

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP YORK COUNTY PA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
November 18, 2020 6:30 PM**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Chairman Mark Wenrich	Secretary Kerri Smith
Vice Chairman David Buckwash	Solicitor Bret Shaffer
Supervisor Naomi Decker	Engineer Phillip Brath
Supervisor Brian Galbraith	
Supervisor David Christensen	

ABSENT: Treasurer/Asst. Sec. Pamela Williams

Call to Order

The Special Meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Chairman Mark Wenrich. The meeting was held via Zoom and at 150 Century Lane, Dillsburg, PA. Visitors in attendance are listed on the meeting sign-in sheet.

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer

The Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer were led by Chairman Wenrich.

Public Comment

The BOS allowed the Miller family the opportunity to speak first and then allowed other public comment from other residents in person and on the Zoom call (Marlene Stiffler, Kenneth and Patricia Lance, Rex Bickley and Kathleen Meckley) regarding the Water Street Bridge condition and how it adversely affects them and their families.

Mrs. Anne Miller, Leslie Miller, and Sarah Coulson each stood and passionately spoke of the history of the farm and land that their family has owned for many years in Franklin Township to include the properties on Water Street. They continued to state that they are preservationists and good neighbors. They voiced their concern over the preservation of the Open Space. Further discussion was held on the Water Street Bridge and the present day condition of the bridge and the road on their property, how the Township closed Water Street due to the poor condition of the bridge, and their unhappiness with the how the entire situation came about and how it presently remains. The Miller family were also represented by their attorney, Brian Nagle of MacElree Harvey, Ltd. and Engineer, Glenn Rowe of Kittleson & Associates. Engineer Rowe presented a report he had prepared with his findings on the Water Street Bridge and briefly spoke regarding his findings, the money being spent to correct the condition of the bridge, the need for a construction easement, and flooding that could occur from the current condition of the bridge. A copy of the report and pictures of the bridge in its current condition were presented to the BOS, Solicitor Bret Shaffer and Engineer Phil Brath for review and comment.

Attorney Nagle introduced himself and then spoke on behalf of the Miller family. Attorney Nagle reiterated the information previously provided by the Miller family as well as Engineer Rowe. Attorney Nagle discussed the legalities and expense that would be involved if the Township went forward with the repair of the bridge and in keeping Water Street a Township road. He repeated the unsafe conditions of the bridge, the expenses that the Township would incur, and stated that the Miller family would like to discuss this further to try to reach an agreement with the Township to put this matter to rest. Several questions were asked by the BOS and discussion ensued with the Miller family, Engineer Rowe, and Attorney Nagle.

The following residents, Marlene Stiffler, Kenneth and Patricia Lance, Rex Bickley and Kathleen Meckley (in person or on the Zoom call) spoke regarding the Water Street closure and how it adversely affects them and their families. Several questions were asked by the BOS and discussion ensued with the BOS, the residents, and the Miller family. The discussion became very heated a couple of times that Chairman Wenrich and Solicitor Shaffer had to regain order in the room. Supervisor Galbraith addressed Leslie Miller regarding possible alternatives to road closure, but none seemed to really seem plausible to the Miller family.

Chairman Wenrich further stated that an executive session would be held, that no decision would be made during that executive session and that the matter would be addressed at the December 9, 2020, BOS Regular Meeting. He thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting and for their interest in the matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Wenrich announced that an Executive Session was held from 7:54 to 8:57 pm to discuss the Water Street Bridge. No action was taken.

A motion was made by Chairman Mark Wenrich to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 PM.

Second Vice Chairman David Buckwash

Discussion: None

The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri J. Smith

Kerri J. Smith, Secretary