

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, July 26, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes

At 7:00pm Chairman Scott Swan called the meeting to order. Glenn Russell and Lisé Russell, and Joe Ciccozzi were excused from the meeting. Minutes from the previous regular meeting were approved by a motion made by Kellie Kapusta; 2nd Scott Swan. Both trustees voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Hal Lehman – 2218 Leonard Blvd. – asked if there was an update on the scheduled bridge repair at Towners Woods. Mr. Swan responded that there has been no word from the county engineer’s office but knows they are working on it and that he would be sure to follow up and share any new information. Mr. Lehman also shared that a catch basin on Leonard has collapsed and that he called the maintenance garage to report it. Road superintendent Dave Akerley reported that the steel culvert pipe has collapsed. His recommended solution is two new catch basins and recognizes that time is an issue, as it is causing damage to the road and impacts the residents. Mr. Swan defers to Mr. Akerley on the best way to proceed and the decision on whether or not to involve the county.
- Chuck Smith – 346 Judson Road – shared concerns that for too long Judson Road has been neglected. It is a cut through for Route 8 and traffic is heavy. Stow and Kent use it heavily for bussing as well. The road is in need of serious repair. He believes it is in worse shape than others that are listed on the roads to be paved list and that it is traveled by more motorists than other roads as well. Both Mr. Swan and Mr. Akerley assured him that they are aware that Judson is in need of attention and will follow up and give it any attention it needs until it can be paved.
- Ron Nichols – 1515 South Blvd. – expressed gratitude to the road crew for their continued good work in the township and to Joe Ciccozzi for resolving a high grass issue that has been a source of complaint in the area.

ROAD REPORT

Submitted as written by Dave Akerley and is attached to the official record. Additionally, there was discussion about chipping in the township. The chipper was down again and the repairs could cost in excess of \$3,000. In the meantime, a rental was secured and this round was completed. Chipping is taking an increasingly longer time to complete each month as residents place more and more brush out and members of the road crew are off for vacations during the summer months. Mr. Akerley requested a suspension of chipping for next month, except for any emergencies that arise, in order to utilize the crew’s time to prepare for ditching and paving of roads, especially in the Brady Lake area where road maintenance has not taken place in a long time. Mr. Nichols spoke from the audience and requested that the chipping schedule remain as it is and Mr. Swan stated that he did not feel a change could be made at this time and any change implemented should be communicated well in advance. A motion to replace the chipper with a new one at an approximate cost of \$50,000 in the event it is necessary was made by Scott Swan; 2nd Kellie Kapusta. Both trustees voted yes.

ZONING REPORT

Submitted as written by Joe Ciccozzi and is attached to the official record.

FIRE UPDATE

Richard Smith reported that over the Fourth of July there were no major incidences of fireworks calls for service in the area. Inspections of township businesses are moving forward well. There are no reports of activity at the Jones Hookah Palace. The Burnt Pickle has an advertisement posted for a concert in September. Joe Ciccozzi will be asked to follow up.

OLD BUSINESS

Leaf Recycling issue with Portage County is closed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Identification of roads located within Franklin Township that are not our responsibility is in need of clarification. It is important for township officials and dispatch for first responders to be aware of who to contact in case of an emergency or during storms when roads need closed or trees removed. Dave Akerley provided a list of roads that are maintained by either the county, ODOT, or are privately owned. Chief Myers will share the list with dispatchers. Just two weeks ago a large tree was down and a resident called 911 to report a tree down. Dispatch called the fire department instead of contacting our road superintendent. The township was charged the contracted call rate of \$1500+ and then the township crew had to be called in to take care of the tree anyway. Mr. Swan believes that dispatchers having this information will facilitate timely responses from the correct entity and make roads safer in a quicker amount of time, regardless of charges for calls made for safety purposes.
- Revoke the No Parking ban in Lake Royale – the trustees voted the parking ban into effect in September 2020. No signs were ever erected because residents were attempting to resolve the matter on their own and given a period of time to do so. Communication has been received from Lake Royale residents that a consensus has been reached and are asking the board to rescind that parking ban. A motion to rescind that No Parking order was made by Kellie Kapusta; 2nd Scott Swan. Both trustees voted yes.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mrs. Kapusta received communication from resident Dan Grice about water problems near Erie and Garfield. The water is coming from Washington during heavy rains. Mr. Grice would like a possible solution to this storm runoff issue. Mr. Akerley will speak to the road crew about interventions on the past and follow up.

FINANCES

Payment of bills, warrants #25842 through 25851, including payment vouchers and totaling \$34,915.32 was approved by a motion made by Kellie Kapusta; 2nd Scott Swan. Both trustees voted yes.

Keith Benjamin inquired about the radio communication decision and Mr. Akerley responded that Mitchell Communications will be utilized and walkie Talkies and radios will be purchased.

At 7:59pm a motion to adjourn was made by Kellie Kapusta; 2nd Scott Swan. Both trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chairman _____