

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, JULY 3, 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 was Trustee Richard A. Geyer. Trustee W. Robert Kusmer had an excused absence. Solicitor James Barney was also present.

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the June 19, 2018 meeting be approved as written. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz –Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Geyer wanted a correction made to the June 27, 2018 special meeting minutes to Paragraph 5, which was written as follows:

“Mrs. Ickes stated that it is responsible for the trustees to ask the voters for a levy and let them decide if the township will have additional resources. Mr. Geyer stated that the trustees should sell the land on Tiffin Road (purchased in 2017) and the new park (Chudzinski-Johannsen) should go back to the state.”

Shall be corrected to state as follows:

“Mrs. Ickes stated that it is responsible for the trustees to ask the voters for a levy and let them decide if the township will have additional resources. Mr. Geyer stated that the trustees should sell the land on Tiffin Road (purchased in 2017) and the new park (Chudzinski-Johannsen). Mr. Kusmer stated that the (Chudzinski-Johannsen) money will go back to the state.”

Moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the minutes of the June 27, 2018 special meeting regarding finances be approved as amended. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz –Yes; the motion carried.

Ellen Ickes, Fiscal Officer, provided printed financial reports to the trustees: Appropriation Status, Payment Listing, Receipt Listing, Fund Status, Cash Summary by Fund, Resources Available for Appropriation, and Comparison of Budget and Appropriated. A verbal financial report was given as follows for today’s meeting:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Total bills: | \$ 15,474.32 |
| Total receipts: | \$ 16,674.01 |
| Cash total: | \$ 1,063,471.86 |

It was moved by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the financial report be approved and the bills be paid. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – 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).

Veronica Rohm of 1620 Buckland Ave. was present to discuss grass-cutting at her residence. She stated that the Zoning Inspector told her he doesn’t care about her health issues or disability. She has lived at this residence for 20 years and questioned why this is now a problem. Zoning Inspector Bain advised that he did not say that. Chairman Stotz and Mr. Geyer advised that if that is what happened, the township apologizes.

Ms. Rohm stated that she has a casket and chair in the front of her property, and Mr. Bain gave photos of these items in the front of her property to the trustees. She stated that her neighbors have harassed her, and she provided personal information about herself. She further stated that she has always mowed, and that she has health issues. She has plans for the casket and she helps a veteran.

Mr. Bain stated that Ms. Rohm has cut her grass. Ms. Rohm read the note aloud that Mr. Bain left on her door, and she told the trustees that she was not a 12 year old. She could put flowers in the casket and use it as an ornament. Both trustees said they will take a look at her property, and that there are worse properties in the township. Mr. Stotz told Ms. Rohm that Mr. Bain did not mean to hurt her feelings. Mr. Bain said he leaves notes on doors when he knocks and no one answers. Ms. Rohm stated that she mows every two weeks, and Mr. Bain advised that grass needs to be cut more often than that. Mr. Stotz said they will take a look at her property, and they appreciated listening to her. She told them her phone number was on the sign-in sheet before leaving the meeting.

Mr. Geyer will go with Mr. Bain to look at a Jeep with expired plates at Ms. Rohm's home.

Ballville Fire Department Chief Doug Crowell stated that they got an EMS grant for \$1,400.

He said there were no changes on the Gonya fire loss building that the township is still holding money on (received from insurance company), and advised against the township releasing the money at this time. He will monitor the situation.

Chief Crowell discussed the Lexipol grant the township has been awarded through OTARMA for their policies and procedures software. Mrs. Ickes advised that nothing has been received yet. It was discussed that the township has to order the software and pay the grant money for the software to the vendor (not to the fire department).

This has been a record year so far for fire department runs – they are at 102 or 103 right now. At one point, they had 28 runs in 30 days.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson and Jim Gillis

Mr. Gillis has visited several of the cemeteries recently. He commended Mr. Lagrou and the township crew for their hard work in keeping the cemeteries so well-maintained.

The wreaths are up for July 4 at McGormley Cemetery.

Mr. Lagrou advised that Helen Wildermuth, from Stonehugger, repaired a stone that was found laying on the ground at Halter Cemetery. Her work was described as "impressive".

The new cemetery prices, effective July 1, 2018, have been distributed to funeral homes and have been posted on the website.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou

Mr. Lagrou advised he and Mrs. Ickes spoke regarding the Certificate of Insurance from Journeys naming the township as an additional insured (per the township's new shelter agreement). Journeys will be providing this to the township the next time they have a bouncy house coming into Conner Park. Their insurance carrier charges \$50.00 each time they issue one and they don't want to pay for one unless they have to.

Carlos Baez of the Sandusky County Engineer's office was present and a brief discussion took place about pipelines, asphalt prices, and the construction of roads while waiting for the 6:00 p.m. bid opening.

At 6:00 p.m. Chairman Stotz announced that the acceptance of bids for the Poorman Subdivision repaving joint project for Ballville and Sandusky Townships was closed. Two bids were received for the project. The estimate by the Sandusky County Engineer was \$145,000.00.

Mrs. Ickes opened the bids, noting that both had the appropriate bonds attached:

Gerken Paving bid..... \$140,808.50
Erie Blacktop bid..... \$150,895.50

Mr. Baez will review the bids and return them to Mrs. Ickes next week (Thursday).

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from July 3, 2018, which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

Mr. Bain again told the trustees that he leaves notes for people when he receives no response from knocking on doors. He said he could stop writing notes to people and use a more official-looking notice for zoning issues.

Discussion took place regarding prosecution in Fremont Municipal Court with Law Director Jim Melle, and that Mr. Bain was told if he had notes to show the process was followed, that the City of Fremont zoning person would assist. Solicitor Barney provided an explanation on the types of action that can be taken – civil or criminal, as well as the advantages and disadvantages. Mr. Bain said that a certified letter is usually sent out for zoning violations.

Solicitor Barney suggested that after 15 days is given and no results, Mr. Bain should take a case to Mr. Melle for prosecution; the township also has the option to go to the county prosecutor and options to clean up.

Mr. Ferguson asked about the status of the Weickert fence property. Mr. Barney advised that he would check with Ms. Weickert's attorney.

Mrs. Ickes brought up two zoning appeals hearings for which she billed costs for certified mailings and legal notice costs to the applicants, Walby and Addair. Both parties have stated they were either not aware of these additional costs, or they thought they would receive a refund for the difference between the \$225.00 filing fee and the mailing and advertising costs.

It was discussed that the zoning appeal fees should be changed to \$500 and be done with it. Also discussed was the fact that the zoning appeal board will no longer be paid.

Mr. Stotz moved, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to waive the \$161.24 that the Addairs were charged for certified mailing and advertising fees. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz - Yes; the motion carried.

Further discussion took place, and Solicitor Barney suggested that the zoning application contain the fee structure to avoid confusion. As of July 1 the boards are not being paid. This matter was tabled.

Mrs. Ickes reminded the trustees that other people who had filed zoning variances had questioned the bills they received for mailing and advertising costs, but paid them. Mr. Walby was not successful in his appeal.

Mr. Geyer asked if the motion just passed to waive the Addairs' fees could be rescinded. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to rescind the motion just made waiving the fee of \$161.24 to the Addairs for their zoning appeal fees. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried and the Addairs will have to pay these costs.

Mrs. Ickes stated that she has followed the procedure that was reviewed earlier this year and that the township is correct in billing for the mailing and advertising fees in addition to the variance fee of \$225.00. Others who have questioned the fees, stating they were not told about them, or who thought that they would be refunded the difference of the costs and the \$225.00 filing fee, have paid the costs. It is important to treat people fairly and address these disputed costs so that no more time passes by; the issue needs to be addressed and resolved. For now, Walby and Addair have not paid.

Mrs. Ickes also stated the Lutz School variance mailing and advertising fees have not been billed because she hasn't been able to confirm if Munger & Munger should be billed, or the Fremont City Schools. Mr. Bain stated that Fremont City Schools needs to obtain their permit regarding parking spaces following the June 20 zoning appeal hearing. Doug Crowell asked about the Fremont City Schools' retention pond at the new Lutz School. A permit would be needed for that as well, and that is part of the township's zoning code. Mr. Bain will follow up on this. Lutz Street is a township road; Buckland Avenue is a county road, and Mr. Barney advised that the county engineer should be contacted when dealing with a county road.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

Mr. Lagrou followed up with MT Business Machines about a new copier that would replace the Brother printer and the current copier. A Ricoh Aficio BW/Color multi-function machine would be \$1,999.00 and run 25 pages per minute. Mr. Lagrou estimated the use is probably split between departments by 1/3 or 1/4 – zoning, road and bridge, and parks and cemeteries. A Xerox machine for the same features is \$5,000.00

Brandon Shull (formerly of S & S, his family's business and the contractor that did the 2017 Stahl Rd. drainage project in 2017) went back and did earthwork by the Bowers residence and on catch basins. Work was not done by the Grabenstetter home and that can't be done until the weather is better.

Chairman Stotz signed a driveway permit for the new township facility on Tiffin Road from the county engineer. Mr. Lagrou advised that it was needed to get started with the driveway.

Brush drop-off for July is more than just Saturday, July 14 from 8:00 a.m. – noon. It will also run Monday, July 9 through Friday, July 13 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. July is the only month with an extended period of drop-offs.

Mr. Lagrou informed the trustees the township crew has been working on catch basins, cold-patching, and installing road signs.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Ickes stated that there will be a 2019 Tax Budget Hearing, required per Solicitor Barney, during the next trustees' meeting, Tuesday, July 17, at 6:00 p.m. A legal notice in the newspaper and other appropriate notices will be posted.

An agenda item tonight was to accept and award the low bid for the Issue II joint repaving project, but was tabled due to no confirmation of the state awarding the project. Shortly after, Mr. Lagrou informed the trustees that he double-checked with Carlos Baez who confirmed that the project had been awarded by Ohio Public Works Commission. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to accept the February 6, 2018 bid from Erie Blacktop for a bid amount of \$639,458.70. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed.

Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, for a reduction in appropriations within the General Fund. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Stotz – Yes; Mr. Geyer - Yes; as Resolution 2018-25:

RESOLUTION 2018-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO ADJUST APPROPRIATIONS OF CERTAIN ACCOUNT LINES IN 1000 – GENERAL FUND

Mrs. Ickes asked the trustees to use the worksheet for General Fund appropriations that was passed out at the June 27 special meeting to submit their appropriations for 2019 in order to get the township down to \$188,000.00, the estimated amount of revenue. There continues to be a need to reduce spending and avoid fiscal distress. She asked that the trustees submit the suggested appropriations to her by the weekend so there is a whole week to work on the tax budget before the hearing on July 17; the tax budget needs to be to the county auditor by July 20.

The June 30, 2018 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. Geyer, seconded by Mr. Stotz, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Upon a vote, Mr. Geyer - Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen K. Ickes, Fiscal Officer

David P. Stotz, Chairman