

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, May 10, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Josh Moore – 6384 Lakeview – Addressed the trustees with concerns about consistent noise, speeding, and parking violations and disturbances in his neighborhood. There is a continuous stream of modified street bikes, four wheelers, motorbikes, and cars that are loud and racing along Lakeview and surround streets near the lake. These vehicles are often being driven by underage youth, have no lights, and the drivers are not in protective gear. Mr. Moore has made repeated calls to both the Portage County Sheriff's office and the Ohio Highway Patrol to make complaints. The response he gets from both agencies say that there is nothing they can do because the township has no noise ordinance in place. He is concerned that someone will come to harm if not addressed. His right to peace in his home, especially during late evening and nighttime hours is being infringed upon. He asked that the township adopt a clear and definitive ordinance to assist law enforcement and stated some examples to model like the City of Akron and City of Cleveland. Mr. Swan thanked Mr. Moore for sharing his concerns and stated that establishing a new policy would not rectify the situation, but enforcement of the existing code by law enforcement when called upon would alleviate the situation. Zoning inspector Joe Ciccozzi presented the section of the Franklin Township Zoning Resolution, Chapter 10, Section 1000.01, that addresses excessive noise and provides that:

Section 1000.01 Noise

“All sources of noise (except those not under direct control of occupant of use, such as vehicles) must comply with the following standards: A. The level of sound cannot exceed the values specified in Schedules 1000.01.C.1 and 1000.01.C.2 when measured at the points indicated. B. Between the hours of 11:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M., the permissible sound levels for a commercial or industrial use at a Residential Zoning District boundary or where adjoining to a residential use, shall be reduced by ten (10) decibels in each octave band for impact noises designated in Schedule 1000.01.2. C. Method of Measurement: The maximum permitted sound levels for each type of land use, measured in decibels at property lines, shall not exceed the following values: Schedule 1000.01.C.1 Maximum Permitted Sound Levels (Decibels) For Residential And Other Non-Commercial And NonIndustrial Uses Octave band, cycles/second No residential or non-commercial or non-industrial activity or use shall produce a sound level at property lines that exceed the following.”

The full Zoning Resolution and all provisions pertaining to Noise disturbances within the township can be accessed on the Franklin Township website at www.franklintownshipohio.org and following the Zoning Department link.

Mr. Swan assured Mr. Moore that he would personally reach out to Detective Nick DeSerio at the sheriff's office and relay both the concerns shared and the township's concern that responses are forthcoming. He will do the same at the Highway Patrol.

Mr. Swan will also be in contact with the Portage County Commissioners and relay concerns about the ineffective responses from county law enforcement services about this situation. Franklin Township's Zoning Resolution will be shared with both law enforcement agencies.

- Jill Grimm – 1509 Merrill Ave. – notified the board of signs reported down at Glen Parkway and Birkner – the road crew has been made aware. Also, The Twin Lakes Association is preparing to harvest the lakes and are looking for suggestions on where to take the resulting debris. It was suggested to contact Brimfield Aggregate on Sunnybrook. She also mentioned that there are some signs on St Rt 43 across from the former ProTech building that are old and rusty. Joe Ciccozzi will investigate.
- Jerry Moore – 6234 Lakeview – addressed the same concerns as Mr. Josh Moore above about hazards from so many motorbikes, adults and kids racing on vehicles without lights on them around the lake and is concerned about someone being hurt. He stated that area residents are very willing to help in any way they can.
- Ron Nichols – 1515 North Blvd. – stated that a street sign on Addie needs straightened, there are broken grates in need of attention at 1498 and 1480 South Blvd., asked that catch basins in the township be inspected and cleaned out as this time of year often sees flooding caused by winter debris buildup, and noted that at the intersection of St. Rt. 43 and North Blvd there is gravel being dragged out into the road by turning motorists and was hoping to have that graveled area black topped instead. He also sees a lot of speeding vehicles in his neighborhood.

FIRE REPORT

Submitted by Richard Smith and is attached to the official record. Additionally, he reported that a fire had been reported in the township that afternoon. Chief Myers from the City of Kent was in attendance and reported that there was indeed an outside fire on Cackler Road that came to close to the home on the property and singed it but the home was not engaged in the flames.

ZONING REPORT

Submitted as written by Joe Ciccozzi and is attached to the official record. Additionally, he let the board know that Larry Hannum, long-time owner of Larry's Riding Stables on Johnson Road passed away last week. Mr. Swan let Mr. Ciccozzi know that trash is still piling up in bags at the Jones Hookah Palace.

OLD BUSINESS

- Large potholes located on the Sheetz access road have been repaired by Sheetz corporate.
- Resolution 2022-20 – approving the agreement entered into with PARTA and the City of Kent on the St. Rt. 59 connecting Communities project was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Glenn Russell. All three trustees voted yes.
- Resolution 2022-21 approving the agreement with Portage County Commissioners regarding leaf recycling assessment collection was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. All three trustees voted yes.

- The sink hole repair at Walton and Clyde will begin this week by H. Luli, Construction Company.
- Spring Cleanup last weekend held at the maintenance garage was successful. After discussion it was decided that this will be an annual event held the last weekend of April. Signs will be ordered and posted in a few places around the township each year letting residents know when it will occur.
- Mr. Russell reported that he has had discussions with Kent Service Director Melanie Baker about two-way communications access for the road department crew. The topic remains open and a decision will be made when all information is gathered.

NEW BUSINESS

- Temporary repairs were made by the township road crew on Clio Street so that residents can access their homes. Representatives from the county engineer’s office came out to inspect and they made some recommendations about a more permanent solution. A quote is being put together by Meredith Brothers.

CORRESPONDENCE

An email was received from resident James McColloch sharing concerns about speeding in the Twin Lakes area and would like to see more law enforcement presence in that area.

FINANCES

The 2023 tax budget is in progress and will be ready to vote on in June. Payment of bills, warrants #25781 through 25790, including payment vouchers and totaling \$93,920.62 since the last meeting was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. All three trustees voted yes.

At 7:55pm a motion to suspend regular session and enter executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy pertaining to the road department (ORC Section 122.22 (G) (4) was made by Scott Swan; 2nd Glenn Russell. All three trustees voted yes. At 9:32pm a motion to resume regular session was made by Kellie Kapusta; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes. At 9:33pm a motion to adjourn was made by Scott Swan; 2nd Glenn Russell. All three trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chairman _____