

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Regular Meeting Minutes

At 7:00pm Chairwoman Ann Hanna called the meeting to order. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved by a motion made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Rob Wiggins – of Events at Parkside, 6500 Lakeview Drive – thanked trustees, Joe Ciccozzi and all other officials involved for their support and assistance in preparation for the opening of their facility. The official ribbon cutting will be May 19, 2021 from 4:30-5:00. All township officials are welcome and encouraged to attend. Also, the agreement entered into between the township and the events center about offsite parking on a township parcel during larger events has been signed.
- Tim Runge – of Northcoast Medical, at 1832 St Rt 59 asked trustees for permission to display 3 temporary signs measuring 3’x8’ from June 1, 2021 through October 13, 2021. Trustees agreed to permit the signs with the stipulation that Mr. Ciccozzi remain involved making sure placement of signs fit requirements. Trustees also encouraged Mr. Runge to submit advertising for student enrollment to administrator Jenny August to be placed on the township website to help get the word out that Northcoast Medical is looking for students.
- Diane Robison – 7358 Sylvan Dr – shared concerns about the recent Kent Schools board decision to enter into an exchange transaction with Davey Tree for the eight acre property, including the building formerly housing Franklin School. The school district would receive, in return, a parcel on Hudson Road and a disclosed cash amount. She shared concerns that the township’s voice not be heard in the matter and expressed she does not support the school board’s decision to enter into the agreement. She is concerned about future enrollment of Kent and Franklin Township children and crowding of the remaining four elementary buildings. Mr. Swan, Mr. Benjamin, and Ms. Hanna all expressed appreciation for her expressed concerns but pointed out that none of the property involved lies within the township but lie within the City of Kent. Mr. Swan recommended she attend public school board meetings to share her continuing concerns there.
- Pauline Thornton – 2471 and 2497 Brady Lake Road – shared concerns about increased speeding traffic and noise pollution that increased significantly over the last few years. Cars, trucks and, particularly motorcycles are speeding excessively between the hours of 6:30 and 9:00pm almost nightly. It creates a safety hazard for her as she tries to mow her property and the noise from ATV’s and other recreational vehicles as well greatly decrease the solitude and enjoyment of her property. As no sheriff’s department representative was at the meeting the trustees assured her that her concerns would be shared with Lt. Harry Muir and additional patrols would target that area.

ZONING REPORT

Submitted as written by Joe Ciccozzi and is attached to the official record. Additionally, Mr. Ciccozzi will continue to gather details on having zoning documents scanned and stored digitally with the intent to decrease the volume of paper documents taking up space at town hall. Trustees want more details on shipping costs, cloud storage, and disposition of scanned documents.

FIRE REPORT

Submitted as written by Richard Smith and is attached to the official record. Mr. Swan inquired about knock box log access for commercial properties within the township. Mr. Smith replied that the city keeps a detailed list of each knock box location and key and that it readily accessible to firefighters when needed.

ROAD REPORT

Submitted as written by Brian Langston and is attached to the official record. Additionally, approval was given for a \$2500 expense for cold patch and a \$1700.00 expense to stain the Chase Park boardwalk by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes. Mr. Langston reported that the township spring cleanup last weekend was a big success. Three forty-yard dumpsters were filled and residents were all very grateful for the opportunity to unload collected junk. Mr. Langston also shared longevity concerns about the Tera Star truck and the pickup trucks. It was also reported that according to the county engineer’s report the township has just under forty miles of township roads.

OLD BUSINESS

- Talks between the City of Kent and the township about a new fire and ems service contract remain at a standstill. The township submitted a proposal and the city responded with a counterproposal. The township trustees are firm in their proposal.
- Funding for Standing Rock Cemetery was increased by a majority vote at a joint meeting of Franklin Township trustees and Kent City Council. The city and township will both increase their financial support by .1mil effective June 1, 2021. This will increase the township’s annual contribution by just over \$17,000 for an annual contribution of just over \$104,000.
- Ms. Hanna asked for a status update on the sale of Aquasalina equipment the township will no longer be using for snow removal on the township trucks. Mr. Langston will follow up with possible buyers.

CORRESPONDENCE

Two residents, Cindy Hauck of Seasons Road and Elizabeth Legnani of North Blvd. both contacted the township to express gratitude for the spring cleanup and Mrs. Huck’s gratitude for a great job chipping!

FINANCES

- Lisé Russell provided an overview of the draft budget for 2022 with highlights. This is not a finalized budget. Payment of bills, warrants #25248 through 25386 including payment vouchers and totaling \$247,915.62 was approved by a motion made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Scott swan. All three trustees voted yes.

At 9:10pm a motion to adjourn was made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chairwoman _____