

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman W. Robert Kusmer with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Trustees Richard A. Geyer and David P. Stotz, along with Randal L. Strickler, Solicitor.

Moved by Mr. Stotz, seconded by Mr. Geyer, that the minutes of the August 15, 2017 meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz –Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

Ellen Ickes, Fiscal Officer, provided printed financial reports to the trustees, and a financial report as follows:

Total bills:\$ 10,803.49

Total receipts:\$ 311,506.87

Cash total:\$ 1,268,408.55

It was moved by Mr. Stotz, seconded by Mr. Geyer, that the financial report be approved and the bills be paid. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer –Yes; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A sign-in sheet was passed around and all present were requested to sign in (attached).

Paul and Christina Shoemaker of 19 Pinewood Drive were present to discuss the fence issue on neighbor Terri Weickert’s property. After discussion, Mr. Kusmer advised that Ms. Weickert’s options were to comply with the township’s zoning code, appeal, or be fined for not complying.

Jillian Estep of 1503 Buckland Ave. was present regarding the placement of a shed on her property on the corner of Buckland and Cleveland Avenues. Per Mr. Bain, the placement needed to take into consideration that it was on a corner lot, which was not the case. Ms. Estep will be filing for a zoning variance. Trustee Kusmer briefly explained the process and advised that there would be fees involved, and a public hearing and decision by the Board of Zoning Appeals. Ms. Estep advised she would not have purchased the shed if it could not be put where it had been placed.

Ballville Fire Department Chief Doug Crowell was present with a copy of a report by one of their firefighters who had made this his project for a degree in emergency management. It is the start of a Commercial Risk Assessment for the department, and it will be updated over time.

Chief Crowell advised that the ISO rating has changed again. Since 2013, fire department categories have been added. The rating uses 10 as the lowest and 1 as the best. We have scored just above a 4. He provided an explanation on the rating system, and the importance of passing the pump test regardless of the age of the vehicle providing the output.

Sheriff Hilton entered the meeting at 5:50 p.m. and asked if the trustees had any questions or concerns. He stated that he would be making a request to be added to a meeting agenda in the near future regarding Deputy Matt Stotz, the new Student Resource Officer at Lakota High School. There is a grant for 50% of the deputy's wages for the SRO position at the school, and Lakota School District pays 25%. The sheriff's proposal is to place Deputy Stotz with the township for the summer months where he would be solely dedicated to the township for the other 25% of his wages. He noted that there have been a lot of car break-ins, and encouraged residents to report any problems they have.

Mr. Kusmer asked Sheriff Hilton about the Drug Task Force. The sheriff advised that on February 18, 2018, the levy money will kick in and he hopes to be fully staffed by March. He added that heroin deaths are down.

Mr. Geyer asked the sheriff about door-to-door solicitors. Following a brief discussion, Solicitor Strickler advised that the township would need a resolution to establish a township policy.

The Sheriff's Department serves 27,000 residents, and they have asked for another deputy; currently, there are two deputies that cover the county. There is a new canine, SRO Stotz, and changes/improvements have been made at the jail. The biggest accomplishment of his department since he came into office was solving an unsolved murder. Sheriff Hilton then left the meeting.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Discussion took place on the Terri Weickert property on Pinewood Drive where the fence top goes straight across but the yard drops off underneath. Ms. Weickert's August 28 email received by the zoning inspector was discussed, and it was noted that she wants correspondence in email form.

The Shoemakers are concerned about the additional dirt that Ms. Weickert is placing under the fence, and discussion took place regarding the change in drainage and encroachment due to the additional dirt being placed under the fence by Ms. Weickert. Solicitor Strickler advised that these are civil matters.

Ms. Weickert's post tops are 9 ft. high and zoning regulations state that 6 ft. is the maximum. Mr. Strickler advised that Mr. Bain should give Ms. Weickert a (seven day) notice to comply, and then fines would begin. An email to Ms. Weickert with receipt of the email attached, and a certificate of mailing by U.S. Mail of the same notice would be adequate notice, per Solicitor Strickler.

Mr. Bain reviewed his zoning report from September 5, 2017 which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

Mrs. Ickes stated that Mr. MacLeod has not paid the zoning appeals hearing fees and discussion took place on how to proceed. Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to have Solicitor Strickler file a Small Claims action against Mr. MacLeod. Upon a vote – Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson and Jim Gillis

There was discussion on the Oakwood Cemetery Mausoleum cleaning quotes. Mike Binsack of Northwest Pressure Wash, Window Washing & Exterminating is \$7,000, and Lee Potter of Fremont Water Blasting's quote is \$5,835.00 with additional costs for a lift that includes \$200 drop-off /pick-up fee, \$200 a day/\$600 a week for a lift. If the project was delayed for any reason (bad weather) after it started, the township would have no control over the costs. It was agreed that Mr. Binsack did a good job on the spot he test-cleaned. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to hire Mr. Binsack at his quoted price of \$7,000 for cleaning of the mausoleum. Upon a vote, Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Lagrou will have a deed to be signed at the next meeting.

Mrs. Ickes stated that the Oakwood Cemetery Mausoleum is now registered as a cemetery with the State of Ohio (Registration No. 2017004475 issued August 25, 2017). Upon discussion, Solicitor Strickler advised that the township owns the mausoleum, but there is no deed for it because it is on Oakwood Cemetery's ground.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood

Mr. Lagrou and Mr. Wood stated they had nothing new to report from the Parks Board.

S & S will be starting to roof the Eagle Shelterhouse soon. Mr. Wood asked the trustees if a decision had been made about roofing the rest of the buildings in Conner Park, and rusting of the stored steel the township bought earlier this year to avoid cost increases was discussed.

Mr. Lagrou stated that the additional lighting in Conner Park would probably cost about \$1,500.

Discussion returned to the Conner Park re-roofing project. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to re-roof both the Fausey and Rusch shelters this year for \$5,000 in labor only), and the dugouts and restrooms next year (\$4,800 labor only). Upon a vote – Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – yes: the motion carried. Since the material has been purchased and is being stored by the township, our only cost is for labor.

Superintendent Lagrou brought up Conner Park's soccer field facilities that are approximately 15 years old. Emeralds soccer coach Jason Smith asked Mr. Lagrou if they could get donations for new posts and put a sign up acknowledging the parties making the donations during game times. The trustees agreed that this was a good idea, and Solicitor Strickler stated that anything that is put up should say "donated by", and not be an ad.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

Tops of catch basins have been rebuilt on Darr Rd. and Westwood Drive. Lids were put back on and finished with a concrete swale. Catch basins on Pinewood Drive will be next.

Ditch mowing has started – the grass growth is slower, but the weeks are up.

S & S is almost ready to plant grass on Stahl Rd. and they need 7,000-8,000 gallons of water. The CR 39 and CR 12 pump station could be used, but they are looking for a way where they won't have to start and stop all the time. Mr. Lagrou will contact Bob Ward and/or Ken Frost to see if we can use water from the city.

Twelve loads of dirt have been taken to fill the Stahl Road project properties. The township has hauled sand from McGormley Road, and will haul good dirt to Stahl Road properties.

Mr. Lagrou advised that Sandusky Township has asked about the joint paving of Poorman's Subdivision next year. Mr. Lagrou advised that it is in our minutes to pave it next year, and he will work with Sandusky Township, and will also check with Laurel Court apartments regarding paving their parking lots at the same time to get the best possible results.

Steven Rodd of CR 31 suggested the township put more "curve" signs at CR 12 and CR 31. People are missing the curve(s) even with the chevrons that are up. Solicitor Strickler stated that the Uniform Traffic Code should be followed. Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, that the township add two chevron signs and an arrow sign on CR 31 at CR 12. Upon a vote, Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Lagrou advised that the township will make a submission for the OTARMA MORE grant of \$500.00 by providing the quote for the purchase of three harnesses and four pigtails for the liftbox purchased last year. These items total \$558.18.

The county engineer sign posts are in.

Mr. Lagrou is working on tree removal list and will be getting prices.

A resolution is needed for the 2018 Issue I paving project cooperation agreement and will be presented tonight for passage.

Mrs. Ickes inquired about the unpaid invoice for \$124.33 from June that Mr. Lagrou sent to Progressive Insurance for sign replacement from a traffic accident on Baker Rd. He has been in contact with them, and will continue to attempt to get them to pay.

Bill Pickard of Morrison Rd. had contacted Mr. Lagrou about water in his yard. Mr. Lagrou discovered that someone had put spray foam into the tile between the properties of Bill Rusch and Mr. Pickard. The township dug up a 4 ft. piece of concrete tile with foam in it the entire length. Photos were taken of the large piece of foam, and Mr. Lagrou showed those in attendance the piece of foam. Mr. Lagrou summarized the conversation he had with Mr. Rusch at the time the tile was dug up, with Mr. Rusch stating that he had purchased the tile – which is in the township's right-of-way. Therefore, this is the township's tile, per Solicitor Strickler. Mr. Rusch told Mr. Lagrou to research the history of this tile in the township's meeting minutes. Mr. Lagrou advised he has been searching for this information.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Kusmer advised that the township has made the purchase of three acres across Tiffin Road from Jack Zimmerman.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kusmer stated that Mark Mulligan of the county prosecutor's office is assisting the township with the problems encountered with the previous website provider to close the old website.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to not sign and to not pay the Southland Meadows property taxes with check #27857 presented by the fiscal officer for \$199.21. Upon a vote, Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; the motion carried, and the township will not be paying the property taxes due on the Southland Meadows detention pond.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to advance \$13,000.00 from the General Fund to the Fire Fund for payment to Ballville Volunteer Fire Department. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; as Resolution 2017-36:

RESOLUTION 2017-36

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO ADVANCE THE SUM OF \$13,000.00 FROM FUND 1000, GENERAL FUND, TO FUND 2281, FIRE AND RESCUE, AMBULANCE AND EMS, FOR PAYMENT OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES FROM BALLVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Geyer moved, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to sign and approve payment of check #27871 for \$105,000.00 to Ballville Volunteer Fire Department. Upon a vote, Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried, and trustees signed the check.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, for acceptance of the amounts and rates resolution certified by the county auditor. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; as Resolution 2017-37:

RESOLUTION 2017-37

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for passage of the 2018 Issue I Cooperation Agreement. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; as Resolution 2017-38:

RESOLUTION 2017-38

COOPERATION AGREEMENT RESOLUTION 2017-38

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, for a reallocation within the General Fund. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; as Resolution 2017-39:

RESOLUTION 2017-39

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO REALLOCATE AMONG ACCOUNT LINE ITEMS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND

Mrs. Ickes advised that she missed the deadline by a day for cancellation notice of the AEP to First Energy electricity generation as voted on at the last meeting. This matter was resolved with a courtesy drop by First Energy after one month of service, and the township will be back to AEP.

Shantel Laird of Croghan Colonial Bank will be present on September 19 to discuss the bank depository changes by the state treasurer’s office which affects the amount of collateral banking institutions must have on hand for deposit of public funds, per Mrs. Ickes.

A ten-minute break was taken, and the meeting was resumed at 8:05 p.m. to begin the work session on the employee handbook with the trustees, fiscal officer, solicitor, and superintendent present. Mr. Lagrou left at 8:25 p.m. The trustees established two additional work sessions: Tuesday, September 12 at 4:30 p.m., and Tuesday, September 26 at 4:30 p.m., at the township house. Mrs. Ickes will have these work sessions advertised in the News-Messenger and posted at the township house.

Solicitor Strickler informed the trustees he would be absent for the October 3 meeting, but would be present at the October 17 meeting.

The August 31, 2017 Bank Reconciliation, purchase orders and checks for bills were signed by the trustees at this meeting.

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Stotz, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen K. Ickes, Fiscal Officer

W. Robert Kusmer, Chairman