

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORKSHOP
May 8, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Supervisors Larry Lambert, Gary Brown, Naomi Decker and John Shambaugh. Also present was Secretary Nancy Zentmeyer. Visitors are on the attached sign-in sheet.

OFFICIAL MAP

Chairman Lambert stated that he would like to discuss the pros and cons of the Official Map. It was indicated that trails would be taken off and the map would not be used for that. Supervisor Decker stated in zoning there was discussion regarding cluster developments and land for open space. Mr. Bob Eichelberger, at last night's Planning Commission meeting presented to the members a conservation change. It was noted that this would need Board approval first before going with this concept. Supervisor Shambaugh stated that adopting an Official Map the only thing it would be used for is Route 15. Supervisor Decker stated at a prior workshop on zoning it allowed 2-acre lots but then was changed to 4-acre lots. Supervisor Shambaugh noted that there is a process to adopt the map and is the same process if the Township wanted to change the map. Chairman Lambert noted that the Township needs to get on the timetable which should have been done years ago. The Township has inadequate access onto Route 15. Supervisor Decker noted that she had attended a class on the Official Map and that only 30 out of 3,000 municipalities have adopted the Official Map. Conservation subdivision design is what Mr. Eichelberger proposed to the Planning Commission which is similar to cluster development but with a different design. There are limits what you can do with a 4-acre minimum and to have green space. Supervisor Decker stated that an Official Map is not needed to proceed with the Route 15 Study. Chairman Lambert noted that is the opinion of Supervisor Decker. Supervisor Decker noted that there are a lot of votes that go 4 to 1 and that worries her. Supervisor Brown indicated that there are things that can be eliminated on the Official Map and that each item is its own ordinance and can be approved one at a time. Chairman Lambert stated that the Official Map would be for Route 15 and that this is a serious need and would help preserve the land to get access onto Route 15. Supervisor Brown noted that it could include widening of Route 15. Supervisor Decker again stated that the Official Map is not needed to do the Route 15 Study. Part of the zoning is to restrict certain areas without an Official Map and that this is just a front for other things.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Supervisor Decker noted that she had received a letter from Laurin Fleming stating that Eugene Hershey is doing a playground area that is 50' x 50' as part of his Eagle Scout project and is requesting from the Township the use of the mulch pile at Ponderosa Park. Mr. Hershey needs 92 yards for the project with 11 yards that he already has. 81 yards of mulch is still needed. Supervisor Brown asked if this was in a particular development or outside of the Township. Chairman Lambert also suggested that the Township know where the mulch will be used. There was discussion that this mulch is from the tree service that goes around the Township trimming trees and that there is also brush from along the roads and it may contain poison. At this point the Secretary telephoned Mr. Fleming to get the details of the use of this mulch. Supervisor Shambaugh indicated that the mulch is not available for its residents that he is not in favor of the mulch leaving the Township. It was noted

that the mulch would be used for the playground equipment at the rear of Calvary United Methodist Church on Mumper Lane. It was noted that special mulch is needed around playground equipment and that this mulch has no real use for the Township. Supervisor Shambaugh noted that if this mulch is given for this project it should be made available to all the Township residents. Chairman Lambert suggested that at this point the request be turned down until such time an announcement can be made to the public. It was suggested that some of the mulch could be used as the base.

Motion: Supervisor Brown made a motion to deny the request and to explain the reasons behind it. **Seconded** by Chairman Lambert. The motion carried unanimously.

PONDEROSA PARK

At this time Chairman Lambert entered into discussion regarding Ponderosa Park. It was noted that the Township was turned down by DCNR for a time extension on the grant and that funding will have to be found elsewhere. The next grant will not be until the spring of 2008. The Township did have 30-days to resubmit the grant and it was not done. It was noted that Melham would have to re-do the playground. Currently the Township road crew is doing the work of installing the playground equipment which was from a previously approved grant in the amount of \$40,000.00. The final approval of the placement of the playground equipment is where it was originally planned and as directed by a letter from Trevor Zahniser from Melham Associates. A grading plan is needed to be done by a certified engineer on the remainder of the park. Supervisor Decker stated that the master plan is not what the Park & Recreation Board planned and that it is too crowded with the 3 fields. It was felt that it should be reduced to 2 fields and needs additional parking. Supervisor Decker indicated that the soccer club had talked about a multi-purpose field. It was also noted that parking is needed at the other end of the park and the parking along Water Street should be eliminated. The bid awarded to Ann Yost, YSM, for the Conceptual Plan was done in 2004. Chairman Lambert stated that Melham came up with the master plan which could have been approved with only minor changes. Supervisor Decker indicated that the plan needs more than minor changes. Between fields 2 and 3 there is a drop off of 10' – 20'. Supervisor Decker noted the improvements that have been made to Ponderosa Park so far, such as reconstruction of the garage and kitchen, cleared land, the parking lot, fixed the well water, painted buildings etc. Supervisor Brown stated that not everything can be done at once especially without a grant but the Township can use the plan to start some of the projects. Supervisor Decker noted that Carroll Township is now doing a U8 soccer field and one may not be needed in Franklin Township. Some of the projects needed in Ponderosa Park is a multi-purpose field, upper area use for parking, have only 2 fields, and a walking bridge for seniors. There was discussion on what the cost would be to re-do the master plan and it was suggested that the Township keep the plan and use some of the items on it. Supervisor Decker indicated that the soccer club is still willing to help pay for the fields. Supervisor Decker indicated that she will be going back to Manchester and possibly West Manchester Townships to discuss the use of their multi-purpose fields and to ask what teams or sports use the fields and also the time of year. There was also discussion on the severe slope where the upper fields are proposed along South Mountain Road. Supervisor Decker stated that the Township had committed to \$50,000.00 if the Township got the grant. She also noted that there are things required to do to meet the specifications of a grant. It was asked what other areas have been explored. Supervisor Decker stated that people have contributed equipment and donation of time to help. It was noted that there is someone interested in helping to build a new restroom. It was suggested that the Township explore grants at County level. With grants from DCED there are a lot of strings attached and are more restrictive. Supervisor Decker indicated that they are moving forward. Supervisor Decker stated that it would cost twice as much to fix mistakes instead of doing it right the first time. Chairman Lambert noted that the Park & Recreation Board just talks but no decisions are made. The Township has these 21-acres of park for 6 years and it still is mostly the same as when

they bought it. Supervisor Decker again stated that she will be going to York and check on some parks on how they operate and the use of a multi-purpose field along with the cost.

Supervisor Shambaugh agreed with Supervisor Brown to use the master plan to move forward, do the softball field and put money in the budget to get it laid out similar to the master plan and then go out for bid. Supervisor Brown suggested that the Township move forward on the new restrooms. Supervisor Shambaugh suggested putting in a ball field first and then if the multi-purpose field can be put in then do it. Supervisor Shambaugh left the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Chairman Lambert suggested trying to get monies and the \$50,000.00 that was attached with the grant to go ahead and use for Ponderosa Park and to also try and get help from others. Chairman Lambert asked if anyone had any other questions or comments. Supervisor Brown indicated that Comcast does volunteer work in the communities that have their cable service and suggested that they be contacted to see if they would be interested. This type of work is usually done in April.

Supervisor Decker noted that the path for seniors will be done and the stone used in this project will be more costly. The path will be 1,300' and the stone will be over \$2,000.00 in cost. Also the path grade needs to be checked to make sure it is not too steep. Chairman Lambert stated they should spend the money in the Park & Recreation budget and get the stone through the bid. Supervisor Decker noted that we need to know what to do with the upper layout.

After discussion the following list was made for Supervisor Decker regarding Ponderosa Park:

1. go to York and get information on multi-purpose fields
2. working on paths – Ron Gingrich has it staked out. Terry Dougherty to cut the path with a Bobcat, plastic down first and then stone laid in the wooded area
3. currently working on playground equipment, get estimate on timeline of completion. DCNR sign advertising the funding of the project
4. cost on grading and get a grading plan
5. bridge – do not disturb stream, go out beyond stream to set frame work – part of the senior path

It was noted that the stones do not need Board approval.

Chairman Lambert stated that one objective is to have ball fields completed in Spring of 2008. It was noted that if a Lacrosse field is done it will need a fence and it should be done at their cost. Chairman Lambert noted one concern is that we can proceed with the plan without re-writing it. Supervisor Brown noted that we could revise the plan with minor modifications.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Zentmeyer
Township Secretary

