

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 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. Randal L. Strickler, Solicitor, arrived at 5:40 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the October 17, 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:\$ 30,937.15

Total receipts:\$ 22,744.31

Cash total:\$ 945,906.46

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; the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Julie Hasselbach of Sprouse Insurance Agency was present to review the January 1, 2018 healthcare renewal as she had researched options for the township, among them a 12% rate increase for the same coverage and deductibles. Following discussion, Mrs. Hasselbach requested that the trustees advise of their decision by the end of November to allow adequate time for processing the renewal.

Brian Edwards, who has lived at 2163 Hayes Avenue for 25 years, spoke to the trustees about Community Health Services (“CHS”) and their new facility on Hayes Avenue right by his home. Mr. Edwards advised that, as a member of the township’s Zoning Commission, when he voted for the zoning change that CHS requested, they represented that they would be good neighbors, but that has not happened. He pointed out that the pond on the CHS property was supposed to be a retention pond; and CHS is now wanting to put fencing up on two side as the barrier between zoning changes when it could be trees or other acceptable barriers. Mr. Edwards believes that a fence could go up at any time; the field will not be kept; and CHS has two large dirt mounds (one is entirely clay) that are full of tall weeds.

Zoning Inspector Bain stated that a zoning permit was recently obtained for fencing at CHS. Mr. Edwards pointed out that, while the zoning regulations state that a barrier must go up between zoning districts (as in residential/commercial), the property owner could choose a fence, but is not limited to that. Mr. Edwards and his neighbors will have no view from their homes, and will be unable to see the deer, etc. in the neighborhood. He feels that CHS is only going to do what is good for them. This is not what they indicated 7-8 years ago (around the time when the property was purchased by CHS) when the zoning was changed. Building of the new facility on the CHS property did not occur until the last year or so.

Mr. Edwards again requested that immediate action be taken to prevent the CHS fence from going up since he sees signs that it could happen soon - stakes on the property, and the property has been OUPS'd. A fence would box him, and his neighbors, in and they want to get it stopped. Chairman Kusmer stated that he would review the zoning notes on the property and look into the matter, and Mr. Edwards requested it to be done urgently.

Ms. Terri Weickert of Pinewood Drive was present and asked Solicitor Strickler for a valid phone number and correspondence address. Mr. Strickler provided a business card with his information on it. Mr. Strickler stated that he received the measurements for Ms. Weickert's fence today, and he will review the same and contact her attorney regarding the fence matter.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson

Mr. Ferguson had nothing specific to report. A brief discussion with Mr. Lagrou took place regarding mowing the cemeteries for the last time this year, preparing for winter, and opening gates.

Mr. Lagrou presented two deeds that were signed by the trustees:

Lynn Salyer, McGormley Cemetery, Section 12, Lot 2, Grave 8

John Krochmalny, McGormley Cemetery, Section 13, Lot 26, Four Graves - 1, 2, 5, and 6

Mr. Geyer moved, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to retroactively re-appoint Jack Ferguson as a member of the Cemetery Board for a three-year term from May 8, 2017 – May 11, 2020, Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to retroactively re-appoint Jim Gillis as a member of the Cemetery Board for a three-year term, from May 9, 2016 – May 13, 2019. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from November 7, 2017, which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

Upon a brief discussion, Mr. Bain advised he would speak with Joe Lyszak, CEO of CHS regard Mr. Edwards' concerns and the fence issue.

Mrs. Ickes advised that Ben Decker has submitted a letter of non-renewal for the Board of Zoning Commission at his current term expiration of December 31, 2017. Mr. Stotz, moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to accept Mr. Decker's non-renewal at December 31, 2017 with regret. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to move Bill Guhn from an alternate on the Board of Zoning Commission to a regular member of the board, effective January 1, 2018, to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Decker. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried.

Upon further discussion, Mr. Kusmer advised that he would contact former Zoning Inspector Dave Schwartz to serve as an alternate on the Board of Zoning Commission to fill the position just vacated by Mr. Guhn.

It was also noted that the Board of Zoning Appeals needs to fill two alternate positions.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood

Mr. Wood reported that he had nothing new to report. The children's Halloween party did not have a good turnout. Discussion took place about starting earlier on a school night, or having this on a weekend in order to have a better response.

Mr. Lagrou advised that today the Conner Park restrooms were closed down, and porta-johns were delivered. He will advise the EPA of this. He has checked and the budget looks good for the porta-john rentals.

Mr. Lagrou will be in Sandusky attending his water certification classes this Thursday.

Todd Lindsay is still supposed to be tilling up the land in the new park, according to Mr. Lagrou.

Doug Crowell of Universal Farms had asked Mr. Lagrou if the township has a place for grindings because he has some he needs to get rid of soon because he cannot keep them for more than two years. The township would like to use them in the Chudzinski-Johannsen Park, and Mr. Kusmer stated that they can be used to start building roads once we get a backhoe in there. There was a review of the plans and discussion on the park's development.

Mr. Lagrou stated that Sue Babione delivered the Park District Grant application today, and there are three grants in total. The township should know by the end of the year of any awards. Wearthats were submitted for the 0-\$1,000 category; Trees for the \$1,000-3,000 category; and Swing(s) at a total cost of \$8,000 for the \$3,000-6,000 category. The wearthats are installed for safety purposes under swings and have a life of 5-10 years before they are replaced by re-installing new mats fastened to a concrete base.

The Parks Board would like the township to purchase red garland (a new color) for the Ballville Bridge. Mr. Lagrou advised that the current garland is rusting as it gets older and breaks apart. The township would get 1,000 feet (need 800-900 feet), and the cost is \$2.44 a foot. The estimate for the red garland is \$2,615.00. Discussion took place on whether white or color lights would look better with the red garland, with Mr. Lagrou stating that the lights are all in good working order. Discussion took place on not decorating the large tree in Connor Park again this year because of the toll from wind damage on the lights. The trustees encouraged Mr. Lagrou to get another year out of the green garland, and to see if there will be any reductions in price after this year's holidays are over for the red garland.

Mr. Wood stated that the Walmart gift cards obtained from donations for the Halloween party do not expire, and what remains from the party will be used in the future.

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to have Valley Electric replace the tall light that is out in Conner Park at a cost of \$250.00 as quoted (a purchase order has already been issued). Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried. Mr. Lagrou was advised to obtain more than one quote in the future for this kind of work.

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life walk will be held in Conner Park on June 9, 2018. Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for the township to once again be a sponsor for this event. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried.

The Parks Board meeting minutes from October 9, 2017 were entered into the township's meeting minutes.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

Quotes for new tires for township vehicles #6 (Hoffman) and #7 (Lagrou) were received from Nu-Tire, Smiley Tire, and Wilson Tire (Tiffin). Upon review of the quotes, Nu-Tire was the lowest for a total of \$1,184.05 for both vehicles with a breakdown of \$626.34 for #6 and \$557.71 for #7. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to purchase the tires from Nu-Tire. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried.

In a recent phone call to the township, insurance agent Rob Egbert has assured Mr. Lagrou that Progressive Insurance will pay the \$124.33 within a week that is due from a June 15, 2017 invoice for damage to a STOP sign.

Ax-Pro has provided a quote of \$500.00 to take down one more tree that Mr. Lagrou believes should come down at Grove and River Streets. This tree was not included in the list recently approved. Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, that Ax-Pro take down a tree at Grove and River Streets for the \$500.00 quoted price from Ax-Pro. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried.

The Christmas tree drop-off for township residents will be December 26-January 15. Mr. Lagrou will make sure this information is passed on to OSS Solid Waste and the township's website.

Seventeen tires that were found along the roadside were turned in at the recent OSS Solid Waste drop-off.

Brush drop-off at Universal Farms will be Saturday, November 11 from 8:00 a.m. – noon.

Mr. Lagrou reported that the township has received the OTARMA MORE grant for \$500.00, and the township will be purchasing the safety equipment as submitted for the grant.

It was discovered that there was a tile in the township's right-of-way that had been buried at 2573 Morrison (Durnwald residence) probably when the home was built. It was dug out and is working good right now.

Ken Haslinger of Rambo Lane had a sinkhole that the township fixed recently.

Dana Schratt of 35 Norbert Drive contacted Mr. Lagrou about a driveway tile in the township's right-of-way. Mr. Lagrou said he looked into it and found the material of the pipe varied from one neighbor to the next (clay, plastic, or concrete), depending on who put the tile in, but clearly this was all done by the residents themselves. Schratt would like the township to fix the tile, but it is not a township tile and, therefore, not a township matter.

Mr. Lagrou asked the trustees if a part-time employee could be hired, and that he has someone in mind whose references have all checked out. The prospective candidate has a CDL, class A, has done truck mechanic work/repairs, and could help with snow plowing since he knows how to work on the roads, having worked for ODOT. There are some things the township needs help on at this time, specifically finishing the sign grant installation. Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to hire this part-time employee pending background checks, driving record, etc. all coming back good. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

The trustees set the date for the township Christmas party for Friday, December 8 from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Solicitor Strickler will have a resolution for the next meeting to be passed by the trustees.

Mrs. Ickes advised that the Auditor of State has declared a holiday on the \$50.00 a month fee for hardware for 2018.

The Ohio School Law publication notice from Thomson Reuters is not needed by the township.

Mr. Lagrou asked the trustees if the superintendent meeting can be held at the township house between the Christmas party on December 8 and Christmas, and he was told that would be fine.

At 8:10 p.m. Mr. Geyer moved, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to enter into Executive Session to discuss employee compensation and benefits. Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried and the trustees entered into Executive Session with Mrs. Ickes and Solicitor Strickler. At 8:25 p.m. Mr. Geyer moved, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to exit Executive Session and return to the regular meeting. Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried, and the regular meeting was resumed.

Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, effective January 1, 2018, to renew for one year the same healthcare coverage with Medical Mutual with the same deductibles; to have no wage increase for full-time employees due to the 12% increase in the healthcare costs, and to implement a spousal waiver for access to township healthcare if the spouse is eligible for healthcare with his or her employer. The township will continue to fund the HRA benefit at the same rate. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried. A letter from the trustees will be given to the full-time employees who are affected by these changes as soon as practicable in order to provide sufficient notice to them.

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

Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen K. Ickes, Fiscal Officer

W. Robert Kusmer, Chairman