

Chairman Grey Godshall called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order on Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:03 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 671 Allentown Road, Telford, Pennsylvania 18969.

Present were Chairman Grey Godshall, Vice Chairman David B. Fazio, Supervisor Robert Nice, Supervisor Charles Amuso and Supervisor Jill Halteman. Also, in attendance were Township Manager Jon A. Hammer, Township Solicitor Eric Wert, Esquire, Township Engineer Douglas C. Rossino and interested residents of Franconia Township.

Magisterial District Judge Albert Augustine was present to swear in newly appointed Officer David Matozzo.

**Open meeting to the Public**

Chairman Godshall opened the meeting to the public.

Ms. Christine Halteman, 829 Allentown Road, stated that she is troubled over expressively sexual books available at the library. The Indian Valley Library has wonderful children's programs, but she feels that what is available in the children's section should have guidelines and restrictions should be put in place. Mr. Jonathon Emmell Leister, 337 Morwood Road, stated that there are internal rules and regulations as well as a form that can be filled out for a consideration process. He added that the library may be some people's only access to a computer or a printer. The materials are not in the children's sections and that he feels like LGBTQ+ materials are being targeted.

Mr. Kyle Rodgers, 440 Godshall Road, stated that he is not asking for books to be removed, burned or banned but wants to see age restrictions put in place. He was informed that the reason for not checking ages is due to not enough staffing. The library does allow a child to view and check out these books. Ms. Shawna Boele, Erie Ave, stood in support of the library, that the books are not in the children's section and that the library should not be responsible if your 7 year old gets a book that is inappropriate.

Ms. Ariel Franks was present to support the library and asked how defunding the library is even a question. She uses the facility with her daughter to study. It is a public place that is for everyone to feel welcome and should not be religious based. Chairman Godshall stated that the library is a fixture of a civil society and is not treated in the same manner as someone handing out pictures to minors and this issue is not LGBTQ only.

Ms. Nancy Butler stated that even if there is pornography why would the Board consider defunding. She is concerned that Souderton and Telford have both reduced their funding. Questions were raised about funding as a part of the budget. Manager Hammer stated that .33 of a mil, about \$250,000 is budgeted for the library. The contribution level is second behind Lower Salford.

Library Director Margie Stern reported that 1.2 million is the current year's annual budget, 70% coming from municipalities, 17% from fines, book sales and fundraisers and 17% from the state. The library has 10 full time employees and the rest or part time and seasonal for a total of 35. Mr. Jason Shelly, 111 Memory Lane, stated that he never talked about defunding, just putting some check points in place. Both Mr. Brad Alderfer and Mr. Al Engle stood in support of the library and requested additional funding in the future. Mr. William Leister, chair of Friends of the Library, and encouraged anyone with concerns to attend a meeting at the library held on the third Thursday of the month at 8am.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 17, 2023 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Supervisor Fazio motioned for the approval. It was seconded by Supervisor Amuso, and all voted in favor, 5-0.

#### **SOLICITOR 'S REPORT – ERIC WERT, ESQUIRE**

None

#### **POLICE REPORT- CHIEF MICHAEL MARTIN**

Chief Martin submitted the statistical report prior to the meeting. He announced that during drug take back day 313 pounds of unwanted prescription drugs were collected and were added to the 155 pounds collected in the lobby. He also announced that the department issued a letter of accommodation to an employee of Peter Becker Community for their assistance in locating a missing resident.

**HIGHWAY REPORT-ANTHONY FRYDLEWICZ**

Mr. Frydlewicz submitted his report prior to the meeting. He stated that the roads have been cracked sealed and the seasonal cutting has started.

**ENGINEERING REPORT- DOUGLAS C. ROSSINO, P.E.**

Mr. Rossino submitted his report prior to the meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Supervisor Nice and seconded by Supervisor Fazio to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, and to provide authorization for the Treasurer to pay all bills for the respective funds as presented on Voucher No. 23-15-5 dated May 15, 2023, in the amount of \$345,017.92. Mr. Nice reported that it included \$90,000 for public improvements to Branchwood Park. The motion passed, 5-0.

**PAYROLL**

A motion was made by Supervisor Nice and seconded by Supervisor Amuso for the Treasurer to be authorized to pay all employees during the pay period of May 15, 2023, through June 18, 2023, according to the hours worked as listed on the Payroll Journal for the aforesaid period. The motion carried unanimously.

**SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Franconia Township Planning Commission will hold its next Regular meeting on Monday, June 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Franconia Township Municipal Building, 671 Allentown Road, Telford, Pennsylvania 18969.

The next Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting will be held on Monday, June 19, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the Franconia Township Municipal Building, 671 Allentown Road, Telford Pennsylvania 18969. The Board of Supervisors work session will be held on June 19, 2023, at 5p.m. at the same location.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Supervisor Fazio and seconded by Supervisor Halteman to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth T. Gooch

Director of Planning and Zoning