

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, October 25, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes

At 7:00pm Chairman Scott Swan called the meeting to order. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved by a motion made by Kellie Kapusta; 2nd Glenn Russell. All three trustees voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mr. Bob Howard – 6318 Lakeview – addressed the board regarding his request to put up election related signs in support of the Portage County Health Department levy renewal on the November ballot. As president of the agency, he had requested signs to be placed at Franklin Township owned parks and in front of town hall. After discovering a prosecutor's office opinion stating that in other instances it would not be encouraged to place partisan signs on township owned properties he rescinded his request but left some yard signs for anyone interested in placing them in their own yards. He did provide some information on the levy, which originated in 2013, was renewed in 2018 and is on the ballot for a five-year renewal to be effective 2023. Revenue generated from the renewal will be used to reduce the debt from purchasing an office building in Ravenna to house all of the agency related offices.

ROAD REPORT

Submitted as written by Dave Akerley and is attached to the official record. Additionally, Mr. Akerley discussed at length issues that have arisen with the new truck outfitted by Zoresco. Placement of the plow prevents the hood from being opened to check fluids daily before driving, hydraulic supply lines need moved in order to have access to the back spreader, a hydraulic pump that is adequate to handle the loading of salt and connectors need to be replaced with stainless steel to avoid early rusting. He has been in contact with representatives at Zoresco since delivery of the truck and the target date to make these repairs and changes is the first week of November, the goal being to get this truck ready for snow events as quickly as possible. Mr. Russell expressed his gratitude for Mr. Akerley's due diligence and follow through with finding these issues and having them addressed. Mr. Swan was appreciative for the wonderful job Mr. Akerley has done addressing paving needs across the township and getting as much done as possible while making the best use of our resources. Mr. Ciccozzi inquired about the removal of a large bush in the right of way on Lakeview at the intersection of Park Ave. and blocks a stop sign. Mr. Akerley stated the road department would remove the bush.

ZONING RPEORT

Submitted as written by Joe Ciccozzi and is attached to the official record. Additionally, there was discussion regarding Kent State University's expressed intent to possibly erect a cluster of tiny houses on parcels they own on Cline Road. Mr. Ciccozzi is following up with the prosecutor's office regarding any possible zoning exemptions and plans.

FIRE UPDATE

Richard Smith reported on some follow ups he has been doing at Pebblebrook and at the Meadowview parcels regarding working fire alarms. He also reported that Refresh Dental is now unoccupied and closed for business right now. He then informed trustees that the owner of the former Arize Entertainment building that housed the Jones' Hookah Palace is now empty, as the tenant has been evicted.

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of an expense and PO in the amount of \$926.52 to the City of Kent as reimbursement for engineering services for the SR 59 Connecting Communities project was granted by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. All three trustees voted yes.
- Approval of an expense and PO in the amount of \$7,383.64 to Mitchell Communications for the two-way radio communication system now in place at the road department was granted by a motion made by Glenn Russell; Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.
- Intended use of township owned parcels currently being leased by the Portage Parks District (the lease ends 12/31/22) was discussed. Mr. Akerley will contact Ms. Christine Craycroft to get permission to access the buildings there to make a determination on what the township can use the parcels for. In the meantime, utilities will be transferred into Franklin Township's name to be effective January 1, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

- A new D1 liquor permit request was received on behalf of the TOKO Japanese Steak House which would allow beer sales on/off the premises until 1:00am. After discussion it was determined that the trustees will not request a hearing or pose an objection to the request.

FINANCES

Payment of bills, warrants #25912 through 25926, including payment vouchers and totaling \$134,615.09 was approved by a motion made by Glenn Russell; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

Prior to adjournment Mr. Swan stated for the record again that the board is very pleased with the performance of the road department and superintendent for leaf pickup signage, paving, attention to equipment, and all of the many tasks they are addressing. It was also noted that Gary Berardinelli of ABC Landscaping, contracted to perform our leaf recycling services for the next five years, is appreciative of the leaf pickup signage.

At 7:39pm a motion to adjourn was made by Glenn Russell; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chairman _____