

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 2, 2007**

Call to Order:

Mr. Vince Donohue, Solicitor, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Mr. Donohue explained the procedures for the organization meeting and the order of business that must be conducted in accordance with the Township Code. Present from the Board were Mr. Richard Whipple, Ms. Teddy Price, Mr. Norman Hughes, Mr. Roger Wilson and Mrs. Juanita Bennett. Others present included Mr. Stephen Ross, Interim Township Manager, and two other residents of the township.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Organization of Board of Supervisors:

Appointment of Temporary Chairperson: Mrs. Bennett moved, seconded by Ms. Price to appoint Mr. Vincent Donohue, Solicitor for the Township, as Temporary Chairman. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Nomination and Election of Chairman: Ms. Price moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to nominate Mr. Richard Whipple as Chairman of the Board for 2007. Mr. Whipple indicated that he would vote against the nomination stating that he may decide not to stay on the Board long-term and therefore it would not be appropriate for him to accept the nomination of Chairman. The possibility of Mr. Whipple accepting the Chair on a temporary basis was briefly discussed. Further discussion involved an attempt to determine who among the other Board members would accept a nomination as Chair. Mr. Whipple advised that based on recent discussions with Board members it has come to light that some members of the Board are dissatisfied with the current method by which the Township receives management services through the contract with Keystone Municipal Services. The contract renewal rates proposed by Keystone were discussed and compared to increases proposed by other contractors. Mr. Whipple cautioned that the new Chair needs to be prepared to deal with this issue as well as related issues that will arise if it is decided not to continue the current arrangement with Keystone. The Temporary Chair called for a vote on the motion to nominate Mr. Whipple as Chairman. The motion was defeated by a vote of 3-2, with Supervisors Wilson, Bennett and Whipple opposed.

Discussion continued regarding who to nominate as Chairman. Mrs. Bennett eventually indicated that she would accept the nomination. On a motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Hughes, Mrs. Bennett was nominated for the position of Chairman of the BOS for 2007. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

The Temporary Chairman, Mr. Donahue, turned the meeting over to the newly elected Chair, Mrs. Juanita Bennett.

Nomination and Election of Vice Chairman: Mrs. Bennett called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. On motion by Mr. Whipple, seconded by Mrs. Bennett, Roger Wilson was nominated for Vice Chair. Mr. Wilson declined the nomination. Mr. Wilson commented that the Board has become divided over the past year and although having different opinions on issues is a good thing, he believes that the Board should work toward being more of a team on general issues and suggested that this nomination could be used as a step toward that goal. Mrs. Bennett called for a vote on the motion to nominate Mr. Wilson as Vice Chair. The motion failed by a vote of 3-2 with supervisors Wilson, Hughes and Price in opposition.

Mrs. Bennett moved, seconded by Mr. Whipple, to nominate Ms. Price as Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for 2007. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Reappointments:

Secretary: On a motion by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Ms. Price, Stephen J. Ross was nominated and approved as Temporary Township Secretary. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Treasurer: On a motion by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Ms. Price, Mrs. Joan McVaugh was nominated and approved as Treasurer. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Solicitor: On a motion by Mr. Whipple, seconded by Ms. Price, the firm of Lamb McErlane was nominated and approved as Township Solicitor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Wilson opposed.

Engineers: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Ms. Price, to approve the following organizations for the designated areas of responsibility under the general category of engineer:

1. LTL (General)
2. Surrender Kohli (General)
3. URS (Sanitary)
4. Tetrahedron Consultants, Inc. (Hydrogeologist)
5. McCormick Taylor (Traffic)
6. Thomas Comitta and Associates (Planner)
7. Brandywine Conservancy (Planner)
8. Robert Wise (Historical)

Mrs. Bennett objected to including Robert Wise in the approved list of engineering consultants. Mr. Wilson amended Mr. Whipple's motion, amendment seconded by Mrs. Bennett, to remove Mr. Robert Wise from the list of approved consultants. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0 with Ms. Price abstaining due to her affiliation with Brandywine Conservancy.

APPROVED

Building Inspector/Zoning Officer: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Mrs. Bennett to approve the appointment of the consulting firm of LTL as Building Inspector/Zoning Officer. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Auditor – Barbacane Thornton: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve the retention of Barbacane Thornton to audit the 2006 financial records for Franklin Township at a cost of \$5,675. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Vacancy Board – Nan Latimer: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Ms. Price, to appoint Mrs. Nan Latimer to serve as the Chairman of the Vacancy Board for the year of 2007. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Zoning Hearing Board: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Ms. Price, to appoint Connie Chiasson to the Zoning Hearing Board with a term to December 31, 2009 and Nancy Chromey as an alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board with a term to December 31, 2009. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Planning Commission – Mark Harris: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Ms. Price, to appoint Mark Harris to another term on the Franklin Planning Commission to expire on December 31, 2010. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB): Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to approve the appointment of Wendy Toman as a member of the Franklin Township HARB which term to expire on December 31, 2011, and Lou Mandich as an interim member until someone can be identified who lives in the district, with a term running until 12/31/11. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Historical Commission: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Ms. Price, to approve the appointment of Wendy Toman to an additional term on the Franklin Historical Commission to expire December 31, 2009. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Emergency Management Coordinator: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Ms. Price, to approve the appointment of Harold Walls as the Emergency Management Coordinator. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Appointment Resolutions:

Resolution 2007-01 – Barbacane Thornton: On a motion by Mr. Whipple, seconded by Ms. Price, Resolution 2007-01 authorizing the appointment of Barbacane Thornton as auditor for Franklin Township was approved. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. A copy of said Resolution is available in both the resolution book and meeting file.

Resolution 2007-02 – Act 170: On motion by Mr. Whipple, seconded by Ms. Price, Resolution 2007-02 was approved in accordance with Act 170. Mr. Wilson moved to

amend Mr. Whipple's motion by eliminating the Wise Preservation Section on page 3 of Resolution 2007-02, amendment seconded by Mr. Hughes. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. A copy of said Resolution is available in both the resolution book and meeting file.

Resolution 2007-03 – Fees and Salaries: On motion by Mr. Whipple, seconded by Mr. Hughes, Resolution 2007-03 regarding fees and salaries, was approved with the exception that the firm of Robert Wise be removed as a consultant performing work for the Township. There was a discussion among Board members regarding the hourly rate for Keystone Municipal Services and in the future how the position of Township Manager should be filled. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. A copy of said resolution is available in both the resolution book and meeting file.

2007 BOS Meeting Dates: Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to schedule meetings for the Board of Supervisors on the second and third Wednesdays of the month beginning at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Designation of Newspaper for Legal Advertising: Mr. Ross explained that the Township should consider expanding the legal advertising from the Daily Local News to using The Avon Grove Sun and Chester County Press in 2007. Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Ms. Price, to use the Daily Local News, Avon Grove Sun and the Chester County Press for legal advertisements beginning in 2007. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Financial Institutions: On motion by Mr. Whipple, seconded by Mr. Hughes, Peoples Bank of Oxford and PLGIT were designated as the financial institutions to hold cash assets of the Township. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Appointment of Delegates and Voting Delegates to PSATS Annual Convention: There was a brief discussion on appointing members of the Board to attend and serve as voting delegates to PSATS annual spring convention in Hershey. Ms. Price moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to authorize Jeff Eastburn to attend and represent Franklin Township. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

New Business:

Fire Hydrant Tax Ordinance: Proposed Ordinance 2007-01 was duly advertised for Board consideration. The Ordinance provides for a Special Tax Assessment for properties located within 780' of a fire hydrant. The Special Tax Assessment will pay for all necessary expenses to provide fire hydrant related services. Ms. Price moved, seconded by Mr. Whipple, to approve ordinance 2007-01. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Public Comment:

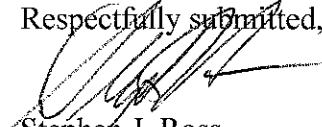
APPROVED

Mr. Hughes raised the issue of the Township hiring a firm to provide a study of determining structural integrity of the barn on the Ford Farm property. On motion by Mr. Whipple, seconded by Mr. Hughes, the firm of Long, Tann and D'Onofrio was retained to provide a study of the barn at a cost of \$845. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Whipple moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to approve an additional \$700 expense incurred by Brandywine Conservancy for the handling of the Latimer Conservation Easement. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0 with Ms. Price abstaining due to her affiliation with Brandywine Conservancy.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Stephen J. Ross,
Township Mgr./Secretary

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