

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 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.

Trustee Geyer noted a change to be made on page three of the December 5, 2017 meeting minutes as follows: “Mrs. Ickes advised that acceptance notifications have been received from Bill Guhn (Board of Zoning Commission) and Richard ~~Guhn~~ Hoffman (Board of Zoning Appeals) for changes from alternate to member status effective January 1, 2018.” The correction was duly noted.

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the December 5, 2017 meeting be approved as amended. 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:	\$ 36,871.17
Total receipts:	\$ 4,472.12
Cash total:	\$ 882,301.79

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.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

Mrs. Ickes advised that the 2015-2016 audit by the State of Ohio Auditor’s office is almost complete. Within the next week or so the exit interview will be held, and any trustee interested in attending should advise her accordingly.

Regarding the re-election of Trustees Kusmer and Stotz for new four-year terms commencing January, 1, 2018, Mrs. Ickes reported the following:

Trustee Bob Kusmer was sworn in Tuesday, December 5, 2017 by Fiscal Officer Ickes. His new bond is effective January 1, 2018.

Trustee Dave Stotz was sworn in Tuesday, December 5, 2017 by Fiscal Officer Ickes. His new bond is effective January 1, 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Gary Grayson stated he was present to monitor the meeting, and also regarding the Shoemaker’s complaint (regarding fence on property owned by Terri Weickert next door to the Shoemaker residence). He advised that the board favors complainants and that is discrimination.

Dave Wammes was present once again to discuss the Winters Ditch project with the trustees. He is completing the petition for this project and would like the trustees' input, and their support would give the project a little more weight. He presented items for review, consisting of the petition and a drawing of the areas affected. Mr. Wammes explained the water flow into the Sandusky River from the properties on the drawing, and discussion took place with the trustees and Superintendent Lagrou. Mr. Wammes advised that he would like to turn the petition in shortly after the first of the year. The Jackson Township trustees have signed on. The county will assess property owners for the costs of the project, and Ballville will be assessed for a small area that includes a cemetery.

The Winters Ditch project has three phases: first, an informational hearing for review of the project; secondly, an actual hearing where the project is voted on and the county will weigh the costs versus benefits of the project; and lastly, a final hearing where the work will be contracted out. Farmers with property in the project area have signed on as their interests are focused on the need for their field tiles to work properly.

Trustee Kusmer advise that additional discussion will take place later in this meeting, and a decision will be made by the trustees at the next meeting, January 2, 2018. Mr. Wammes said he will be back for the meeting and the trustees' decision.

Paul Shoemaker advised that he was present to observe, and for the latest update on the fence issue on Pinewood Drive (and the property owned by Terri Weickert). Chairman Kusmer stated that this would be discussed later in the meeting when Zoning is up on the agenda.

Ballville Volunteer Fire Department Chief reported that there was not much new regarding the fire loss property on Roselawn. The Gonya Farms fire situation has not changed as he has received no response from Gonya's insurance company (regarding the second building damaged in the fire).

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson and Jim Gillis

Mr. Gillis advised that the Cemetery Board will discuss a columbarium and make plans as costs are determined for the columbarium and what funds are available.

Superintendent Lagrou said that Mike Binsack, who cleaned and sealed the Oakwood Mausoleum at a cost of \$7,000 earlier this year, has offered an annual maintenance spray on the mausoleum for \$750.00 for better upkeep and keeping the algae and mildew down. Discussion took place on the effects of power washing taking off the seal Mr. Binsack applied. The trustees would like more information on the process and what will be used, and will discuss further in 2018. Jack Ferguson said we hoped to get 10-12 years out of Mr. Binsack's sealing work done in 2017, and asked that the trustees consider Mr. Binsack's annual maintenance in a year or so to preserve the sealing work. Mr. Lagrou suggested that Mr. Binsack should attend a meeting to discuss this for a better understanding.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from December 19, 2017 which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

A brief discussion took place with input from Phil Klausz, Board of Zoning Commission member, regarding manufactured homes (pitched roof, permanent foundation and square footage). Mr. Bain will be researching this further.

Sandusky County Assistant Prosecutor Mark Mulligan sent a letter to property owner Chris Williamson as requested by Mr. Kusmer in response to complaints by neighbors about his property on Hayes Avenue. A letter from Mr. Mulligan might also help resolve the Compliment property issues.

Mr. Bain informed the trustees that the camera he uses is old enough that it is hard to find the cards to store pictures on. Mr. Stotz informed Mr. Bain it was OK to purchase a new camera. Mr. Bain will wait until next year to look into purchasing the camera, and can make do until then.

Mr. Bain asked the trustees if he could attend the OTA conference that starts January 31, 2018 in Columbus. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, for Mr. Bain to attend and make the expenditures for attending the OTA conference. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

Chairman Kusmer provided an update on the Hayes Avenue fence issue involving Brian Edwards, along with neighbors Chad & Charlonda Long, regarding the fence that Community Health Services (CHS) planned to put up between the neighbors and CHS. The CHS board met November 29 and voted to not put the fence up at this time, as it will adversely affect the neighbors. They approved putting the fence up at a later date if problems were encountered. Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to override the fence requirement for a buffer, that the fence may not go up around the residences of Brian Edwards and Chad & Charlonda long at this time, but CHS has the right to install the fence at a later date. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried. Mr. Kusmer also stated that CHS CEO Joe Lyszak would speak to these neighbors regarding all matters that need to be addressed.

Mr. Kusmer advised that he spoke to Solicitor Randy Strickler today regarding the Terri Weickert property on Pinewood Drive, and that the attorneys were still in conversation to resolve this matter.

There are two alternate openings on the Board of Zoning Appeals and one applicant. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to select applicant Ezekiel Villarreal for the alternate vacancy he expressed interest in on the Board of Zoning Appeals effective January 1, 2018. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

There is one opening on the Board of Zoning Commission and there are three applicants. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to select applicant David Schwartz, former zoning inspector, for the alternate vacancy on the Board of Zoning Commission effective January 1, 2018. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

Fiscal Officer Ickes was requested to send letters to the other two applicants for the Board of Zoning Commission alternate positions to see if there was any interest in serving in the open alternate position on the Board of Zoning Appeals instead. The applicants should contact Zoning Inspector Dave Bain.

Mr. Kusmer stated that the Sandusky County Prosecutor's office has determined the owner of the Southland Meadows Detention Pond is KF Ventures and not the township. Ballville Township has contested being listed as the owner and taxed as such for quite some time. The issue will be discussed again in January, 2018.

As Gary Grayson was leaving, he asked if the November meeting minutes were on the website yet and stated that it was an inconvenience to wait six weeks to get them online.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood

Mr. Lagrou informed the trustees that the township was awarded the Sandusky County Parks District grant for \$7,893. He just received the award letter, and provided a copy to Mrs. Ickes along with proof of a direct deposit by the Sandusky County Auditor on December 12. In the spring of 2018 the township will purchase safety wear mats to install under playground swings and an expression swing which holds an adult and small child. Mr. Lagrou will send a thank-you note to the Parks District.

Mr. Kusmer discussed the Chudzinski-Johannsen Park, including possibilities for a museum.

Mr. Lagrou said the Parks Board meeting last week was a quick one. The Ballville Bridge is decorated for the holidays, and Ax-Pro has worked on tree removal.

Mr. Wood advised that the Parks Board is considering date and time changes to the Halloween Party for township children to promote better attendance.

Mr. Kusmer added that, following a recent meeting with State Representative Bill Reineke, he provided information regarding getting state funds of up to \$800,000 for development of the new park. Mr. Kusmer is getting letters of support from around the community, including local schools, as the new park will provide great educational opportunities. Private donations are also being sought.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

Superintendent Lagrou advised that leaves were done today, and there were 85 loads this year.

All trucks are ready to go for snowplowing except for the leaf truck at this time.

Mr. Lagrou stated that he will need a purchase order for salt which is \$31.23 a ton, and he will provide information to the fiscal officer for the PO.

A township snowplow damaged a manhole cover on River Drive. It was broken earlier this year and, due to its size, the replacement had to be ordered, and should be here Friday this week.

The township purchased harnesses and lanyards with the MORE grant and will be added to the township's inventory.

Snow fences are up except for at Buchanan and McGormley.

Christmas tree recycling drop-offs are from December 26-January 15 in a trailer at Conner Park.

B & W Welding will have to do more work on the John Deere ditch mower.

Ax-Pro has a few more trees to remove.

Following the discussion tonight with Dave Wammes, it was discussed that CR 201 and a township cemetery drains into Winters Ditch.

Mr. Kusmer advised that 108 was the cutoff for the Issue I project, and the joint application by Ballville and other townships came in at 110. A formal letter of award will be forthcoming from Donna Kirkbride. We will bid the project out on February 6, 2018.

Mr. Lagrou stated that Sandusky Township has informed him that they want to go in together with Ballville Township and re-pave Poorman's subdivision in 2018.

Doug Crowell of Universal Farms informed trustees that he will send a contract for brush drop-off for 2018 as the current contract expires December 31, 2017. A brief discussion regarding the EPA ensued.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A brief discussion took place after Mrs. Ickes advised that the township must find another vendor to perform the work currently done by Centec as she has a relative involved there. This was discussed with the State of Ohio Auditor's office during the audit in progress for years 2015-2016.

Mrs. Ickes requested that the trustees approve revised temporary appropriations for a few adjustments she feels should be made for the first three months of 2018. Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for new and revised temporary appropriations for 2018. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; as Resolution 2017-49:

RESOLUTION 2017-49

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO REVISE AND REPLACE THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENDITURES ADOPTED DECEMBER 5, 2017 IN RESOLUTION 2017-48 TO THE AMOUNT OF \$471,035.20 FROM JANUARY 1, 2018 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2018

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for a fund balance reduction adjustment and reduction in Fund 2021 Gasoline Tax appropriations as a correction from the State of Ohio Auditor's office audit for 2015-2016 for a deposit made in Gasoline Tax Fund instead of the General Fund in 2015. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; as Resolution 2017-50:

RESOLUTION 2017-50

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO REDUCE THE FUND BALANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS IN FUND 2021 GASOLINE TAX BY \$1,268.00 TO COMPLY WITH 2015-2016 AUDIT GUIDANCE

Mr. Stotz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for the township to resume use of a private purpose fund for the Cemetery Overmyer Bequest Fund as a result of the State of Ohio Auditor's office audit for 2015 and 2016. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; as Resolution 2017-51

RESOLUTION 2017-51

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO REACTIVATE FUND 9751, CEMETERY BEQUEST - OVERMYER, AND FOR THE NON-EXPENDABLE AMOUNT OF \$2,104.29 PLUS THE CURRENT EXPENDABLE INTEREST FROM FUND 4951 TOTALING \$2,110.27 BE POSTED TO FUND 9751, FOR ALL FUTURE INTEREST TO BE REINVESTED IN FUND 9751, AND TO DEACTIVATE FUND 4951

Following a brief discussion regarding legal counsel for 2018, Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, not to renew the contract with Randal Strickler for 2018. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Geyer then made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to hire the law firm of Kocher & Gillum to represent the township on legal matters beginning January 1, 2018. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; the motion carried.

The fiscal officer was requested to draft a letter for all trustees to sign to inform Mr. Strickler of their decision, and to request all township files in his possession be given to the township. Chairman Kusmer advised he would also contact Mr. Strickler accordingly.

Purchase orders and checks for bills were signed by the trustees at this meeting.

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen K. Ickes, Fiscal Officer

W. Robert Kusmer, Chairman