

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, January 8, 2019
Regular Meeting Minutes

At 7:00pm Chairman Keith Benjamin called the meeting to order. Minutes from the December 8, 2018 meeting were approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes. Keith Benjamin nominated Ann Hanna to serve as Chair of the Board of trustees for the 2019 year; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes. Keith Benjamin moved to nominate Scott Swan as the Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees for the 2019 year; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ted Georger – 1308 Greenwood Ave. – (and 7398 Myrna) addressed the board about concerns regarding an ongoing flooding/drainage issue along Myrna/Greenwood and surround area. He stated that since township work performed in the area in 2016 that new problems have arisen and storm water is freely flowing onto neighborhood properties, specifically the modification of a Myrna Blvd. ditch and the removal of a catch basin on Myrna. Other residents in attendance, Kent Lillick – 7392 Myrna and Jake Whetstone – 7378 Whetstone spoke of their concerns about the situation as well. They all believe there are two separate issues to be addressed – one being the more immediate issue of detrimental changes since the 2016 township work done and the other being the larger scope problem and a possible solution. Mr. Benjamin replied to residents that the situation has been addressed for the past 15 or so years and referred to the study and recommendations put forth by the Portage County Engineer's office presented to the area residents years ago. There was not unanimous support for the work and expense that would have been incurred by all of the property owners at the time and as a result a band aid type approach to flooding issues has been taken by the township. After more discussion Mr. Benjamin assured residents he would contact Mickey Marozzi the next day and ask for a meeting with trustees and concerned residents to look for some more immediate relief and a long term solution as well. The board reiterated that the township does not have the authority to provide any work on privately owned property. Additionally, if and when a meeting with Mr. Marozzi is scheduled the township will notify Jill Grimm of the Twin Lakes Association so that she, in turn, will notify involved residents.
- Joe Ciccozzi – 200 Spell Road – asked Sgt. Scott Ulsenheimer if it would be possible to put some extra patrols in the area of the Judson Road railroad crossing where another accident occurred recently. Speeding there is a problem and has been the cause of several accidents.
- Sgt Scott Ulsenheimer of the PCSO reported that the holiday season was relatively quiet in the township as far as criminal activity goes.
- Jill Grimm – 1509 Merrill – asked the board for clarification of short term leasing guidelines for properties in the township – Airbnb type advertising. Sam Abell responded that he would be happy to sit down with her to make sure she has the information she needs to relay to residents.

ROAD REPORT UPDATE

- The road crew reported on jobs completed the last week and those tasks to be worked on the upcoming week. Additionally, Ann Hanna thanked the crew for their work in cleaning up and organizing the former village buildings. The new truck on order should arrive by the end of January.

FIRE REPORT

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

ZONING REPORT

Submitted as written by Sam Abell and is attached to the official record.

OLD BUSINESS

- The Portage County Solid Waste District is considering incremental increases of curbside recycling fees beginning this year. The township is considering the possible of an increase that will attach to theirs to help offset the rising costs of leaf pickup. A decision was tabled to allow further discussion.
- Road crew employees Lee Smith and Ben Mathie requested approval for pesticide certification training. Approval was given by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes.
- Resolution 2019-01 is a resolution establishing a credit card usage policy as per a new Ohio Revised Code requirement. The resolution was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes.
- The township fire inventory breakfast took place last weekend and all is in order. Mr. Benjamin made it a point to relay praise for Tim Benner by Chief H=John Tosko. The Kent Fire Department has great respect for Mr. Benner’s contributions to the township and support for the city.
- Ann Hanna reiterated that talks are in progress for improvements to the leaf pickup program for next year.
- Ann Hanna restated that the township has rescinded an offer made to HomeTown Bank to accept to village hall and fire station and old Police station as settlement for a debt that was incurred by the village in the form of an general obligation bond. There has been no further update since that time.

NEW BUSINESS

- Keith Benjamin introduced the topic of the future direction for township parks and what the board and residents would like to see done with them. Improvements? New uses? Also, the Phillips Park and Chase Park pavilions need repair work and painting and the Chase Park boardwalk needs repaired.

FINANCES

- Fiscal Officer reported that the 2018 fiscal year went well. Expenses did not exceed revenue received except for fire and ems contracted services.
- Payment of bills, warrants# 24376 through 24410, including payment vouchers, totaling \$36,825.25 was approved by a motion made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

At 8:33pm a motion to suspend regular session and enter executive session to discuss employee compensation was made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes. At 9:20pm the regular session was resumed by a motion made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes. At 9:21pm a motion to adjourn was made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chair _____