

**Freedom Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
June 12, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

Board of Supervisors

Matt Young, Chairperson
Paul Kellett, Vice-Chairperson
Brett Johnston

Township Officials

Zach Gulden, Manager
Linus Fenicle, Solicitor

Members of the Public Present

Don Boehs, Mary Buchheit, Ed Buchheit, Jim Geleta & Dan Ohler.

Call to Order

Chair Young called the Board of Supervisor's Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve the Minutes of the May 8, 2024, regular meeting. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

Monthly Expenses

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve the bills in the amount of \$30,732.87 from the General Fund and \$685.44 from the Highway Aid Fund. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

Manager & Road Reports

Mr. Gulden read the Manager's report. The Manager completed the following tasks in May:

- Miscellaneous phone calls / emails / website updates.
- Submitted the monthly solar meter reading.
- Monthly reconciliation of all accounts.
- Monthly payroll taxes and reports.
- 1x bank deposit.
- May 8th Supervisor meeting minutes.

- Followed-up with Mr. Hobbs on updated stormwater management plan for new barn. Still deficient with County requirements.
- Updated volunteer service tax credit applications based on ordinance amendment.
- Mailed out thank you letters to all park donors so far.
- Started processing subdivision submission.
- Completed a zoning review of the proposed subdivision and created a review memo.
- Started talking to the 2015 comprehensive plan municipalities regarding update of the plan in 2025 for budgeting purposes.
- Applied for a PennDOT business partner ID, created resolution, and filled out agreement, which is needed for driveway permit application.
- Reached out to 5x property owners regarding expired zoning permits for various projects and sought updates.
- 1x zoning permit exemption form (fence).
- 3x zoning permits (permit extensions).
- 1x right-to-know request. Purchasing records from 10/31/23 to present.

Mr. Gulden read the road report. The Department of Public Works’ completed the following tasks in May:

- Mowing, brush cutting, weed trimming, trash pick-up and clearing of fallen trees and limbs along roadways.
- Mowing, trimming, and clearing of Township lot.
- Marked a culvert on McGlaughlin Road so Liberty Township could saw through the blacktop for a culvert pipe replacement. I asked them to do this for us while they had the saw rented. They said they could replace the pipe for us in the near future.
- Lobar came to replace the overhead door track with low headroom track so now it can be opened manually.
- Picked up supplies from NAPA, misc. maintenance and shop work.
- Return PA 1 calls.

Public Works Employee	Hours Worked
Mike Wenschhof	150
Brett Johnston	1

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve May’s Road Report as submitted. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Chair Young. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

EMS, Fire, & Police Reports

Adams Regional Emergency Medical Service (AREMS) had 2 calls in Freedom Township in the month of April and 3 calls in May 2024.

Mr. Ohler read the fire report. Greenmount Fire Department had 6 calls in the month of May:

- 3 residential fires.
- 2 automatic fire alarms.
- 1 fluid spill/request for fire police.

Of those calls: 3 were in Cumberland Township, 2 in Frederick County, MD, and 1 in Hamiltonban Township.

Liberty Township Police Chief Don Boehs read the April & May police reports:

April

- Hours Worked = 35
- 911 Incidents = 2
- Traffic Citations = 2
- Warnings = 4
- PSP Calls = 5

May

- Hours Worked = 31 (4 hours on June 1)
- 911 Incidents = 1
- Traffic Citations = 0
- Warnings = 4
- PSP Calls = 0

Selective Speed Enforcement = Boyle, Emmitsburg, & Bullfrog Roads.

Body camera footage over 60-days has been deleted.

Old Business

A. Open bids and consider approval of Boyle Road project.

No bids were received.

Mr. Gulden stated that it was found that there were numerous errors within the bidding documents; therefore, the projects will need to be rebid. The Township's PennDOT representative will correct and resubmit the bidding documents for advertisement.

Chair Young made a **MOTION** to readvertise the corrected Boyle Road project due to administrative errors. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

New Business

A. Consider joining the southwest Adams County municipalities' (Liberty, Highland, & Hamiltonban Townships & Fairfield & Carroll Valley Boroughs) request to the Adams County Planning Department to begin updating our comprehensive plan in 2025.

Mr. Gulden stated that the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Code requires municipalities "review" its comprehensive plan every 10 years, and our 10th year is 2025. He has been in discussion with the other southwest Adams County municipalities, and there is a consensus to start this process next year if the Adams County Planning Department assists in this endeavor. If approved, we would send a letter to the County requesting help starting in 2025 and determine a timeline and budget. It will come back to the board for approval before starting the project.

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to join the southwest Adams County municipalities request to the Adams County Planning Department to begin updating our comprehensive plan in 2025 and ask for a proposed timeline and budget before moving forward. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Chair Young. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

B. Consider approval of Resolution 2024-03, disposition of public records for 2012 & 2013.

Mr. Gulden stated that this resolution is needed to dispose of the public records stated within the resolution for 2012 and 2013. The Township has done this in the past for all records prior to 2012.

Mr. Geleta asked whether this resolution was necessary. Vice-Chair Kellett stated that yes it was necessary due to Pennsylvania's municipal record's retention law.

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve Resolution 2024-03. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

C. Consider approval of Resolution 2024-04, providing an increase in elected auditor compensation from \$10.00 to \$18.00 per hour.

Mr. Gulden stated that the governor just signed Act 10 of 2024 into law, which allows Second Class Townships to increase their elected auditor compensation from \$10.00 to \$18.00 per hour once the auditor's new term starts. This rate has not increased since August 1999. Since the Township's elected auditors currently only set the rate of working road supervisors, and only work one hour per year, this will cost the Township an additional \$24.00 per year. Each auditor typically donates their salaries to the Greenmount Community Fire Department.

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve Resolution 2024-04. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

D. Consider approval of Resolution 2024-05, registration with PennDOT's Engineering and Construction Management System, authorizing the Chairperson & Manager as signatories, & agreement.

Mr. Gulden stated that the Township is currently working with KPI Technology and PennDOT to get approval to place stormwater infrastructure within the state's right-of-way for the garage addition and park projects. During this process, PennDOT noticed that the Township never applied for a driveway permit in the 90's when the municipal building was built; therefore, we must apply for a driveway permit now before they approve the right-of-way permit. The last step in this permitting process is to register with PennDOT's Engineering and Construction Management System.

Vice-Chair Kellett made a **MOTION** to approve Resolution 2024-05. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

E. Discussion of the Cumberland County Planning Department Solar Energy Systems' (Solar Farms) model ordinance.

Mr. Gulden stated that a lot of Pennsylvania municipalities are in the process of updating their solar farm ordinances due to high construction demand. He recommends updating the Township's solar zoning ordinance. PSATS provides a few sample ordinances, and after review, Mr. Gulden recommends the Cumberland County Planning Department's model ordinance.

The Board agreed that it should review and update its solar ordinance; however, they would like two more model ordinances to review before sending a recommendation to the Township's Planning Commission. Mr. Gulden stated he will find a few more model ordinances through PSATS.

Chair Young made a **MOTION** to table the matter and commit the Township to review its solar farm zoning ordinance regulations. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Vice-Chair Kellett. The motion carried unanimously (3-0).

Other Business

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Young made a **MOTION** to adjourn. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Vice-Chair Kellett. Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 7:32 P.M.