

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, March 23, 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 Scott Swan; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Lt. Harry Muir – Portage County Sheriff's Office – reported that the township has been relatively quiet the last several weeks. Incidents requiring law enforcement at the Eastwood Motel have quieted down, thefts were up a bit at Walmart but all in all the township has been quiet and calm. Mr. Swan asked who the township would contact regarding heavy loads exceeding weight limits within the township. Lt. Muir responded that the township should contact Lt. Green and the Ohio Highway Patrol Post 67 and report any concerns or possible violations. Additionally, Joe Ciccozzi reported that there has been excessive speeding on Hudson Road, north of Judson Road. Lt. Muir will alert the patrolling cars. Ms. Hanna noted that as spring has arrived the department should be on the lookout for ATV's and four wheelers near Towner's Woods and the Hugo Sand and Gravel pits.
- Jack Amolsch – 18121 Lomond in Shaker Heights – addressed the trustees to propose an Eagle Scout project. He would like to install an ADA compliant pathway connecting the pavilion to the existing pathway at Phillips Park. He, along with help from his troop, will dig out the dirt and sod to prepare the site, fill in with aggregate and top with asphalt grindings. He will border it with landscape railroad ties pinned in place. The surface will be tamped in place to form a smooth surface. Trustees and road superintendent Brian Langston offered to donate spare asphalt grindings for the project and will deliver them to the site when notified of a start date, hopefully by mid-May. There will be no fee for the installation of the pathway. Mr. Swan asked to be notified of the installation days so that he could personally contribute to providing food for the workers. Other trustees and board members agreed to help with that. The project was approved by a motion made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes and thanked Mr. Amolsch for his service to the township.

ROAD REPORT

Submitted as written by Brian Langston and is attached to the official record. Additionally, Ms. Hanna asked Mr. Langston to complete a list of roads that he sees needing the most work in the next 1-3 years and asked him to take a look at a section of road being damaged by heavy trucks loaded with dirt or yard waste on Hudson Road. Joe Ciccozzi informed Mr. Langston that there are two tires dumped roadside on Spell Road near the Hike and Bike Trail. Crack sealing season is approaching and Mr. Langston was informed that a total of \$195,000 has been budgeted for road resurfacing for 2021 – this can be used for paving, crack sealing, chip sealing or any other road resurfacing work that needs done.

FIRE UPDATE

Submitted by Richard Smith. He continues to prepare the resume face to face inspections of township businesses. As he has hand delivered documents explaining this to owners, he has already begun receiving pictures documenting fixes and changes made. Mr. Smith and Mr. Ciccozzi are continuing to work on finding owners and an address for a large trash pile accumulated on Ravenna Road at Tower Street to make sure the owner knows that it is not a burnable pile.

ZONING REPORT

Submitted as written by Joe Ciccozzi and is attached to the official record. Additionally, Mr. Ciccozzi is following the purchase or change in ownership of property at Spell Road/Newcomer Rd. to make sure zoning permits the allowance of a home-based horse training business.

OLD BUSINESS

- The township is now working within an expired contract with the City of Kent to provide fire and ems services. Proposals have been submitted by both the city and the township. Until such time as a new agreement is reached a motion to work within the parameters of the expired contract was made by Scott Swan; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes.
- Due to no second on a motion made to establish Brady Lake safety regulations as recommended by OTARMA Resolution 2021-04 did not pass.

NEW BUSINESS

- It was brought to the attention of Scott Swan that exceedingly large amounts of dirt have been trucked in and piled high at 5801 Powdermill Road. He asked that Mr. Ciccozzi look into the matter and see if he can surmise what is going on there and also to make a determination of whether or not dirt qualifies as yard waste as a zoning violation like sticks and fallen dead trees and brush in excess accumulation of 75 sq ft. This location is a thirty-two-acre parcel owned by Scott Shannon. Mr. Langston will follow up on what the weight limits are on Powdermill Road.
- There was discussion regarding a new agreement with AT&T regarding the cell tower lease when the current one expires. A motion was made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Scott Swan to offer that beginning April 2023 the amount paid to the township be \$18,840 annually (an increase of the current \$16,800 annual payment) and a 10% increase annually for five years. All three trustees voted yes.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Ann Hanna received multiple complaints from area residents in the Tower street/Ravenna Road area regarding traffic due to the confusion of road closure signs and people trying to access Towner’s Woods from Brady Lake Street.
- Lise Russell received a request from Bill Steiner at Portage County Solid Waste requesting a meeting with the board to discuss amending the current assessment agreement in place for recycling fees and the leaf pickup program. He has been invited to attend an open meeting and has said he plans to attend the April 13th meeting.

FINANCES

- Resolution 2021-05 – approving a Supplemental Appropriation to the General Fund in the amount of \$21,000 for the purpose of expenses related to a Spring Cleanup to be held this season and the chimney demolition and replacement at town hall. Motion to approve the resolution made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.
- Payment of bills, warrants #25310 through 25345 including payment vouchers and totaling \$127,859.96 was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes.

At 8:46pm a motion to suspend regular session and enter executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel and compensation was made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes. At 9pm a motion to end executive session and resume regular session was made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes. At 9:23pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chairwoman _____