

Franklin Township Trustees
Tuesday, July 24, 2018
Regular Meeting Minutes

At 7:20pm, following two public hearings, Chairman Keith Benjamin called the meeting to order. Minutes from the previous regular meeting were approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes. Minutes from the budget hearing held on July 10, 2018 were approved by a motion made by Ann Hanna; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ashley Courthyn – 1379 Elizabeth Court and Jen Smith - 627 Steele St. – addressed the board as representatives of the Kent Colonels Baseball/Softball Teams. They are in search of a designated home field for their 7-11 year olds ball program. They are proposing the use of the Brady Lake ball field for their home games and practices, approximately 3 evenings per week and possibly a weekend afternoon. They would post their schedule for the season and be given first priority for its use during those times. They would assume the responsibility of dragging it, mowing, painting, etc. Provide necessary equipment and, tentatively, address needs for benches, dugouts, and possibly fencing. After discussion and possible needs that would have to be addressed, the trustees asked them to return to the next meeting with information gathered. The township will place a notice on the website notifying township residents that the proposal would be discussed at the next meeting.

ZONING REPORT

Submitted as written by Sam Abell and is attached to the official record. Additionally, Resolution 2018-21, a resolution authorizing the removal of a structure deemed unsafe and uninhabitable by the county building and health departments and located at 6527 Park Ave was approved by a motion made Scott Swan; 2nd Keith Benjamin. All three trustees voted yes. This structure is currently undergoing improvements by the owner to become compliant with safety codes. Progress is being made but some deadlines have been missed. This resolution allows for demolition if improvement efforts either fail or drag on. Also, the backhoe parked on the Knoll Road circle previously discussed was voluntarily removed by the owner.

ROAD REPORT

Submitted as written by Jake Biltz and is attached to the official record. Additionally, Mr. Biltz provided a preliminary estimate of costs provided by the Portage County Engineer for paving needs throughout the township, excluding road work in the former village area. The roads included in the estimate are Hudson, Judson, Johnson, Seasons, spell, and Ohio. The estimated cost is \$223,960.00 if all of the work is done at once.

OLD BUSINESS

The township will pursue an appeal at the 11th district court level for litigation stemming from Kent Storage LLC violations. Discussion was had about possibly seeking outside counsel. The name of Randy Nye was mentioned as a possibility. Mr. Swan will reach out to Mr. Nye. Mr. Abell will find out if further testimony is allowed to be gathered and presented.

NEW BUSINESS

- The only color printer/copier/scanner in the township office has finally stopped working. Authorization to purchase a new one of there isn't one to be used from the village hall was approved by a motion made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.
- A liquor permit transfer request for Sunoco was received by the township. The board agreed to not vote on a hearing request and that Lisé Russell will contact the division of liquor control to clarify because of a new permit request at the same location two weeks ago.
- Scott Swan reported that he participated in an open table discussion meeting with the Portage Parks District regarding the acquisition of a large area of land off of Ravenna Road, part of which is in the township. Their ideas for its use are primitive camping, nature walks, etc. This is the old Gressard property.
- Mr. Benjamin spoke at length with Chris Kraft of Life Force. This is the company used by the City of Kent Fire Department for billing. The conversation was to get a clearer picture on how the billing for the township's portion of calls actually works. As payments are received at Life Force, whether directly from patients who used emergency services or their insurance companies, those credits are removed from the monthly balance due to the city. It was mentioned that the city is going to begin using the Attorney General's office for the collection of outstanding balances. The current collection rate in about 10% and the AG office has a collection rate of about 40%.

FINANCES

Authorization for the payment of bills, warrants #24144 through #24161, including payment vouchers and totaling \$29,519.46 was approved by a motion made by Scott Swan; 2nd Ann Hanna. All three trustees voted yes.

At 8:15pm the meeting was adjourned by a motion made by Keith Benjamin; 2nd Scott Swan. All three trustees voted yes.

Date _____ Fiscal Officer _____

Chairman _____