

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, June 25, 2019
Regular Meeting Minutes

At 7:00pm Chairwoman Ann Hanna called the meeting to order. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved by a motion made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

After the call to order, NOPEC Outreach Coordinator, Kaitlin Albright, presented a certificate of recognition to Fiscal Officer, Lisé Russell, for work done on behalf of Franklin Township with NOPEC in striving for green energy, community outreach, and cooperation with grant writing guidelines adherence. Ms. Russell thanked the board and all in attendance for their continued support and the work done by all township employees, both elected and hired.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Lt. Witkoski – PCSO – gave a brief report on activity in the township over the last few weeks, listing citations, arrests, answered calls and patrols. A resident in the audience, Pauline Thornton – 2471 Brady Lake Rd – expressed her concerns to the board and to Lt. Witkoski about increased unauthorized ATV and dirt bike noise and traffic in the area of her property. She asked that patrols and enforcement be increased. She is also concerned about speeding in the area.
- Valerie May – 1477 Friendsville Road, Burbank, OH 44214 – addressed trustees to clarify her intent behind a C2 liquor license transfer request. She desires to sell wine online from a residence located at 7748 Diagonal in Kent and have orders picked up at the location one evening per week, approximate hours of operation would be 4-8pm on Fridays. Trustees asked if she had spoken to any of the neighbors of that area and she replied no. Several other residents at the meeting had questions about whether or not alcohol could be sampled on site – no; expressed concerns about a retail operation, though small, operating in the midst of a residential neighborhood; and what type of alcohol being distributed – wine only. (Bill Russell – 1360 Ravenna Road and Tom Clapper – 5699 Powdermill). David Quist, owner of the Diagonal Road location referred all questions to Ms. May. This location is not her primary residence. It was suggested to Ms. May that she possibly seek a home based business permit from the Board of Zoning Appeals and that she contact the division liquor control to request an extension of time for the transfer approval to allow information to be gathered. The board unanimously agreed that the division of liquor control be notified by Mr. Penix that the township has no reply at this time regarding a hearing request for the transfer.
- Stacia Kaschak – 813 Gemberling – expressed continued frustration and concern about the grading, water retention, and weed issue she is having at the edge of their property where it meets Hudson Road since it was repaved five years ago. The slope was significantly changed and is now untreatable by their lawn care company and not mowable. Sewage is also backing up there and the county sewer line keeps breaking (four times in five years) Ann Hanna stated that rain has impacted the township's ability to mow trim the entire township. Keith Benjamin stated that the goal is to mow monthly and they will do their best to stick to that, weather permitting. Scott Swan suggested the alternative of a mass planting of some kind, like lilies a ground cover that would replace the weeds. Ms. Kaschak asked who would pay for that or have the time to plant it. The road crew will take a look again and Ms. Kaschak will be in touch with the county regarding the sewer line. Jill Grimm – 1509 Merrill Ave. – suggested Ms. Kaschak call Jim Berlier at the Portage County Soil and Water department for assistance in the matter as well.
- Tom Clapper – 5600 Powdermill – reiterated concerns previously brought to the board about proactively seeking input of area residents where the old KSU golf course existed. He would like to see the township request community input and ideas for bike lanes, sidewalks, railroad buffers, traffic flow, etc. to submit to future developers.
- Hal Lehman – 2218 Leonard St. – asked that zoning inspector Sam Abell revisit a junkyard situation growing at 6426 Lakeview. He also stated that there are ATV and dirt bike issues in his area as well.

- Lori Cathcart – 2500 St. Rt. 59 (Great clips) requested permission to put up signs advertising for a promotion. Permission given for ten signs to be out for five days.
- Charlie Ramer – NOPEC representative addressed the board with a reminder that the township has \$25,794 in grant money to spend in the coming months. Additionally, there is a \$1500 community outreach grant available to the township to either host or sponsor another community event, free admission, in the township. Lisé Russell suggested the Kent Lion’s Club for their upcoming event the Sweet Corn Festival. Scott Swan was going to make the same suggestion. The board unanimously agreed.

ZONIG REPORT

Submitted as written by Sam Abell and is attached to the official record. Additionally, Resolution 2017-18 authorizing time to mow at 2355 Brady Lake Road was approved by a motion made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes. Resolution 2019-19 authorizing time to mow at the Garrett property on Crescent Lane was approved by a motion made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

FIRE REPORT

Submitted as written by Tim Benner and is attached to the official record.

ROAD REPORT

Submitted by Keith Benjamin and read aloud for all in attendance. Additionally he did address chipping concerns with some area residents placing unauthorized tree trimmings and such out for free pickup.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Mr. Penix will draft a letter supporting Mr. Raymond Beck’s request to vacate paper roads adjacent to the property he owns on St. Rt. 50 near Cox Road.
2. Deckmaster was given the job of repairing the township boardwalk at Chase Park at a quoted price of \$2500 by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes.
3. Authorization to proceed with having an historical plaque marker placed on township hall was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The hiring of Brian Langston as the new township road superintendent at a starting salary of \$63,000 annually was approved by a motion made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.
2. The July 9th, 2019 meeting was cancelled by a motion made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.
3. The purchase of a Kobelco mini excavator with accompanying trailer and ditching buckets ((\$approx \$63,000) was approved by a motion made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

FINANCES

Payment of bills, warrants #24574 through 24614, including payment vouchers, totaling \$93,078.27 was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes.

At 9:03pm the meeting was adjourned by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chairwoman _____