

Franklin Township

Board of Supervisors

Manager and Administrative Staff Monthly Report May 21, 2008

This is the monthly report of activities of the Administrative Staff of the Township. The first person to greet the public with a friendly hello is Sharon Norris, followed by Jeff Eastburn. In the other room are Joan McVaugh and Duane Brady. The Manager is in a separate office and receives phone calls and personal visits from the public. John Hocking performs maintenance at Crossan Park and locks the Park gates at night. Eileen Rembecki handles the review of minutes for the Board and Planning Commission. Here is a summary of events from parts of April and May.

I. Administration

- Finance – The Treasurer provides detailed financial information in the monthly Treasurer's report which is posted on our website the Friday before the regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting.
- Sunoco Progress Memo – The Township received a report from Tetrahedron Consultants advising of major improvements with the groundwater cleanup system at the Sunoco property. Since the March 19 meeting with the Board, there has been a change in concentration from 7000 to 1500 ppb's. According to Walt Leis, Hydrogeologist, this is a sharp reduction of ppb's since the beginning of the year.
- Sunoco A-Plus Mini Market – The Board of Supervisors received the most recent report from Mulry and Cresswell Environmental, Inc. dated April 29, 2008. The report advises that M&C collected water samples from thirty-three private wells in the Kemblesville Village. The 33 samples were analyzed for MTBE, of which seven properties were found to contain a low level amount. The Pa. DEP has established a statewide health standard of 20ug/l. The seven properties ranged from a low of .05ug/l to a high of 6.7 ug/l. Bottled water has been offered to the property owners by Sunoco A- Plus. It is noted in the May 13, 2008 Tetrahedron Consultants, Inc. report, that a lawsuit was filed against the former property owners and not Sunoco.
- Personnel – The Manager completed evaluations of employees and shared the results with the Board. Salary adjustments have been implemented in accordance with the 08 Budget.

- Solicitor Report – The Solicitor has provided a summary of outstanding issues listing the status of projects.
- Networking Computers – The Board approved retention of MySherpa to provide a networking system connecting the Staff and Board of Supervisors into certain records of the Township. A meeting was held with the contractor and staff to review the sequence of adopting the system. The Staff worked with Tim Siple to build a climate controlled closet adjacent to the restroom in the storage area.
- GIS – The Staff reviewed a proposal for subscribing to the County GIS program. We expect to have Michael Little of the Chester County Consortium available to explain the system and the benefits to the Township at the June 11, 2008, Workshop meeting. Once the Board is comfortable with the program, approval will be sought to enter into the County Consortium. Our Solicitor, Mark Thompson, is expected to have reviewed the agreement prior to the meeting.
- Colonial Pipeline Seminar - Supervisor Latimer and Mr. Eastburn attended a Colonial Pipeline Seminar at the Government Services Building in West Chester. This seminar was offered to inform Municipalities and Boroughs of the right-of-way maintenance Colonial Pipeline will be performing within Chester County. The District Right-of-Way Manager for Colonial Pipeline provided a scope of the process and how local government will be affected by this work. Mr. Eastburn has determined that approximately 29 different parcels are along this pipeline within Franklin Township.
- PA's Right-to-Know Law (The Open Records Act) – the Office Secretary attended a seminar on this law, which will take effect January 2009. The seminar's purpose was to explain which records were public (most) and which were not and how to implement processes for requests for information. Before the law goes into effect, the DCED website will post guidelines for Townships to follow.
- Newsletter – The Staff has been working with Carla Lucas to produce the summer version of the newsletter. The subjects that are being proposed in the newsletter include the following:
 1. Features of Open Space including the Botanical Study, Bird Study and Trail Study.
 2. Commissioner Cozzone's visit.
 3. New London Presbyterian Church project at Crossan Park.
 4. MS4 topic
 5. Code Enforcement

II. Planning, Open Space and Codes

- Planning
 1. The following developments or properties were handled by the Township Staff/Consultants during the month:
 - Abel – extension to 9.19.08
 - Auburn Hills – release of maintenance bond
 - Breschia Property - input received from Tetrahedron Consultants, Inc. Met with PC
 - Brothers – ongoing discussion with PC
 - Colonial Meadows – release of septic tank surety
 - Hess Mill lots 6&8 - pending
 - Insinga – The meeting with the PC resulted in several recommendations to the plan. The applicant has supplied an extension until June 25, 2008.
 - Lexington Point - first building permit issued
 - McCleary – meeting with PC
 - Megill Subdivision – no action
 - Miller – discussions with Vince Pompo
 - Morris – pending subdivision
 - Paradox Vineyards – request for directional signs
 - Sarana (Davis) – discussions with the PC
 - Stonegate – pending ZHB
 - Woods Edge – extension until August 18 to obtain security and execute financial security agreement

- Open Space – the Manager and Staff were quite busy assisting the Open Space Committee and Board by providing background information for the grant application process. The following properties have been revealed to the public and therefore, information can be shared:
 - a. Goodwin
 - b. Application for property on 841. Obtained survey and Phase 1 Environmental quote
 - c. Pierson

In addition, we have consulted with several financial advisors to provide us with information on what might be the best way to secure a bridge loan in order to carry the Township finances through the periods where money is needed for property sellers in advance of receiving grant funding. Additional information was received for the possible issuance of a long-term note. Once detailed information is received regarding total amounts needed and timeframes, further analysis can be provided to the Board.

III. Historical and Parks

- There has been limited activity with the Historical Commission over the past several months.
 1. Crossan Park activities include the following:
 - a. Debbie Gebauer from the New London Presbyterian Church contacted the Township approximately one month ago about members of their church doing a service project at the Elwood L. Crossan Park. Mr. Eastburn worked with Ms. Gebauer to develop a project which involved weeding, mulching and planting flowers in the four raised wooden planters in front of the Comfort Station. This also involved trimming shrubs in the various gardens and picking up trash throughout the park. They also divided and transplanted a few of our ornamental grasses to the various gardens in the back of the park. They did a great job and have been commended for their excellent work! Mr. Eastburn is going to set up a meeting with Ms. Lucas and Ms. Gebauer so we can put an article in the next Township newsletter.
 - b. Carter and Sons Lawn and Landscaping have removed the old mulch and the weeds from around the trees and various gardens throughout the park; approximately 80 yards of new mulch has been installed. This work was completed April 27, 2008. The park looks great!
 - c. In the next two weeks, Carter and Sons will be mowing the trails within the park. Certain areas will need to be skipped because they are too wet.
 - d. The next weed and feed application will be applied to our athletic fields the week of May 12th.
 - e. The infiltration berm for the new field has been constructed and grass seed applied. The Township, along with Nancy Bosold of Penn State, will be monitoring the new field to determine if limited league play can occur in the Fall or if we should wait until next year.
 - f. The copula on the large pavilion and the "park rules" sign have been vandalized. Mr. Eastburn will be working with Mr. Siple and or Mr. D'Orazio to get these items repaired.

IV. Roads, Sewer and Property

- Roads/Stormwater
 - 2008 Road Program - Notices have been delivered to the residents on Kimbelot Lane and Lizanne Lane for work to

commence on May 12, 2008, weather permitting. Mr. Allen has supplied a tentative schedule to staff which has been forwarded to the Board of Supervisors, to our webmaster, and to the Swisher School Bus Company.

- b. Mt. Olivet Road – A spring was uncovered along Mt. Olivet Road. Messrs Allen, D’Orazio and Eastburn worked together to develop a solution, which was approved by the Dirt and Gravel Road Program. Materials were ordered and work should commence again the week of May 6th.
 - c. Miller Property – Mr. Eastburn has been in contact with Mr. Snyder of DiJo Development Group regarding the high grass which surrounds the abandoned house on the property. It is our understanding that the grass will be cut by May 21, 2008, by Siple Lawn Care. Also, the house on this property was recently vandalized with the spray painting of offense words; as soon as the Township was notified, Mr. Eastburn worked with DiJo Development Company and our contractor, Yardworks, to remove the offensive words and secure the building with plywood.
 - d. Act 209 Ordinance – the Board will receive a copy of the proposed ordinance adopting the Act 209 Study prepared by the Act 209 Committee. The ordinance should be considered by the Board of Supervisors at the June 18, 2008, meeting.
 - e. MS4 – the Township received brochures from Brandywine Valley Association intended for the local business community and becoming a Clean Water Partner. The information was sent to five local businesses in the Township.
 - f. Municipal Stormwater Summit – Chester County Water Resources authority is holding a meeting on June 3, 2008 for municipal representatives. The county-wide Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan could assist municipalities in addressing their stormwater management needs, including some MS4 requirements.
- Sewer
 - a. Sewage at Lexington Point – The Township received a letter from London Grove Township to Gregg Hill of Keystone Custom Homes advising Keystone that sewer connections for the Lamborn Hunt and Fox Chase Developments in London Grove couldn’t connect and transport sewage into the Lexington Point Community

Sewage system. Franklin never received a request from Keystone seeking approval for the concept.

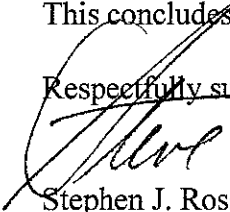
- Act 537 Plan – At the April Board meeting, approval was granted to proceed with a Plan of Study as outlined in a proposal from URS. In a letter from DEP dated April 17, 2008, the Department granted approval to the Plan of Study and provided 90 days to submit a draft of the study. In the interim, the consultant submitted a draft letter that was prepared on Township letterhead and sent to the residents of the Village of Kemblesville. The letter provided introductory information to the residents advising that a representative of URS would be doing a house-to-house survey beginning on April 26, 2008. This house-to-house survey has been completed and we are now awaiting completed analysis by the consultant.

- Property
 - a. Barn at the Township Building – The Manager met with John Grieshaber, from the firm of Long, Tann and D’Onofrio. The consultant is expected to deliver a report to the Township within two weeks. Overall, Mr. Grieshaber advises that the barn is in relatively good shape and is structurally sound.

 - b. Cell Towers – The Administrative staff provided the Board with a brief history of the Towers A and B. Essentially, the Township will receive an annual payment of \$84,204 once the two new antennas are installed on both monopoles.

This concludes the Monthly Report of the Manager and Staff.

~~Respectfully submitted,~~



Stephen J. Ross
Interim Township Manager

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