

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, February 28, 2023
Regular Meeting Minutes

At 7:00pm Vice Chairwoman Kellie Kapusta called the meeting to order. Glenn Russell and Lisé Russell were excused from the meeting due to illness.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Eric Lechlitter – 6772 Hudson Road – addressed the board seeking some clarification on Hudson Road Phase III modification with the addition of a bike lane on one side of the road. Mr. Akerley responded that currently the county engineer's office is looking at the west side of the road, but stated that phases IV and V are slated for bike lanes on both sides. He also requested that information on any anticipated attendances at public meetings by representatives from the engineer's office to speak about Hudson Road be shared with impacted residents and that it be posted to the website. The trustees support that request.
- Arden Sommers – 7598 Birkner – spoke on behalf of the Twin Lakes Association expressing gratitude to Mr. Akerley for attending an association meeting to relay information on road resurfacing plans and other road department related topics. Mr. Sommers also shared concerns about a new build on Sylvan Dr. that is not landscaped and has no silt fence. During rain, a good deal of mud and silt flow across the road and the buildup is depositing in a neighbor's yard. Mr. Ciccozzi will follow up.
- Hal Lehman – 2218 Leonard Blvd. – thanked the road crew for fixing several streetlights – he sees a big improvement with visibility. Also, he notified Mr. Akerley that a section of property at the lake where park benches sit is torn up from a van parked down there with people fishing. He then asked for a status update on the parking issues and speeding near the intersection of Leonard and Lakeview. Mr. Akerley responded that the county engineer's office stated that the use of guardrails, pylons, poles or other objects is not permitted, a 3-way stop at that intersection is not warranted, and the speed limit cannot be reduced. Mr. Akerley is looking into the possibility of flashing speed signs for that area.
- John Abraham – 1345 Mockingbird Dr. – spoke on behalf of the Beechwood Circle community about the deteriorating condition of Mockingbird Drive and other roads in that area. Mr. Swan responded that the trustees unanimously agreed last year to make road resurfacing a priority over the next few years and are aware that Mockingbird is in need of repair. To what extent has yet to be determined definitively but the road will be made safer than it is now this year.
- Ron Nichols – 1515 South Blvd. – shared concerns about a house on West Blvd. that has been abandoned for more than two years. Mr. Ciccozzi has issued citations there but will follow up. Also, Mr. Nichols asked that a ditch and drainage pipe be looked at on Ella Mr. Nichols then asked for some mulch to be used on a trail on South Blvd. and was told the road crew would bring some.

FIRE REPORT

Submitted as written by Richard Smith and is attached to the official record. Additionally, the recent fire inspection at town hall and the maintenance garage were discussed. The alarm panel at town hall needs redone, as it does not report outside of the building in an emergency. Alarms work inside the building and will notify people inside in case of fire but the panel does not call the fire department. A new panel will be installed.

ZONING REPORT

Submitted as written by Joe Ciccozzi and is attached to the official record. Additionally, a brief discussion was had regarding the scheduling of appointments for office hour visits from the public. This topic will be added to the next agenda.

ROAD REPORT

Submitted as written by Dave Akerley and is attached to the official record. The 2023 brush/chipping schedule was discussed. Increasingly large piles of brush have been appearing over the last few years in some residents’ yards and the amount of time spent chipping by our road department has prevented them from addressing other township priorities such as road and storm water management, mowing, cracksealing, line striping, etc. Mr. Akerley proposed that the chipping schedule provide for chipping every other month beginning in April and ending in October. All three trustees have expressed support for this. A motion was made by Scott Swan to establish a schedule this year for every other month from April to October, with a provision to provide heavy storm cleanup year-round; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. Both trustees voted yes. The information will be posted on the township website.

OLD BUSINESS

After discussion of alarm proposals and a recommendation from Mr. Smith and Ms. August, discontinuing our business relationship with Gilmore Security and moving forward with Detect was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. Both trustees voted yes.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Swan received communication from resident Deb Barber at 7531 Diagonal about speeding concerns in her area and she is requesting the township to look into a traffic study to possibly change the speed limit. Mr. Swan will contact the PC Sheriff’s office and the PC Engineer’s office as well to inquire.

FINANCES

- RESOLUTION 2023-13 is a resolution to proceed in putting the Road and Bridge 2.0 mil renewal levy on the ballot this November and was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. Both trustees voted yes.
- Payment of bills, warrants #26020 through 26025, including payment vouchers and totaling \$2,345.41 was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. Both trustees voted yes.

When asked if there was anything for the good of the order prior to ending the meeting, Mr. Ciccozzi stated that he received notification from the county treasurer’s office that the property at 6407 Hillside will soon be going up for sheriff’s sale. At 7:58pm a motion to adjourn was made by Scott swan; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. Both trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chairman _____