

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES**

**May 5, 2008  
7:00 P.M.**

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP FIRE HALL**

Chairman Michael Prokopchak called the regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Supervisors to order on Monday, May 5, 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 Thirteen visitors

Motion was made by Mr. Dymond, seconded by Mr. Baseski to waive the reading of the minutes of the April 7, 2008 Regular Meeting and the April 21, 2008 Special 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 April 30, 2008, and totaled \$269,571.17. Mr. Dymond, seconded by Mr. Prokopchak, 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.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company April 2008 report was submitted by Maureen Oremus. Errol O'Brien, Josh Histolsky and Kaylie Lumley passed their Hazard Materials certification.

Richard Bartholomew from the Franklin/Northmoreland Township Ambulance Association submitted their April 2008 report. They responded to 27 calls and did not miss a single call due to inability to respond and also did some in house training on 4 weekends. Mr.

Bartholomew also submitted a fiscal year 2007-2008 summary report.

Received a letter from the Department of Labor and Industry about the mandatory joining of the PA One Call System.

Received two letters from Comcast about programming changes to their cable TV system.

Received a letter from the Office of Community Development of Luzerne County about the significant benefits derived throughout the county from various programs offered through their office.

Received a letter forwarded from the township engineer about whether the municipality passed a Fire Escrow Ordinance to recoup costs incurred by the township from fire damaged structures.

A letter was received from a resident at 599 Culver Hill Road concerning abandoned junk vehicles filled with trash on an adjacent property and complained about the nuisance of guinea hens roaming the neighborhood freely causing damage to yards and making noise at all times of the day.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Site visits were made to several places in the township to assess recent storm water runoff issues. The township engineer and township officials visited the Nemeck residence at Coon and Sickler Roads, Kosierowski residence at Abbey Lane, Ehret residence at Ridge Road, Mark residence at Cummings Road and Finn residence at Valley View Road. The township engineer gave a summary of his observations at each location and submitted the report to the township office with some brief opinions and recommendations. Mr. Kosierowski spoke at length about the drainage problems and his opinion on the source of the drainage problems at his residence. Mr. Finn inquired about when the township would be receiving bids for work on Valley View Road. He was informed the township would move to advertise for bids at the June township meeting and receive bids at the July township meeting for possible awarding of work. Mr. Kosierowski also mentioned about the numerous unlicensed vehicles such as golf carts and ATV's traveling on Coon Road.
2. Mr. Melvin discussed the status of the municipal building roof repairs. The township engineer had just received a signed contract from the contractor. The delay in signing this contract was due to the time taken by the contractor to secure bonding for the project. The township engineer will forward the contracts to the township as soon as possible for signatures so the work can proceed.
3. Mr. Melvin updated the progress on the OCD Grant. 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 majority of the surveys have been returned with the vast majority of the households surveyed exceeding the HUD income guidelines. Grant funds must be spent before 2011 but the supervisors must determine how these grant funds will be used within the township.
4. Mr. Melvin reported on the Spring Cleanup. A total of 7 containers were filled as compared to 9 last year. The township supervisors would like to thank the following for their assistance: Paul Risch, Fred Risch, Joseph Stankus, Don Boyko, Cindy Boyko, Mike Balush and Barna Trucking for the use of their wheel loader.
5. Mr. Melvin reported that the township received a check from Selective Insurance for \$1,700.00 for damage to the Little League fence. Mr. Payne and Mr. Narcum were notified to proceed with the repairs as they saw fit.
6. Mr. Prokopchak summarized the results of the Municipal Road meeting as the residents expressed a wide variety of views about what they would like to have done. With no consensus, nothing major will be done in the immediate future.

7. Regarding modifying the burning ordinance. The Solicitor will review whether the number of days, number of hours, or time of day could be changed so that perhaps there can be times when there would be no burning.
8. Status of County Recreation Grant. The Solicitor is still working on the contract and asked the supervisors to approve a motion for the township supervisors to execute the contract subject to final approval by the Solicitor. Mr. Prokopchak made the motion, seconded by Mr. Baseski. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mr. Prokopchak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Baseski, to accept a quote from DGK Insurance for commercial insurance and workman's compensation coverage at a cost of \$25,080.00 for the period May 1, 2008 through April 30, 2009. This cost was a decrease of \$1,566.00 from last years cost with the same coverage. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Mr. Prokopchak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dymond, to reject Terrorism coverage for the insurance package. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Art Owen gave the Road Report. Grading, mowing and dust control was being done on all townships' roads. Mr. Baseski mentioned about the lack of a stop sign at Coon and Hill Roads. The sign has been ordered.
4. Mr. Prokopchak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Baseski, to close the PLGIT General fund checking account after Mr. Melvin stated it was not being used and he had no intentions of using this account. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Mr. Prokopchak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dymond, to pass Ordinance 001-2008 authorizing the borrowing of \$90,000.00 from PNC Bank at a rate of 3.33% for a term of ten (10) years for the purpose of purchasing capital equipment, and to authorize the Chief Legislative Officer and the Chief Administrative Officer to execute and deliver such documents and perform all acts necessary for the issuance and further security of the Note, including its execution, sealing and delivery to the Bank. The motion carried unanimously.
6. Mr. Prokopchak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dymond, to join the PA One Call System and to give the Secretary authorization to execute any documents necessary for joining. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Kirtinitis inquired about dirt bikes and ATV's speeding up and down Municipal Road. Roadmaster Owen inquired about using oil on Municipal Road. The Supervisors determined that the cost was too high for oiling any road so the road department will continue with using its normal dust control.

#### **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:14 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted.  
Richard A. Melvin, Secretary/Treasurer