

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2019

**At 7:00 p.m.** Chairman William McMullen called this March 4, 2019 Regular Monthly Meeting to order and asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board Members present were; John Czanstkowski Sr., Mike Barfknecht, Stephanie Russek and Renee Olson.

**Motion** to approve the February 4, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes McMullen/Barfknecht M/S/C Unanimous.

**Two Quotes were received for Dust Control;** EnviroTech for \$.859 per gallon and Quality Propane for \$.855 per gallon. **Motion** to accept the low bid from Quality Propane for the Township Dust Control this year McMullen/Czanstkowski M/S/C Unanimous.

**One Quote was received for Granite** from Martin Marietta for \$9.75 per ton. **Motion** to accept the quote from Martin Marietta McMullen/Barfknecht M/S/C Unanimous. McMullen will call Martin Marietta, as he has in past years, to see if there is any discount that can be given.

**Three Quotes were received for Granite Hauling;** Bjorklund Companies \$12.75 per ton, Rock On Trucks \$11.15 per ton and Twin Pines \$13.00 per ton. Discussion about equipment needed to do the job efficiently. **Motion** to accept to low quote from Rock On Trucks for the granite hauling this year for the Township McMullen/Czanstkowski M/S/C Unanimous. Clerk Russek will confirm with Rock On Trucks that they do have the belly dumps needed to meet the township needs.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Fall Harvest Orchard,** Mike Sjomeling is present this evening. Mikes explains that they have purchased a food truck. In past seasons, they have partnered with B's on the River to bring food and drink to the Orchard during busy times. They have purchased a food truck and are planning to start supplying the food and beverage themselves. The food truck will only operate weekends, Labor Day weekend through Halloween, 10:00-6:00. Soft liquor; beer and ciders will also be served. There have been no problems with alcohol served on the premises in the past. Mike states that the food truck and alcohol will run tandem, never separate. Czanstkowski asks about parking and Mike states that it all takes place on the property, nothing off the property. **Motion** that when we are requested by Wright County for comments, we send notice that we have no objection to the Sjomeling's request to operate a food truck and serve soft liquor at the Orchard, as long as it meets Wright County Planning & Zoning requirements McMullen/Barfknecht M/S/C Unanimous.

**Cedar Lake PUD Escrow, Bonding Requirements and snow plow policy** Linda Spletstoeszer and Dale Dingman are present tonight to review the bonding requirements for the PUD. The Payment Bond, which ensures all suppliers get paid, has been set at \$187,000. This bond goes away 120 days after all work is complete on the project. The cash escrow required by the Township is \$10,000. This escrow will be drawn on as the Township receives invoices for work done on the PUD from engineers, attorneys, hourly work of the clerks and other expenses. The escrow may need to be replenished and will not be refunded until after the performance/warranty bond has expired. The Performance/Warranty bond value has not been determined. The Township takes over the road after the 2<sup>nd</sup> lift is done and the road has weathered through a freeze/thaw cycle. Once we accept the road, the warranty bond kicks in. What has been determined is that these 2 bonds are separate bonds and cannot be combined. The board has also discussed that both bonds will be required before the project begins.

In discussion about the Performance/Warranty Bond, resident Scott Neuman says the industry average is 100% of the cost of the project. After board discussion, **Motion** for the Performance/Warranty Bond to be 75% of the project cost, unless we find that on previous PUDS, we have charged less. With this 75% range, as of now, the Performance/Warranty bond is \$94,000 McMullen/Czanstkowski M/S/C Unanimous. Clerk Russek will investigate past PUDS and report back at the next meeting. During this warranty period, snow plowing done by the Township is charged at \$60 per hour, with a minimum of \$25.00. The cost of snow plowing can come out of the escrow.

Resident DeWayne Bauman asks if the road will be done before the development is done. He also inquires if the turnaround will be large enough for large equipment as they continue to work on the homes after the road is complete. Barfknecht responds that the larger cul de sac, with a center island, is going to be large enough.

**Woodland Hill Winery, Mike Dickerman is present** to discuss the renewal of the CUP. After brief discussion, **Motion** to renew CUP request for Woodland Hill Winery Barfknecht/Czanstkowski M/S/C Unanimous.

**Xtratyme Commercial Building Permit** McMullen states that the County has issued the the permit for them to put the tower up. We are still working on the contract and waiting for the weather to shift.

**The Cokato Transportation Contract** is up for renewal. **Motion** to accept the contract as presented, Czanstkowski/Barfknecht M/S/C Unanimous.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Delegated Board Responsibilities McMullen** The board has been discussing offering a health benefit in the form of a health savings account payment of \$250.00 per month to each employee. Czanstkowski feels it is a good idea. Barfknecht feels the \$250.00 per month is low. Other townships offer a better package. McMullen is happy to start off at \$250 and revisit this in December at the wage review. He does not want to be too extravagant too quickly. Czanstkowski would like to go to \$300.00 per month. Resident Dickerman says many times the contribution is a percentage of salary. **Motion** to contribute \$300 per month to each employee into a health savings account, retroactive to January 1, 2019. Employees that do not have a HSA will also get the contribution, but it will not be tax free. Czanstkowski/McMullen M/S/C Unanimous. //McMullen reports that the Farmington Interest assessments from the 1990's,

compounding interest vs simple interest, we have actually been doing correctly. Deputy Olson will inform residents when they inquire. **Russek** presents a PTO review of what the Township currently offers and the cap amount of \$3000 that is in place. We have not been able to find when this cap was put in place. There are many variables; increased hourly pay of employees being one of the largest that are driving the review of whether this cap is fair. Russek checked with Wright County and the County sets their cap at 65% max pay out of PTO. Resident Neuman notes that we have two employees; the County has hundreds of employees. Barfknecht would like to be as fair as possible and pay out 100% of the earned PTO. Bauman asks about future employees. Resident Dickerman feels our cap is high and our exposure is high. He suggests a buyout/buy down the PTO to a more manageable limit of 80 hours as a max. This way the employee does not lose anything they have earned, but the risk to the township, all at one time, is much more manageable and the employee realizes some of the benefit of PTO while they are still at the township. McMullen suggests we continue to think about this and revisit our policy at the December personnel meeting. No one should be affected by us waiting to determine our PTO policy.

### **OTHER**

**Review Bridge Report from Wright County** There is one bridge that is earmarked as a concern. Clerk Russek will check into this and report back at the next meeting.

Final paperwork for the OPERA grant has been received and executed.

**County Road 25 Detour**, State 25 North of Highway 12 to Settlers Parkway will be under construction this upcoming season. The board will inquire as to where the detour for this work will be. Need to watch the detours that travel through Franklin Township.

**Wright County Long Range Plan** is presented and reviewed

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Mark Bauman states the Township has been doing a great job snow plowing this year.

Resident Scott Neumann suggests if the larger turnaround we discussed earlier is something we like/approve, the township should establish some details, so there can be some written consistency for people developing in the future. He also suggests we do this with our road specs. Clerk Russek will be looking at the developer's agreement and making suggestions for future developments.

Resident Milo Durbin believes the cut thru road by the church needs more plowing.

County Road 30 was redone in 2008. Resident Dickerman is wondering if it will see some improvements soon. Discussion about spring roads and what we are anticipating.

**After Board Review, Motion** to approve claims #15214 through #15229 total amount claimed \$14,666.31 dated 2-6-2019, and to approve claims #15230 through #15247 including Delano Municipal Utility ACH total amount claimed \$10,626.33 dated 2-20-2019 McMullen/Barfknecht M/S/C Unanimous.

At 8:41 p.m. **Motion** to adjourn this March 4, 2019 Regular Meeting Barfknecht/McMullen M/S/C Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Stephanie Russek, Clerk/Treasurer

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William McMullen, Board Chair