.

POLICE REPORT- DETECTIVE SGT. GEORGE MOYER

Det. Sgt. Moyer submitted the monthly police report. He added that is has been a busy month with a number of staff out due to injuries. He complemented the staff that have stepped up to help fill in. Resident Ed Tosten, 265 Kingsfield Drive, asked if there have been

any spike of any particular crimes? Det. Sgt. Moyer recommended that residents lock their vehicles and not to leave packages visible in cars. He also reported that the day time burglaries that were in question had not taken place in Franconia.

HIGHWAY REPORT- PAUL NICE

Mr. Nice submitted his report and informed the board that the crew has fallen into the winter routine and commented how fortunate it has been with the nice weather.

ENGINEERING REPORT- DOUGLASS C. ROSSINO, P.E.

Mr. Rossino submitted the report and provided an update to the board regarding the stop sign at Leidy's church and the plans to make it a three way stop intersection.

TREASURER'S REPORT –

Mr. Nice reported that this month included a \$200,000 pension payment, \$60,000 payment to the fire companies, and \$62,000 payment to the library. Supervisor Nice made a motion 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. 16-19-12 in the amount of \$481,321.63, it was seconded by Mr. Fazio. The motion carried unanimously.

PAYROLL

A motion was made by Mr. Nice and seconded by Supervisor Kratz for the Treasurer to be authorized to pay all employees during the current pay period December 19, 2016 through December 31, 2016 according to the hours worked as listed on the Payroll Journal. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual Organization Board of Supervisors meeting will be held Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 5:00p.m.at the Franconia Township Municipal Building, 671 Allentown Road, Telford, PA 18969. The next regular Board of Supervisors meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 16, 2017 at the same location with the Work Session taking place beforehand at 5:00 p.m.

The Franconia Township Planning Commission will hold a Regular Meeting on Monday, January 9, 2017 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. Kratz and seconded by Mr. Fazio to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth T. Gooch

Planning and Zoning Coordinator