

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018 – 5:30 P.M.

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

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, that the minutes of the January 2, 2018 regular meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz –Yes; the motion carried.

Noted here for ease of reference: After the Cemetery Board Report, Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer that the minutes of the January 8, 2018 Inventory meeting be approved. The township’s inventory totals \$1,247,529.90. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried.

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

Total bills:	\$ 44,253.03
Total receipts:	\$ 38,238.27
Cash total:	\$ 878,236.66

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Ray Rellinger, Board of Zoning Commission Chair, was present and reported that, at their January 10 meeting, they passed a resolution with recommendations for the Board of Trustees. The Regional Planning Commission has reviewed the resolution and made recommendations. He stated that the language used has an effect when there are changes in Ohio Revised Code; the township should have language that keeps the township in compliance. Some terms discussed were regarding marijuana, medical marijuana, and sweepstakes terminal facility, and internet gambling.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to add cultivation of marijuana and sweepstakes terminal facility language to the zoning resolution. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Rellinger asked who will do the next step in the process, and that it needed to be clarified in order to proceed. He advised that the township solicitor will need to review the changes approved by the trustees. Once passed, copies of the the zoning changes will be provided to the Sandusky County Recorder as required. Discussion took place on fees associated with printed copies of the zoning resolution.

Terri Weickert, 17 Pinewood Drive, was present and shared her conversation with Zoning Inspector Dave Bain following her request for a copy of the township's zoning resolution. After a brief discussion, Gary Grayson, of the same address, suggested a .pdf format for easy access to persons wanting a copy.

Ms. Weickert then asked the status of the five fence violations she asked the township to look into months ago. Zoning Inspector Bain stated that he had not looked into them yet. Mr. Grayson questioned when the township will respond.

Trustee Kusmer advised that the township has a new solicitor who has been in contact with Ms. Weickert's attorney regarding the fence and zoning issues. Mr. Grayson asked why the township got an attorney, and discussion followed regarding this matter. Trustee Geyer stated that Ms. Weickert (the property owner) could have gone to the Board of Zoning Appeals on the fence issue. Ms. Weickert explained she had three options, and she chose to correct the issue since John Willey (Regional Planning Commission) recommended against an appeal; she continued by explaining the slope of her property. Discussion took place regarding erection of the fence – the first section in 2015; the second section in 2016 by Fremont Fence. Mr. Grayson stated that the reason for the fence was due to harassment/obscenities/problems with the neighbor's dog coming onto Ms. Weickert's property.

Trustee Geyer stated that he and Mr. Bain have measured Ms. Weickert's fence, and none of it was in compliance with the township's zoning. Discussion took place on the installation of the fence by Fremont Fence, and Ms. Weickert stated she had been told she could fill in under the fence. Mr. Grayson stated that the Fremont Fence employee who installed the Weickert fence was a friend of the complaining neighbor, Paul Shoemaker; also, that Mr. Bain was a long-time friend of Mr. Shoemaker as well. Mr. Bain stated that was not the case.

Chairman Stotz stated that the attorneys involved need to take care of this.

Ms. Weickert asked Mr. Geyer about his statement that the measurements he took showed her fence was not in compliance. She questioned him on how the township knows where the original ground was at, since that is where he stated he and Mr. Bain measured from. She explained the slopes in her yard. Mr. Grayson stated that he disputed the measurements that Mr. Geyer had read aloud. Mr. Geyer stated that perhaps Ms. Weickert might win if she went through the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Grayson stated that continued communication was not there in this situation, and that the attorneys have slowed this process down. Ms. Weickert stated that her fence is not different from most fences in the township, and feels she is being discriminated against.

Ms. Weickert then informed the trustees that when she sent a certified letter requesting an appeal, it was returned to her, taped to her front door. Chairman Stotz stated that the attorneys need to handle this matter, and the township's new attorney is working on it with Ms. Weickert's attorney. Mr. Grayson and Ms. Weickert left the meeting soon after.

Ballville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) Chief Doug Crowell gave the trustees and the fiscal officer copies of the department's 2017 Year-End Report. He reported 163 emergency calls last year. Three calls were made into the Old Fort area. Discussion took place on coordination of agencies that respond on different kinds of calls for service. Chief Crowell stated that when the fire department responds, sometimes their manpower is needed to help transport a person, shovel a walk, and provide assistance as needed.

For water rescues, BVFD is called in by many agencies as they are well-trained and well-equipped. Chief Crowell also discussed the new Sandusky County 911 system coming in June or July that will be shared with Wood and Ottawa Counties. BVFD will have a dispatching tool for i-phones and will have the ability to see who on the department is responding to a call and how far out they are. They will also have the ability to know what they can expect on a call so they are better prepared when they arrive; for example, they will be alerted if a person on oxygen, has a mental condition, or a disability.

Larry Bowers of Morrison Rd asked if S & S needed to look at the catch basins. Trustee Kusmer stated that they will repair the project (Stahl Road drainage work done in 2017) as it was not graded right. Mr. Bowers commented on factors that he thought caused problems near his residence.

Todd Lindsay discussed the water issues on the east side of Stahl Rd. and Buchanan, and asked if they would be resolved soon. Mr. Kusmer stated that it depends on the money available for projects. Mr. Lindsay stated that a person can see right through the catch basins, and that they are worse than the other end of Stahl Rd. Superintendent Lagrou will look into this as Mr. Lindsay said there are four places where water comes across the road.

Mr. Lindsay next discussed the property the township purchased across the road from the township building as he would like to develop a 1-3 year plan for tiling. He owns property in the area and there are tiles that will need to be re-routed. Mr. Kusmer responded that the township hopes to erect a salt bin next year and a replacement building for the Hydraulic Park storage building after that. It would probably be 10 years before any township facility is built there.

Mr. Lindsay questioned if the trustees knew where they were going with the drainage on that property. Superintendent Lagrou advised that he and Mr. Lindsay have discussed that Mr. Lindsay wants to re-tile property in the area, and they joined the trustees in a review of a map and discussed this further. Chairman Stotz informed Mr. Lindsay that the trustees will work with him to re-route tiles to keep both his, and township, property from flooding. Mr. Lindsay indicated his desire to get this done sooner rather than later, and that he would like to do it just once. Discussion took place regarding working together for everyone's benefit.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson

Mr. Ferguson had nothing to report.

The trustees then voted to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2018 Inventory meeting minutes, as noted on page 1 (placed there for easy reference).

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from January 16, 2018 which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

Mrs. Ickes informed the trustees that Ezekiel Villarreal has accepted to fill an alternate vacancy on the Board of Zoning Appeals, and Dave Schwartz (former zoning inspector), has accepted to fill the alternate vacancy on the Board of Zoning Commission.

One vacancy still exists on the Board of Zoning Appeals, and two letters of interest were received. Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to appoint Dale Hill as an alternate on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried. Mrs. Ickes will contact Mr. Hill accordingly, and advise the other applicant of the decision.

Mr. Bain discussed the problems with the township's aging camera, and asked the trustees if a smart-phone might work better for taking photos. Mr. Lagrou was directed to look into this matter with our phone provider as the township's contract is up in March.

Regarding the Compliment property, Mr. Kusmer advised that Assistant Prosecutor Mark Mulligan should be contacted to send a letter to Mr. Compliment. The township has gotten good results from the letters the county prosecutor's office have sent in the recent past.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood

Mr. Wood informed the trustees that, at the last meeting, the Parks Board discussed the state grant of \$800,000 for which the township has applied. It was noted that the Parks Board minutes from January 8, 2018 incorrectly stated the amount as \$80,000.

Replacement garland for Ballville Bridge is being looked into for color and cost.

The meeting in February will be their reorganizational meeting, and good attendance is anticipated.

Mr. Lagrou requested that the trustees pass a resolution on the agenda for the OSS grant for ADA accessible equipment: three wheelchair accessible hex picnic tables, four 6' boardwalk benches, and one tree surround bench (all made from recycled lumber). The quote is for \$6,267.24 from Bright Idea Shops, and the township must provide 75% matching funds (\$4,700.43). The grant application is due January 1, 2018. Superintendent Lagrou stated that Conner Park is frequently the destination of groups of people with developmental disabilities, and from senior centers and nursing homes. Sometimes with the same groups come more than once in the same week. The wear mats that the township will be getting through the Sandusky County Parks grant makes for easy access with wheelchairs.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, to apply for the OSS grant, with Sue Babione as the township's designated contact. Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion passed as Resolution #2018-1:

RESOLUTION 2018-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO APPLY FOR THE 2018- OSS JOINT SOLID WASTE DISTRICT COMPETITIVE FUNDING PROGRAM.

Discussion took place on the LED lighting in Conner Park.

Superintendent Lagrou informed the trustees that there were 26 Christmas trees dropped off for recycling, as well as brush that someone threw in.

The Parks Board meeting minutes from January 8, 2018 were entered into the township's meeting minutes.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

Mr. Lagrou updated the trustees on the status of the portable radios (repeater) the township uses, purchased from Futronics. The radios work fine, but five batteries are needed at a cost of \$87.40 each. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kusmer, for Mr. Lagrou to purchase the batteries for the radios at a total cost of \$437.00. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The 2018 Issue I Repaving project ad has been placed for the February 6, 2018 bid opening at 6:00 p.m. The contract is at the county engineer's office and has been signed by Ballville's trustees, and the other townships are still providing signatures, per Mrs. Ickes.

Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, not to pay the property taxes on the Southland Meadows Detention pond, due February 9, 2018 (check #28177 presented at this meeting). Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried to not pay the property taxes. The check was not signed and will be voided. Mrs. Ickes informed the trustees that the county prosecutor's office contacted her today looking for documents relative to determining ownership of this property. It was discussed that the township maintains the roads and catch basins, but not the detention pond. The county owns all the roads and the township just maintains them. Mr. Lagrou will respond to the county prosecutor's office with the requested information.

Before leaving the meeting, Doug Crowell of Universal Farms requested that the annual brush drop-off contract be renewed at the February 6, 2018 in the interest of time since he had another meeting to attend tonight.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to reallocate \$12,000.00 among line items in the Road and Bridge Fund. The extreme weather conditions have caused increased gasoline and diesel fuel use that may exceed temporary appropriations. In order to be prepared until permanent appropriations are passed, Mrs. Ickes asked the trustees to approve this reallocation in the Road and Bridge Fund for fuel. Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion passed as Resolution #2018-2:

RESOLUTION 2018-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO REALLOCATED AMONG ACCOUNT LINE ITEMS WITHIN THE ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND.

Mrs. Ickes informed the trustees the new Local Government Law reference book and CD for townships is available as a reference resource.

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. Kusmer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen K. Ickes, Fiscal Officer

David P. Stotz, Chairman