

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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**April 7, 2008**

**7:00 P.M.**

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP FIRE HALL  
MINUTES**

Chairman Michael Prokopchak called the regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Supervisors to order on Monday, April 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., in the Franklin Township Fire Hall.

Chairman Prokopchak led the Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisors:	Present:	Michael Prokopchak, Chair Ted Dymond, Vice-Chairman Lance Baseski, Supervisor
	Others:	Richard A. Melvin, Secretary/Treasurer Art Owens, Roadmaster Vito DeLuca, Solicitor Ryan Doughton, Engineer Twenty visitors

Motion was made by Mr. Dymond, seconded by Mr. Baseski to waive the reading of the minutes of the March 3, 2008 Regular Meeting and to accept the minutes as posted. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Melvin gave the Treasurers report for the township. All balances were as of March 31, 2008, and totaled \$206,575.74. Mr. Dymond, seconded by Mr. Baseski, made a motion to accept the Treasurers report. The motion carried unanimously.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.**

There was no public comment on any agenda items.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Mr. Melvin reported on the quotes received from local financial institutions to borrow money for terms of 5, 7, and 10 years for the purpose of purchasing equipment. Mr. Melvin reported he solicited quotes from eight banks and received responses from four of which three actually submitted quotes. The lowest rates were from PNC Bank, which offered rates at 2.94% for 5 years, 3.07% for 7 years, and 3.33% for 10 years all fixed rates, secured by the taxing authority of the township. The rates were effective until May 30<sup>th</sup>.

2. Motion was made by Mr. Dymond, seconded by Mr. Baseski, to accept the rates offered by PNC Bank with the specific dollar amount to borrow and term to be decided at a future time. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Mr. Melvin discussed the results of the annual audit as performed by Carver & associates. The audit was completed quickly with no exceptions, was published in a local newspaper, and is available for public inspection at the Municipal Building during office hours.
4. Mr. Melvin updated the progress on the OCD Grant. Lewis Road was resurveyed and determined not to qualify based on incomes of the residents living on Lewis Road. Upon consultation with the Office of Community Development in Wilkes-Barre, it was determined to survey Race Road and Lockville Road between Village Road and Brace Road. The surveys have been mailed out to these residents and are to be returned by April 18<sup>th</sup>.
5. Mr. Prokopchak asked for volunteers for the Spring Cleanup to be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. & Mrs. Boyko, Paul and Fred Risch, and Mr. Kovalik volunteered.
6. Solicitor DeLuca gave an update on Melody Lane and noted trouble contacting the attorney of Jody Faulls to try to come to a resolution to unblock Melody Lane for emergency vehicles.
7. Engineer Doughton gave an update on Municipal Road. He spoke about right of way issues in developing plans to address storm water drainage. Mr. Prokopchak suggested a meeting for Municipal Road residents to fully explain the options available to them. Mr. Prokopchak made a suggestion, to schedule a meeting for Municipal Road residents for April 21, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at the Franklin Township Fire Company.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. A motion was made by Mr. Prokopchak, seconded by Mr. Dymond to open bids for the repair of the municipal building roof. The motion passed unanimously. Trumbower & Associates solicited 17 bids but received only 1 bid from Eastern Roofing Systems. The base bid was for \$ 14,900.00. Alternate 1 bid was for \$18,900.00. Alternate 2 bid was for \$49,900.00.
2. A motion was made by Mr. Prokopchak, seconded by Mr. Dymond to accept the Alternate 1 bid from Eastern Roofing Systems for \$18,900.00 contingent upon the engineers' review of the bid for compliance and their approval. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Solicitor DeLuca spoke about the issue of storm water at the residence of Mrs. Nemeec whose property is at Coon and Sickler Roads. The board directed the solicitor to send a notice concerning the issue with a storm pipe some time ago and had not received any response until recently when DeLuca was informed the pipe was not fixed. DeLuca attempted to resolve the issue in November of 2007 but was unsuccessful. DeLuca reviewed the township ordinance 003-1997 related to maintenance of

- driveways and drainage facilities by property owners affecting storm water runoff on township roads. If Mrs. Nemeč is in violation, we should follow the procedures in the ordinance relating to enforcement. Mrs. Nemeč spoke on her behalf along with her attorney. All parties will meet in the near future to attempt to come to a resolution.
4. Roadmaster Owen spoke about recent storm damage to roads and yards, stop sign replacement over the next several years to replace stolen and out of date signs and roads requiring pothole repair with cold patch, repairs to eighth St. at Orange Village by Penn Dot, hiring temporary help to clean up yards where gravel was deposited by recent storm water runoff. Engineer Doughton surveyed damages to roads from recent storms and submitted estimates exceeding \$100,000.00 to Luzerne county EMA for their final report. No reimbursement is expected from any County or State agencies.
  5. Damage to the Little League fencing and backstop were reported to the insurance carrier to determine whether the township had coverage. Secretary Melvin will notify representatives from the Recreation committee about the status of any insurance coverage. Jim Payne, President of the Recreation Board stated that Horlacher Little League and the Rec. Board would split the cost of the \$1,000.00 insurance deductible if the damage was covered under the township insurance policy
  6. Carver & Company sent a letter of engagement to audit the township for 2008 at a cost of \$3,000.00, which is unchanged from 2007. Mr. Dymond made a motion, seconded by Mr. Prokopchak to approve the hiring of Carver & Associates to perform the required audits for fiscal year 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **OPEN THE MEETING TO GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following residents spoke about issues near their homes: Rita Kirtinitis was concerned about burning trash every day. She would like some days off. The ordinance can be reviewed for possible amendment. Resident from 406 Ridge Road was concerned about water overflowing storm pipe and road debris on lawn. Resident from 162 Jakemoore Road wanted to know who is authorized to work on township roads as he witnessed work being done by others not from the township. Mr. Marks from Cummings Road spoke about damages to a drainage ditch and fencing near a pond. Also, water was flowing into a storm pipe was washing across the road. A resident from Eighth St. spoke of a drainage ditch being block creating a pool of water 30 feet across and 2 feet deep. Mr. Finn from 505 Valley View Road spoke about storm water causing damage to the road infrastructure and gravel being pushed out of the ditches and roadbeds filling his lawn and flooding his home. Mr. Kosierowski, 10 Abbey Lane, sent a letter at a previous time about a water issue and pooling around his residence. Mr. Hodakowski from Municipal Road recommended that the township get a roller to repair any township roads.

#### **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:00 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted.  
Richard A. Melvin, Secretary/Treasurer

