

REGULAR MEETING

The Franklin Township Committee held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 2, 2020. Mayor Jeff DeAngelis opened the meeting, at approximately 7:00 pm, in accordance with the "Open Public Meeting Act" Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 having been duly advertised and a copy posted in the office of the Township Clerk.

Following the flag salute a roll call of committee members present.

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Ferri, David Guth, Rich Herzer, Mike Toretta, Mayor Jeff DeAngelis, (5) Present.

Present were: Margaret Housman, Office Assistant, Kathleen Reinalda, CFO, Raymond Read, OEM, Ron Read, DPW Foreman, Mike Finelli, Engineer, Kevin Benbrook (joined meeting at approximately 7:35 pm).

CONSENT AGENDA:
(One Roll Call to approve the following agenda items 2-4)

- 2. **APPROVAL**
 - a. Meeting Minutes **RE: February 3, 2020**
- 3. **RESOLUTIONS**
 - a. Res. 2020-34 **RE: Tax Refund Block 11 Lot 27**
 - b. Res. 2020-35 **RE: Tax Refund Block 34.04 Lot 7**
- 4. **RAFFLES**
 - a. RA#2020-1 **RE: On-Site 50/50, March 27, 2020, WC Technical School PTSA, 6-10 pm**
 - b. RA#2020-2 **RE: On-Site Tricky Tray, March 27, 2020, WC Technical School PTSA, 6-10 pm**

On motion by Mike Ferri and seconded by Mike Toretta approving the Consent Agenda above, showing David Guth abstaining from Resolution 2020-35 ONLY.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Mike Ferri	X		
David Guth	X		
Rich Herzer	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Mayor, Jeff DeAngelis	X		
		(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent	Motion Carried

RESOLUTIONS

First Reading/Introduction: Res. 2020-34

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-34

WHEREAS, an overpayment of taxes was made by the mortgage Company on Block 11 Lot 27, and

WHEREAS, the mortgage company has requested a refund check be issued,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee authorize the Tax Collector to refund the sum of \$2846.67 to Title 365, Attn: Sean Gilroy, 345 Rouser Rd. Suite 100, Pittsburgh, PA 15108.

On Motion by Mike Ferri and seconded by Mike Toretta to approve **Resolution 2020-34** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Rich Herzer	X		
Mike Ferri	X		
David Guth	X		
Mike Toretta	X		
Jeff DeAngelis, Mayor	X	(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent	Motion Carried

CERTIFICATION

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, Warren County, New Jersey is a true and correct copy of a Resolution approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin at a regular meeting held on March 2, 2020.

Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk
Franklin Township
Warren County, State of New Jersey

First Reading/Introduction: Res. 2020-35

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-35

WHEREAS, an overpayment of taxes was made by the mortgage company on Block 34.04 Lot 7, and

WHEREAS, the property owner has requested a refund check be issued,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee authorize the Tax Collector to refund the sum of \$ \$3036.00 to David Guth, 19 Quarry Road, Stewartsville, NJ 08886.

On Motion by Mike Ferri and seconded by Mike Toretta to approve **Resolution 2020-35** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Rich Herzer	X		
Mike Ferri	X		
David Guth			X
Mike Toretta	X		
Jeff DeAngelis, Mayor	X	(4) Yes (0) No (0) Absent (1) Abstained	Motion Carried

CERTIFICATION

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, Warren County, New Jersey is a true and correct copy of a Resolution approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin at a regular meeting held on March 2, 2020.

Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk
Franklin Township
Warren County, State of New Jersey

NEW BUSINESS

Report/Updates

NJSP – no representation this evening

Resolutions:

First Reading/Adoption

**TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN
WARREN COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION – 2020-36
BUDGET TRANSFER – APPROPRIATION RESERVES**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 and 59 authorizes transfers from certain budget appropriations where it is expected that it will be insufficient, and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable expected that certain appropriations will not be sufficient for contemplated expenditures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer of Franklin Township, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, is hereby instructed to adjust the financial records in accordance with the provision of this Resolution:

CURRENT FUND

Account:	From:	To:
General Admin OE		\$ 1,000.00
Financial Admin. O/E		\$ 1,000.00
Land Use Board OE		\$ 4,000.00
Buildings and Grounds OE		\$ 1,200.00
Electricity/Street Lighting OE		\$ 1,200.00
Road Maintenance S/W	\$8,400.00	
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TOTALS	\$8,400.00	\$8,400.00

On motion by David Guth and seconded by Mike Ferri the aforementioned **Resolution 2020-36** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
David Guth	X		
Rich Herzer	X		
Mike Ferri	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Mayor Jeff DeAngelis	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent Motion Carried

Dated: March 2, 2020

Certification

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and exact copy adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin on March 2, 2020.

Denise L. Becton, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

RESOLUTION 2020-37

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ASBURY ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL AT THE TOWNSHIP PARK/ATHLETIC FIELDS IN ASBURY

WHEREAS, the Asbury Coffee Mill LLC has submitted a Facilities Use request to hold the Asbury Arts & Music Festival on August 15, 2020 between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the Township Park/Athletic Fields in Asbury; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has held two (2) previous Festivals at the Park that have been well-attended, and undertaken without any damage to the Township’s facilities or any complaints from attendees or residents; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee have determined this Festival is in furtherance of advancing art and music within the Township and promoting the many positive aspects of Franklin Township to attendees that may not be familiar with it.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, that it hereby approves the use of the Township Park/Athletic Fields in Asbury on August 15, 2020 between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. for the Asbury Arts & Music Festival; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this approval is conditioned upon the applicant submitting proof of acceptable liability insurance with a rider specifically insuring the Township of Franklin as an additional insured; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sale of alcoholic beverages shall be prohibited, but the applicant may advertise and conduct the Festival as a BYOB event, provided the insurance submitted adequately covers the same, subject to review and approval of the Township Attorney.

On motion by Mike Toretta and seconded by David Guth the aforementioned **Resolution 2020-37** be adopted as read.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
David Guth	X		
Rich Herzer	X		
Mike Ferri	X		
Michael Toretta	X		
Mayor Jeff DeAngelis	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent Motion Carried

Dated: March 2, 2020

CERTIFICATION

I, Denise L. Becton, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Franklin Township Committee at a meeting held on March 2, 2020.

Denise L. Becton RMC/CMR

Dated: March 2, 2020

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF:

Final Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 2020-3

ORDINANCE #2020-3

AN ORDINANCE TO RELEASE, VACATE AND EXTINGUISH ANY AND ALL PUBLIC RIGHTS IN AND TO A PORTION OF AN UNNAMED ALLEY

On motion by Mike Ferri and seconded by David Guth to open the Public Hearing.

No Public Comments

On motion by Mike Toretta and seconded by Rich Herzer to close the Public Hearing.

On motion by Committeeperson Mike Ferri and seconded by Committeeperson Rich Herzer the aforementioned Ordinance 2020-3 be adopted at final reading.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstain	
David Guth	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Mike Ferri	X			
Michael Toretta	X			
Rich Herzer	X		(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF:

Final Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 2020-5

Ordinance 2020-5

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF \$30,000.00 FOR ‘IT AND PHONE SYSTEM UPGRADES’ FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

On motion by David Guth and seconded by Mike Ferri to open the Public Hearing.

No Public Comments

On motion by Rich Herzer and seconded by David Guth to close the Public Hearing.

On motion by Committeeperson David Guth and seconded by Committeeperson Rich Herzer the aforementioned Ordinance 2020-5 be adopted at final reading.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstain	
David Guth	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Mike Ferri	X			
Michael Toretta	X			
Rich Herzer	X		(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF:

Final Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 2020-6

Ordinance 2020-6

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF \$83,400.00 FOR ‘BUILDING & GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS’ FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL – RESERVE FOR BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS LINE ITEM

On motion by David Guth and seconded by Rich Herzer to open the Public Hearing.

No Public Comments

On motion by Mike Ferri and seconded by David Guth to close the Public Hearing.

On motion by Committeeperson Mike Ferri and seconded by Committeeperson Mike Toretta the aforementioned Ordinance 2020-6 be adopted at final reading.

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Absent/Abstain	
David Guth	X			
Jeff DeAngelis	X			
Mike Ferri	X			
Michael Toretta	X			
Rich Herzer	X	(5) Yes (0) No (0) Absent		Motion carried

REPORTS/UPDATES:

Engineer Report – Report on file

The following are a few matters to update the Township Committee.

1. Township Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) (No change since last Report)
 - We have been advised in a June 16, 2014 email from NJDEP that there are three (3) options with regard to the most recent grant allotment received for \$19,000 via correspondence from the NJDEP dated, 2/12/14.
 - a. Don't accept the grant and don't do any additional work and see what comes out of the new Waster Management Planning Act regulations.
 - b. Submit a new scope of work which includes a request for funding for septic density zoning.
 - c. Complete septic density zoning without funding from the State.
 - This matter was discussed at the July 7, 2014 TC Meeting, and the Committee decided to choose Option "a" as outlined above. Based upon that decision, our office, via letter dated July 15, 2014 notified the NJDEP of the Township's decision. A copy of this letter was provided to the Township for their information and records.

2. Pohatcong Valley Groundwater Contamination (OU2) Potable Water Main Extension Project

- Please refer to Engineers report dated June 1, 2018 for historical information relative to this project.
- Our office continues to coordinate with Arcadis regarding the project and the various issues associated with the pending start of construction in Franklin Township. Our office has provided review services associated with the Street Opening permit applications. Escrow monies were submitted by Rio Tinto to cover the fees generated by our office for our review work. Rio Tinto has hired Montana Construction as the General Contractor for the project. Montana Construction will be utilizing the American Legion Hall (adjacent to the Greenwich Municipal Bldg.) as their construction office.
- The process of issuing individual street opening permits has been completed. Our office had a meeting with Armando Vaguez, Project Manager for Montana Construction, to review the various aspects and requirements associated with the issuance of Street Opening Permits. Mr. Vaguez will be the primary contact person for Montana Construction for the project. Our office has released approvals to Montana Construction for the Street Opening Permits applications.
- The Township of Franklin has received a check in the amount of \$25,718.00 which represents the Application Fee to the Township associated with the Street opening permit applications. In addition, Rio Tinto has submitted an Escrow check to the Township which will be utilized by the Township for payments to our office in conjunction with our inspection work and general administration of the project for the Township of Franklin.
- A Pre-Construction meeting was held on April 5, 2018 at the American Legion building. Both myself and Committeeman Guth were present on behalf of the Township. There were many attendees present, consisting of representatives from Rio Tinto, Arcadis, Montana Construction, NJDOT, EPA, CH2M Hill, Warren County, Transcontinental Gas Pipeline, Franklin Township and Greenwich Township. The meeting was informative and clearly established that the project was getting very close to the start of construction.
- Overall Project Construction commenced the week of May 7th with the initial work being conducted on NJSH Rte. 57. Work in Greenwich Township commenced the week of May 21st. Work on Township Roads has been ongoing for over two months now (approx. since the beginning of Aug.). Water main installation has been completed within the Edison Lakes development and other misc. roadways (Thatcher Ave, Montana Rd, Cole Rd, Second St, etc). Please be advised that the road closure of Stewartsville Rd has been temporarily lifted, but the road will again be closed once work resumes on Stewartsville Rd. All required services (Police, Fire, EMS) and other agencies, including the School District, have been notified and have approved of the closure.
- It should be noted that the connection to the portion of the system (AQUA) in Greenwich Township has been made.
- Warren County still has not issued their permit for the work on Edison Rd (County Route 633) or for the two (2) stream crossings along Stewartsville Rd. I am unaware of when the permit(s) may be issued. This situation with the County not issuing a permit is impacting the project schedule as it has created the inability for the contractor to continue to work on the project. Our office had a recent discussion with the contractor, Montana, who indicated that should construction cease at the project in the near future, the contractor will not be returning until late Winter to early Spring 2019 when they would resume activity.
- Representative of the Township (Mayor DeAngelis, Committeeman Guth, Sonny Read and myself) attended a meeting on October 9, 2018 at the Arcadis field office. Also in attendance were representatives from Rio Tinto, Arcadis, Montana, and NJAWCo. The primary purpose of the meeting was to develop a solution for the air releases which are quite unsightly and clearly in need of modification.
- Our office previously received a revised detail for the air releases which now consists of a 3 in. diameter pipe approximately 2ft high which is

covered by a Fiberglass enclosure. The enclosure can either be tan or green in color. This feature seems to be a big improvement over the original design. The contractor is looking for direction from the Township, through our office, on approval of this air release design. We have been told that NJAWCo., will not agree to have these air releases removed in their entirety. We are also in the process of determining the flexibility of a horizontal shift (along the frontage of the impacted properties in question) to the location of the air releases.

- On January 28th I received a phone call from Nica Klaber, EPA, who was following up with me about our most recent letter, dated January 25, 2019, regarding the air releases and our request for clarification and additional information from the design engineer, John Tobia, PE, Jacobs. I believe that my phone conversation with Ms. Klaber will prove helpful towards a resolution of the air release issue. She seemed genuinely concerned that the Township was still objectionable to the latest proposal being offered by the OU2 reps.
- Very little work has been performed on the project during the month of January so there is not much to report on relative to the progress of the project on the whole. The majority of work during the months of March and April was conducted in Greenwich Township. Little work has occurred in Franklin Township since the resumption of construction for the project in February. The primary hold up remains the issuance of the road opening permit for Edison Rd (CR 633) along with the two culvert crossings along Stewartsville Rd. Our office has been coordinating with both the contractors and the County in an effort to bring this matter to closure by the issuance of the appropriate permits.
- A joint meeting was held at our office on April 16, 2019 between OU2 representatives (Arcadis & Rio Tinto) and Warren County representatives (County Administrator, Freeholder Sarnoski, and County Engineer). A detailed discussion took place regarding the outstanding permits and their respective status. It appears that the County may be issuing the permits for the 2 culvert crossings along Stewartsville Rd in the near future. Unfortunately, there appears to be a “stalemate” between the County and OU2 on the Edison work and associated permit. As of the date of this report, I am unaware of any resolution to this matter.
- I have recently contacted Nica Klaber regarding the need to resolve the long standing Air Release Valve (ARV) locations and final design configuration. A site inspection (walk-thru) is scheduled for June 11, 2019 between our office and the EPA reps. Dave Guth will be attending this meeting as well.
- A joint meeting between Warren County, New Jersey American Water Company and the EPA was held on May 20, 2019. The primary purpose of the meeting was to review all of the outstanding items/issues between the County and the OU2 reps in an effort to bring the various issues to closure and to allow the project to get “back on track”. I was not in attendance at the meeting but have spoken with representatives from both the EPA and the County subsequent to their meeting. It appears that all of the previously outstanding issues were resolved to the point where Arcadis will be supplying the County with revised plans with the intent that the County will be in a position to approve same allowing all the necessary permits to be issued. The time frame for construction to resume in Franklin Township was not relayed to me.
- The recent delays impacting work on the project in Franklin Township may soon be ending. It appears that the County and the OU2 project contractors have finally resolved their “differences”. There is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday August 7th which may result in permits being issued by the County and the resumption of work in Franklin Township.
- As previously reported, the ARV (Air Release Valve) modifications has been resolved. Upon resumption of work in Franklin Township, the contractors will be installing the new improved and modified ARV’s.
- Work in Franklin Township relative to the installation of the primary water main has recently been completed by virtue of the extensions within Stewartsville Rd. Beyond the ARV upgrades, the next milestone will be the service connections to the various properties.

- At this juncture and based upon the level of completion of work on the project, the anticipated construction completion date for the project is Spring 2020. This clearly impacts a number of issues within the Township including the resurfacing of Stewartville Road and our 2018 NJDOT Grant for same (see item #3 below).
- At the November 4, 2019 Committee meeting there was some discussion regarding the full width paving of the various impacted roadways. If the Township still wishes to pursue the full width paving, additional internal discussions will be required in order to determine our approach to this matter with Arcadis and Rio Tinto.
- Kevin Benbrook and I have discussed the roadway paving issue and have come up with a course of action. I am in the process of scheduling a meeting with Nica Klaber, EPA Rep., to discuss the matter further. She seems to be “on board” with our position relative to the roadways and, in particular, Stewartville Rd. We will continue to coord. with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Kevin Benbrook as we move forward.
- I will continue to keep the Committee apprised as the project moves forward.

3. 2018 NJDOT State Aid Program (No change since last Report):

- Our office and the Township recently received a letter, dated July 25, 2017, from the NJDOT announcing the start of the 2018 Program. As we have discussed many times over the past years, the Municipal Aid Program has been very beneficial to Franklin Township with over a million dollars being awarded over the past years. Since we did not receive a grant through the 2017 Program, I am sure that the Township intends to file at least one application through the 2018 Program. As you recall, last year’s application was for Stewartville Road and I will assume that we will resubmit this Road again. We should consider potentially adding a second applicant should a good candidate be selected. The applications are required to be submitted (via SAGE) on or before October 6, 2017. The Committee authorized our office to proceed with the development of an application for Stewartville Road at the August 7th, 2017 Committee Meeting.
- Our office has been developing the application and it is close to being in a position for submittal to the NJDOT via SAGE. As previously discussed, the Township must adopt a Resolution for the submittal and execution of a Grant Agreement with the NJDOT, as part of the application submittal process. Resolution # 2017-62 for Stewartville Road was approved at the September 11th, 2017, Meeting.
- Our office completed the application and it was submitted to the NJDOT, via SAGE, prior to the October 6th, 2017 deadline.
- I am pleased to report that the Township was awarded a grant through this program for the resurfacing of Stewartville Road in the amount of \$160,000. Please be advised that there could potentially be a shortfall between the actual costs and the grant amount. Our office estimated a total cost, including inspections and testing, of \$234,285. We requested \$198,000 and received \$160,000.
- This budget shortfall was discussed in detail at the March 5, 2018 Committee meeting. Based upon the fact that the Township will be getting ½ of the road paved through the Water Main Project, we inquired with the NJDOT regarding that fact and its potential impact on the Grant. As reported, our office will need to develop a Scope Modification to confirm the ability to have the DOT participate in only ½ of the roadway. We are presently working on same. We are confident that this will work out in the best interest of the Township. Our latest estimate, considering only paving half of the road, equates to a new estimate of approximately \$152,500.00 (incl. inspection & testing), which would be completely within the Grant allotment from the DOT, with no shortfall.
- Our office has been in contact with Montana Construction (the OU2 water main project contractor) in respect to the necessary coordination with Montana’s paving contractor in an effort to complete a full width overlay of the

entire length of Stewartsville Road. My discussions have been positive relative to their willingness to work with the Township in a collaborative way to achieve the goal of a full width overlay.

- The Township Committee previously authorized our office to begin the required field survey work and initiate the development of the Construction Plans for the project. Our office has completed the survey work for the project and are presently developing the base maps and continuing our work on the construction drawings. We anticipate completing the construction plans in the near future and then a submission will be made to the NJDOT for their approval.
- At the Aug. 6, 2108 Township Committee meeting, the Committee decided to delay the start and construction phase of the DOT Grant project until the completion of the OU2 Water Main Ext. Project(see report item #2 above) based upon the large amount of truck traffic impacting Stewartsville Rd. Our office will still need to coordinate this project with the paving phase of the OU2 Water Main project so that the entire Road (½ -OU2 and ½-DOT Grant) will be paved at the same time as discussed above. This will require our office to secure the DOT's approval of our Plans and Spec.'s to insure there would be no delay in being able to start the DOT funded portion of this Roadway paving operation.
- Since the OU2 project will not be completed until sometime in 2020, this will impact the use of these grant dollars as the paving of this roadway is directly related to the schedule and completion of the OU2 project. The grant requires the project to be awarded by Feb 2020 (2 years after notification of the grant from the NJDOT). The delays in the OU2 project have resulted in the Townships inability to complete the roadway resurfacing in that time frame. We have been in discussions with the NJDOT regarding how we best proceed under these circumstances. We believe that we have a good solution which will facilitate the completion of both of these two projects and eliminate any possibility of the NJDOT rescinding the grant.
- At the September 3rd TC meeting, I explained the fairly simple approach in awarding a contract through the Co-Op in 2019, but obviously not going forward with the work until the road is ready to be resurfaced which will be some time in 2020 (subsequent to the completion of the Watermain project). I believe that this will satisfy the NJDOT as a contract will be awarded before the deadline of February 21, 2020.
- Our office has prepared a draft resolution of award through the Co-Op for action by the Township Committee at their February 3rd Committee meeting. This will satisfy our grant responsibilities with the NJDOT. This resolution will be forwarded to Denise under separate cover.
- Please be advised that our office has recently forwarded all the required documents (plans, specs, certification, estimate) to the NJDOT for their review and approval.
- We will continue to keep the Committee apprised of the progress of the project.

4. 2019 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program (No Change since Last Month's report):

- Our office and the Township recently received a letter, dated July 24, 2018, from the NJDOT announcing the start of the 2019 Program. As we have discussed many times over the past years, the Municipal Aid Program has been very beneficial to Franklin Township with well over a million dollars being awarded over the past years. I am sure that the Township intends to file at least one application (we have submitted 2 in the past) through the 2019 Program. As you recall, last year's application was for Stewartsville Road where we were awarded a grant in the amount of \$160,000. We should consider developing an application for submittal. We can work with the DPW in determining the best applicant(s) to be submitted through the 2019 Program. The applications are required to be submitted (via SAGE) on or before October 8, 2018. The Committee authorized our office to proceed with the development of a 2019 application at the Sept. 4, 2018 Committee Meeting.

- We have discussed numerous candidates with the DPW for the 2019 application. In summary and conclusion, we all agreed that Montana Rd would be the best application for submission to the DOT through this program. Due to the amount of guiderail that would potentially be required, we will not be able to make application for the entire length of Montana Rd within Franklin Township as it would be cost prohibitive. We will be making an application for the “bottom” section of the roadway from Route 57 North to a point that is still being determined.
- Although there was an extension given by the NJDOT for the submittal of the 2019 application to October 18, 2018, our office made the submission via SAGE on October 5, 2018.
- We were recently notified via NJDOT letter, received April 1, 2019, that the Township was awarded a Grant in the amount of \$122,000 for Montana Rd, Section 1. At the May 6, 2019 Committee meeting, our office was authorized to begin the work associated with the development of construction plans for this project.
- We discussed the shortfall (DOT grant \$\$ vs. estimated cost) on the project at the February TC meeting. Our office has prepared an estimate for the project. We will circulate the estimate and discuss it further at the March TC meeting. Kathleen R., CFO, will need to advise both the TC and our office of the available municipal \$\$\$\$ in order to determine the scheduling for this project.
- We will keep the Committee apprised of the status of our work and the project moving forward.

5. Beidelman Road (Block 16, Lot 9) Major Subdivision: Mt. Laurel Settlement (No Change since Last Month's report):

- This project is a primary component of the Township's Mt. Laurel Settlement Agreement with FSHC. It consists of an 8 lot Major Subdivision with each lot being approximately 0.5 Ac. with direct road frontage along Beidelman Road. Each lot will contain a Single Family Dwelling with a driveway and a Septic System. Habitat for Humanity has previously expressed their interest in purchasing these lots from the Township to facilitate the construction of the homes. In order for the Township to be able to transfer/convey these lots to “Habitat” (or another entity), the lots need to be created as they currently are part of the mother parcel (B-16,L-9). The creation of these 8 new lots plus the large “remaining lands” lot will be developed via a Preliminary & Final Major Subdivision Application that will be submitted by the Township to the Township LUB. We will continue to move forward with this project as it is my understanding that timing is somewhat critical based upon the terms of the Settlement Agreement with FSHC. I will be providing the Committee members with a sketch of the proposed lot layout for their information.
- I distributed a plan to the Committee at the April 2, 2018 meeting. A number of Beidelman Road residents were in attendance at the meeting. At the May 2, 2018 LUB meeting, many residents were in attendance regarding this matter. There has been communication between township professionals regarding the manner in which to “perfect” the subdivision and create the new lots. This procedure will be finalized soon and a courtesy presentation of the Plan may occur at the June 6, 2018 LUB meeting. There is an additional question which will also need to be resolved very soon and that is the total number of lots to be created by the Township in conjunction with this subdivision. 8 new lots are currently shown on the Plan. Our Mt. Laurel Settlement agreement only requires 6 lots on this property and therefore, there may be a reduction in the Plan to only create 6 new lots and a remainder versus 8 new lots and a remainder.
- At the May 7, 2018 Committee Meeting, a number of interested residents were in attendance to discuss this project. It was explained about the need to create these lots for future low and moderate income dwelling units. It was also determined that the Township would only proceed with the creation of 6 new building lots. Discussion ensued regarding the need to perform preliminary soils testing in an effort to confirm the viability of each of the proposed lots for the design and future construction of a septic system. Our office has been moving forward with this investigation and is coordinating with the Township DPW

regarding excavation for the soil logs. The logs were originally scheduled to be dug on Friday May 25, 2018. Soils testing did proceed at the site on June 7, 2018. I am pleased to report that satisfactory results were obtained for each of the proposed 6 building lots.

- Our office completed the development of the Final Subdivision Plan which was sent to the Twp. the week of July 24, 2018. The Plan was presented to the Land Use Board as a “courtesy”/Informal presentation at the Aug. 8, 2018 LUB meeting. The application received a “positive” review from the Board. Some minor improvement comments were made by various Board members which will be incorporated into the “Final” Subdivision Plan prior to its recordation.
- This matter was discussed at the November 5, 2018 Committee meeting where Attorney Benbrook advised the Committee that the MOU has been signed and executed. At this point, our office will proceed to make the few minor plan changes that were agreed upon in an effort to have the lots in a position to be recorded so that they can be conveyed to Habitat.
- Our office recently revised the Subdivision Plan to incorporate various comments and recommendations made by both Habitat and the Land Use Board (as referenced above). The revised plan was recently circulated within the Township for final review and comment. No further changes were provided. Additionally, I believe that Attorney Benbrook has forward the revised plan to Habitat and it was also found acceptable. The Township is now in a position to record same and look to convey the first lot to Habitat. Our office provided the Township with final prints at the April 1, 2019 Committee meeting.
- Our office recently received a phone call from Nevitt Duveneck, on behalf of Habitat for Humanity, inquiring regarding the proposed building lots. I answered all of Nevitt’s questions and provided him with some supporting information (plans, soils testing, etc).
- Multiple additional discussions have occurred regarding the construction of the first home. I believe that Habitat maybe looking for the Township, via our office, to provide some level of services and support work. I am unaware of any specific requests, but will advise accordingly. Obviously, our office will not proceed with any work without securing the Townships approval for same.
- At the October 7, 2019 Committee meeting a presentation was given by Habitat for Humanity for the project. It appears that the first home may be started in the Spring 2020. Our office was authorized to provide Habitat with survey and plot plan information in conjunction with the pending construction of the first home. Habitat indicated that they will be proceeding with lots # 2 & 5 as the first two homes of the project.
- Our office has recently provided Habitat with survey information along with topography for the properties in question. Our office will continue to coordinate with Habitat as necessary.

6. 2020 NJDOT LOCAL AID APPLICATIONS:

- Our office and the Township received a letter, dated May 13, 2019, from the NJDOT announcing the start of the 2020 Program. As we have discussed many times over the past years, the Municipal Aid Program has been very beneficial to Franklin Township with hundreds of thousands of dollars being awarded over the past years.
- Applications were due to be submitted by July 19, 2019. We received your authorization to proceed and we have collectively decided that we feel the best application for submittal through the 2020 program would be Montana Road, Section 2.
- Our office has electronically filed grant application Montana Road, Section 2 prior to the July 19, 2019 deadline. The amount requested was \$175,000 which covers construction costs, construction inspection and pavement coring.
- Authorizing Resolutions for each application were previously forwarded to Denise. The Township Committee adopted the Resolution at the August 5,

2019 Committee meeting. Our office submitted the Resolution to the NJDOT in conjunction with our grant application.

- I am pleased to report that notification has just been provided that Franklin Township received a grant for the Montana Rd Section 2 resurfacing project in the amount of \$130K. Based upon receipt of the second round of grant monies towards Montana Rd, the Township now has been allotted \$252K for the Montana Rd resurfacing project. These projects will need to be separated from an administrative standpoint but should be done concurrently as one large construction project.
- We discussed the shortfall (DOT grant \$\$ vs. estimated cost) on the project at the February TC meeting. Our office has prepared an estimate for the project. We will circulate the estimate and discuss it further at the March TC meeting. Kathleen R., CFO, will need to advise both the TC and our office of the available municipal \$\$\$\$ in order to determine the scheduling for this project.

Estimates for paving and striping were provided by Engineer Finelli as to Montana Road, Section 1 and Montana Road, Section 2. Further discussion to ensue at the Workshop meeting to be held on Monday, March 9th. CFO informed that there is plenty of money available to do all in one shot.

Mr. Guth informed that an upgrade to boxes on Edison Lake is needed due to new stormwater requirements. Inlets are old and deteriorating, labor intensive. Price for a new box is \$200 a piece, 56 need replacing.

Attorney Report – Report on file as submitted

Attorney briefed the committee as to Pro Champs, a company that assists registering vacant or foreclosed properties is still being addressed. We will need the Ordinance in place first to entertain. Our joint court with Knowlton Township is dissolving at the end of the year, the latest we need to have something in place in June or July. Deeds have been recorded for Affordable Housing on Beidleman Road. Hopeful a meeting will be set with ISE before April. No new developments as to the DPW “frozen” Tractor Supply Account, Attorney Benbrook will reach out to their new lawyer hoping to rectify.

Jim Onembo – Code Enforcement/Zoning- Absent

Fire Department/OEM – Raymond Read

Chief informed there were 169 calls this past month. One of the ambulances caught fire and is permanently down. Further discussion to ensue at our workshop meeting this Monday as to options to replace.

Franklin Township Community Center – Eddy Patient- not report

DPW REPORT – Ron Read – Report submitted and on file

A discussion ensued as to the John Deere Tractor and the purchase of an extended warranty before existing warranty runs out. Forman Read will look into getting numbers.

Franklin Township Youth Association – No one present

Township Committee Reports:

Mike Ferri

Mr. Ferri informed that the municipal building lighting upgrade is 2/3 complete. The outside pole lights are the only things pending.

Quotes were obtained to replace the municipal building front doors and back door by meeting room, as well as doors in the community center. Discussion to ensue at the workshop meeting Monday night as to the best way to purchase. Will go over door quotes with the CFO and the platform quotes prior to the workshop meeting.

Mike Toretta

Mr. Toretta suggested to prioritize the ambulance purchase.

David Guth

Mr. Guth will reach for an additional quote for tub grinding the brush pile behind the DPW Garage.

Jeff DeAngelis, Mayor

Mayor touched base on heating/air conditioning quotes received for the community center so far. Will seek additional quotes for the next regular township meeting. A letter was received from a resident in reference to 2191 Rt. 57 under construction. Construction debris blowing onto her property, home is a mess. Ray Stoeber of the DCA is looking into this matter. Ms. Jacob is inquiring if the township can step in to do anything else to move this process along. Attorney Benbrook will confer with Mr. Onembo on this matter. Lastly, a discussion as to the enforcement of Engine Braking in the township even if posted. County will not enforce any sort of engine braking signage on county roads as a safety issue and will remove signs from their roads and the NJDOT will not recognize our adopted ordinance.

Rich Herzer – nothing further to report.

Beth Barry – Open Space

Ms. Barry would like to reach out to perspective farms for preservation. This will help those interested via a post card, how to approach them. Cost is minimal for the preparation of the cards and postage through The Land Conservancy, which is an hourly rate.

On motion by Rich Herzer and seconded by Mike Toretta to have The Land Conservancy prepare an Outreach letter accordingly.

Roll Call:	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Michael Toretta	X		
Rich Herzer	X		
David Guth	X		
Mike Ferri	X		
Mayor, Jeff DeAngelis		X (4)	Yes (1) No (0) Absent Motion carried

Attorney Benbrook will look into when we can expect the solar panels to be installed on the municipal building.

Engineer Finelli will contact Roger Woolf to discuss property markings and the Habitat Homes being built on Beidleman Road and the field he farms.

**At this time, the floor was opened for Public Session.
OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Rick Feister - A discussion ensued as to the maintenance of the detention ponds, sinkholes and catch basins in the Copperfields Development. Apparently the drains are sinking and there is drainage issues. The homeowners association of Copperfields will have this assessed by professionals and coordinate a visual inspection.

At this time the floor was closed to Public Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED, on this 2nd day of March, 2020, by the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-1, that the Township Committee shall discuss the following matter in executive session

Potential Litigation-Stewartsville Road

It is not possible at this time for the Township Committee to determine when and under what circumstances the item which is to be discussed in executive session can be publicly disclosed.

THEREFORE, be it resolved on this 2nd, day of March, 2020 by the Franklin Township Committee, that the matter stated will be discussed in executive session, said session to commence at 8:28 pm.

On Motion by David Guth and seconded by Mike Ferri to exit to executive session at 8:28 p.m. Unanimous Vote.

On motion by Mike Ferri and seconded Mike Toretta to return to the regular session at 8:46 p.m. Unanimous Vote.

A brief Executive Session ensued, per Attorney Benbrook, how to approach the EPA and Contractors on the OU2 Project and the toll it has taken on a variety of our roads. Engineer to send a letter, if this doesn't work, we will address further.

MOTION FOR PAYMENT OF BILL LIST:

On motion by Mike Ferri and seconded by Rich Herzer, hearing no objection, to pay the bills from the bill list provided by the Chief Financial Officer.

Roll Call:	Yes	No	Absent/Abstained
Michael Toretta	X		
Rich Herzer	X		
David Guth	X		
Mike Ferri	X		
Mayor, Jeff DeAngelis	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent Motion carried

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:

On motion by Mike Toretta and seconded by Mike Ferri, hearing no objection, meeting stands adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Roll Call:	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained
Michael Toretta	X			
Rich Herzer	X			
David Guth	X			
Mike Ferri	X			
Mayor, Jeff DeAngelis	X	(5) Yes	(0) No (0) Absent	Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Denise L. Becton
Municipal Clerk