

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP MEETING
JUNE 14, 2006**

Chairman Whipple called the meeting to order at 6:46 pm. Present were Supervisors Norman Hughes, Roger Wilson, Teddy Price and Juanita Bennett. Also present were Township Manager Steve Ross, Asst. Township Manager Jeff Eastburn, John Theisen, Sandi Morgan, Vince Donohue, Phil Geoghegan, and Eric Brindle. There were approximately 9 members of the public present.

Public Comment: The following persons were recognized by the Chair and spoke or asked questions on the following subjects:

- Earl Hatton – appreciative of recent road improvements
- Jane Brown – road improvement question regarding S. Guernsey Road
- Tina Chromey – complimented new agenda format
- Bill Rommanelli – questioned whether any decision was made regarding the Annis Property

Approval of Minutes - April 12, 2006:

Mr. Whipple moved to approve the minutes of April 12, seconded by Mr. Wilson. In discussion of the motion, the following corrections were made by Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Bennett:

- First page under Historical Commission, add “cost” between the words “small difference”
- First page under Historical Commission, insert “funding” between “includes” and “residents”.
- Second page, second paragraph, capitalize “C” for “commonwealth”.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Gravel Road Program:

Mr. Ross explained that at a previous public meeting, the Board authorized the Staff to file a grant application in the amount of \$22,000 for the purpose of rehabilitating Creek Road. It was discovered later that surplus funds could be available under the program based on a conversation Mr. Theisen had with the County Conservation District. Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to authorize the Staff to amend the grant application from \$22,000 to \$36,000 under the Gravel Road Program. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Crossan Park Study:

Mr. Whipple provided background information on the skateboard facility that was removed from the park in 2005. It was determined that an alternative use would be

sought and so Duffield and Associates was retained by the Township to guide in this decision making. Also, Mr. Whipple pointed out that Franklin Township would need to pay the County approximately \$45,000 unless a suitable use was substituted at the park.

Mr. Al Demerich from Duffield and Associates provided an overview of the firm's involvement in the planning process for the park. This included a meeting with both elected and appointed officials, on-site trips to the park and reviewing the original construction drawings.

The challenges at the park and the current layout were noted:

- Circulation and connecting different park components.
- Parking at varied times with soccer, baseball and flag football.
- Sanitary facilities are removed from the northern picnic pavilion area.

Recommendations for future use included the following:

- Removal of serenity garden and nature nodes.
- Install tot lot over skateboard location.
- Provide pavement to connect high concentration areas.
- Lawn panels be created over septic fields.
- Smaller use field for soccer and flag football.
- Possibly a band shell.
- Additional tennis and basketball courts be provided with parking.
- Larger multi-use field with a nearby waterless comfort station.
- Welcome entry area with rotary to create a calming affect and provide park identity.

Mr. Demerich provided cost estimates for the various proposed components as described on the plan. The public participated in the discussion with several questions. This included Ms. Chromey and Mr. Bennett. It was decided to evaluate the study at a subsequent meeting and decide on a future direction for the Township. Mr. Demerich is going to review the plans with cost estimates and add the footnotes which were missing from their original submission.

Post Prom Party:

Mr. Whipple advised that Mr. Wilson requested this subject be placed on the agenda. Mr. Wilson advised that he is not promoting this use of money but he received communication from the school and other residents who are supporting the program. There was a discussion concerning the legality of using township funds. On motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mrs. Bennett, the Township will contribute \$250 in 2006 and consideration of \$500. in the 2007 budget, subject to the Solicitor determining the legality of making the contribution. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Alternative Sewage Methods:

Mr. Whipple referred the issue to Mr. Wilson who requested that Mrs. Morgan be present. Mr. Wilson provided background information on why this subject was important but also, why the public and the board should better understand the alternatives for sewage treatment. Mr. Wilson suggested that Mrs. Morgan's presentation include discussion with public participation. Mrs. Morgan provided basic information describing single lot treatment and community treatment systems. She described the anaerobic treatment process with removal of liquids and solids. In addition to inquiries from the Board, the following members of the public asked varying questions regarding drip irrigation, monitoring systems, depth of drip systems, use in the woods and viability in open space:

- Nancy Chromey
- Jeff Bennett
- Earl Hatton
- Jane Brown

South Guernsey Road

With Mr. Theisen leaving, Mr. Whipple recognized Jane Brown who had a question on the pipe length on South Guernsey Road. Mr. Theisen responded to the question.

Agricultural Security Area:

Mr. Whipple led the discussion on the history and importance of the Township having an ASA program. He indicated that previously Dolores Morris led the program in the Township but now he is leading the volunteer program. Mr. Whipple and Mr. Eastburn recently had a meeting with the County Coordinator, Diane Hoopes, and gained valuable information. The program is fine in Franklin Township provided that the Advisory Committee is reactivated and the listing of properties is validated with the correct information and submitted to the County.

Mrs. Price made a motion that the Board recognizes the following appointments to the Franklin Township ASA Advisory Committee:

- Farmer Members – John Hocking, Dave Hoffman and Bob McCleary
- Citizen Member – Kevin Barrow
- Chairman of Governing Body – Dick Whipple

Since Section 904 of Act 43 indicates that these members serve at the pleasure of the Chairman, there are not specified term lengths. Motion seconded by Norm Hughes and carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Whipple explained that we currently have approximately 950 acres in the ASA Program. Tonight, there are additional properties to be considered, and if approved, it will mean that Franklin has approximately 2,000 acres in the ASA. On motion by Mr. Whipple, seconded by Mrs. Price, that the Franklin Township Board of

Supervisors accept applications for the following land owners to add their properties to the Franklin Township Agricultural Security Area:

- Mr. George Strawbridge, Parcel #72-6-1, 14.4 acres
- Mr. George Strawbridge, Parcel #72-6-4, 370.10 acres
- Mr. George Strawbridge, Parcel #72-6-10, 63.5 acres
- Mr. George Strawbridge, Parcel #72-6-14, 270.10 acres
- Mr. George Strawbridge, Parcel #72-7-11, 13.6 acres
- Ms. Nancy A. Palmer, Parcel #72-7-16, 41.3 acres
- Mr. William D. Pierson, Parcel #72-2-50.4, 39.3 acres

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Extension Letters:

Mr. Whipple announced that the Township received extension letters for plan consideration on the following applications:

- Ford Farm – extended to July 19, 2006
- Mackie – extended to July 21, 2006

On motion by Mr. Hughes, and seconded by Mrs. Price, the Board approved the letters of extension as noted. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Comment:

The following persons spoke into the record on subjects including status of the negotiation settlement, acknowledging the good job of Sandi Morgan, status if plan extensions aren't granted, and volunteers for the position of Web Site Master:

- Nancy Chromey – negotiation settlement and plan extension
- Jane Brown – volunteers for web page
- Earl Hatton - good job by Sandi Morgan
- Dolores Hughes – good job by Sandi Morgan

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen J. Ross
Township Mgr./Secretary