

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



BROWN TOWNSHIP REGULAR SESSION

Held: September 19, 2016

The Trustees convened in regular session on Monday, September 19, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. in the second floor meeting room at 2491 Walker Rd Hilliard, Ohio 43026. Chair Gary Dever called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Ms. Pamela Sayre	Present	Mr. Joseph Martin	Present
Mr. Gary Dever	Present	Mr. Gregory Ruwe	Present

Also in attendance:

Ms. Elizabeth Clark (Executive Asst. to the Trustees) and Ms. Barbara Hoover (Clerical Asst. to the Trustees.)

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the Minutes of the August 15, 2016 Regular Session and the Special Meeting held on August 08, 2016. Trustee Martin seconded the motion. Voting results: Sayre: aye, Martin: aye, Dever: aye. Motion approved.

Fiscal Actions

Bills were presented for payment. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the payment of bills. Trustee Sayre seconded the motion. Voting results: Sayre: aye, Martin: aye, Dever: aye. Motion approved.

The Trustees previously reviewed the September 2016 payroll report. Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the payroll report. Trustee Martin seconded the motion. Voting results: Sayre: aye, Martin: aye, Dever: aye. Motion approved.

The Trustees previously reviewed the bank reconciliation and the supporting financial reports for the month of August 2016. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the bank reconciliation. Trustee Sayre seconded the motion. Voting results: Sayre: aye, Martin: aye, Dever: aye. Motion approved.

Franklin County Sheriff Report

Deputy Sheriff Alena Griffin was in attendance. Also in attendance were four additional members of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office including Sergeant Byrd, Head of the Community Relations Division and Deputy Doug Brenier who staffs Car 10 in Brown Township during the second shift. The other members were supervisory personnel. Deputy Griffin reported that since our last meeting, there were four additional criminal reports filed and gave a very brief explanation of the charges. Details of the reports will be forwarded to the Trustees. The balance of the input from the FCSO will be summarized in the Audience Participation section.

Norwich Fire Department Report

Battalion Chief Chris Grile and Lieutenant Eric Eby were present at the meeting. Chief Grile presented the Incidents by Jurisdiction report for August 2016. During August 2016, there were (16) EMS runs and (4) Fire runs in Brown Township. Chief Grile described operations over the last month as normal. The Station 82 personnel are working on making repairs to the Brown Township Firehouse building.

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Beth Clark's Report (Submitted)

3508 Walker Road

Representatives of the property at 3508 Walker Road recently contacted the Franklin County Planning Department and indicated the owners have decided not to pursue a rezoning or conditional use for the property, but rather will stay within the allowable religious uses. They have produced a site plan and are now compiling required documents for submittal. They will need to complete an application for a commercial certificate of zoning compliance, including stormwater plans, plans for water supply and wastewater disposal, and a traffic impact study. No application has yet been submitted.

Fall Newsletter

Topics for the Fall newsletter include:

- distracted driving
- concealed carry permit requirements
- sheriff's deputies beginning to carry naloxone, tie-in with NTFD
- quarterly public safety recap (fire and law enforcement calls to township)
- Block Watch
- new rules on flying drones
- regulations on noxious weeds
- quarterly update from the Board

Scheduled Agenda Items:

Attorney Peter Griggs

Brosius, Johnson & Griggs, LLC

Attorney Peter Griggs, representing Brown Township's advisory law firm was in attendance to answer questions regarding zoning issues relating to properties larger than five acres. Attorney Griggs and his firm have extensive experience with agricultural zoning issues in townships throughout Ohio. Attorney Griggs gave a brief opening presentation in which he relayed that zoning laws in Ohio related to agriculture on parcels over five acres are extremely broad. He noted that such parcels are exempt from practically all the zoning provisions in the Ohio Revised Code. He also noted that the farm lobby is very powerful and works diligently to maintain the exemptions. His comments were in reference to a parcel on Davis Rd. that, beginning this year, has started a goat and sheep operation that recently became rather large and caused issues with neighbors. Attorney Griggs stated that neither Brown Township nor Franklin County Rural Zoning has an available remedy to curtail or reduce the activities on the property. The only action available to residents in the area is to bring a civil action under common law (a lawsuit). He explained that these suits have generally not been successful and noted that the residents would need to hire their own attorney with no ties to the firm(s) representing the local government(s). This matter is further described below in Audience Participation.

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Audience Participation:

The meeting room was at capacity with residents who came regarding two issues as follows:

Davis Road Animal Business

Many of the attendees were present in response to recent activity and publicity regarding the animals that were being slaughtered at a relatively new business at a property on Davis Road. The adjoining neighbor most impacted by the operation spoke and described the number of animals on the property, the smell and flies associated with them, the increased traffic from customers, and how close the animal buildings are to the neighbor's house. Many additional residents of Davis Road addressed their concern regarding the volume and nature of this activity. The Trustees reported that all relative regulatory agencies (FCRZ, Agriculture, and EPA) have inspected the property and found the operation to be in compliance. The Trustees noted that as described by Attorney Griggs, there are no actions that can be taken by the Township against the animal business. The brother-in-law of the owner of the animal business was in attendance and described himself as the farm manager. He said that they are trying to be good neighbors and do not wish to alarm the neighborhood. He explained that the large number of animals slaughtered recently were for a religious holiday. He mentioned that after the religious holiday, they only intend to keep about (30) animals on the property for family use. He said that he and his brother-in-law wish to work with the neighbors. He described how they have been spraying for flies on a daily basis and how the renderings are removed by a commercial truck. He invited all to come and visit their farm operation and even provided his personal cell phone number. The Trustees offered use of the Township Hall for any proposed future meeting between the property owners to discuss the farming operation.

Davis Road/Brown Township Property Crimes

Many residents, including the head of the Brown Township Block Watch wished to continue the discussion of recent break-ins in Brown Township and Davis Road in particular. The representatives of the FCSO provided answers to the residents' concerns and offered suggestions. Sergeant Byrd, Community Relations Head (Phone: 614.525.6317) said that residents can always call the non-emergency number **(614.525.3333)** to ask questions or report suspicious activity. He strongly suggested that residents use nextdoor.com to monitor activity in the neighborhood. He described how use of this website has numerous advantages over an email based system. Deputy Doug Brenier introduced himself as the deputy manning Car 10. He mentioned that he would be based in Brown Township during his shift, but would still be called out for priority calls in surrounding areas on a regular basis. He stated that he is eager to be involved in keeping Brown Township safer. Deputy Griffin stated that another option for the Township would be to contract for an "8 hour shift" car. She offered to work up a presentation of the cost and benefits of such a contract. The Trustees stated that they wish to gather additional information from the incident reports and analyze the findings before asking for a presentation. The contract car would require a tax levy for funding so community interest must be assessed. The Trustees again offered use of the Township Hall for a meeting regarding operation of the Block Watch and other safety concerns.

Old Business

Resolution 7-2016, Accepting Amounts and Rates

Fiscal Officer Ruwe presented Resolution 7-2016, accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Franklin County Budget Commission to be certified to the Franklin County Auditor. The Trustees had previously reviewed the Resolution and FO Ruwe's analysis. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve Resolution 7-2016. Trustee Sayre seconded the motion. Voting results: Sayre: aye, Martin: aye, Dever: aye. Resolution approved.

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Township Web Site Upgrade Project

Trustee Martin reported that he has received two bids to perform the update to the Township's web page. One was from a Cincinnati firm named Dimelanta for \$12,000. The other was from V-Web in Milford Center for \$2,200. Trustee Martin said that he is familiar with the software used by both firms and that he prefers the V-Web software (Process Wire II). V-Web would also be a more responsive firm to deal with. Trustee Sayre made a motion to approve the bid from V-Web in the amount of \$2,200. Trustee Martin seconded the motion. Voting results: Sayre: aye, Martin: aye, Dever: aye. Motion approved.

Walker Road Tile Work

Trustee Dever reported that the Franklin County Drainage Engineer's crew is still waiting to install a road tile and two catch basins along Morris Road. The delay is caused by the need to find and mark (5) AT&T lines in the easement.

2016 Brown Township Road Maintenance

Trustee Martin reported he has learned that The Shelly Company won the bids from the Franklin County Engineer to perform the Brown Township Road Maintenance for 2016. Work has yet to begin, but Carter Road and Spicewood Court will be resurfaced.

HVAV System Repairs/Replacement

Fiscal Officer Ruwe reported that Atlas Butler replaced the HVAC system for the Township Administrative offices in July. The new system is working well.

New Business:

None

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Dever asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Sayre made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Martin seconded the motion. Voting results: Sayre: aye, Martin: aye, Dever: aye. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



Gary Dever, Chair



Gregory Ruwe, Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the Trustees/ Fiscal Officer of Brown Township concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.