

BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES – REGULAR MEETING
BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP HOUSE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 – 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with Chairman David P. Stotz leading 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 September 4, 2018 meeting be approved as written. 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: 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:\$ 58,363.48

Total receipts:\$ 4,696.08

Cash total in all funds: 1,137,442.20

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. 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).

Common Pleas Court Judge Robert Hart was present and advised that he has 30 years of experience in the criminal justice system. He stated that judges don’t usually talk about issues, but they do when an issue will have an adverse effect, as in the case of Issue I on the November 6 ballot.

Judge Hart explained that passage of Issue I is an amendment to Ohio’s constitution, and it will reclassify Felony 4 and 5 drug convictions as misdemeanors, along with numerous other negatives. Issue I will make Ohio one of the more lenient states regarding crime, including rape, murder, drug-related and other serious offenses, and that it will attract people to Ohio for the wrong reasons. Judge Hart stated that if judges cannot do their jobs and compel jail time for drug offenses, and they also cannot get the offenders into treatment - more people will die as a result. The originators of Issue I are George Soros and Mark Zuckerberg, both of whom have deep pockets and who will launch a campaign in the name of “neighborhood safety”, but the name is misleading and far from the truth. He asked that the township do what it can to get the word out about Issue I, as it will also drain money from our community. He provided handouts with Issue I information. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, that the trustees oppose Issue I. No vote took place as the discussion with Judge Hart continued. The judge asked the trustees of the county to join together to get the word out, perhaps including yard signs, then left to attend other meetings regarding Issue I.

Ballville Volunteer Fire Department Chief Doug Crowell provided a copy of their check and invoice for the purchase of Lexipol software, for which the township provided \$1,000.00 obtained through the OTARMA fire grant. Chief Crowell said that now that they have the software, they can see how it was worth the cost. They are working with the USDA for grants for trucks.

CEMETERY BOARD REPORT - Jack Ferguson and Jim Gillis

Mr. Gillis reported that they will probably not have a semi-annual meeting in October, and the need to publish meetings in legal notices was mentioned. Superintendent Lagrou advised that they have not joined the Ohio Cemetery Association yet.

ZONING INSPECTOR REPORT - David Bain, Zoning Inspector

Mr. Bain reviewed the Ballville Township Zoning Report from September 4, which was entered into the township's meeting minutes.

The property owned by David Reitz on Oakwood was discussed. The roof on the building appears to have at least partially collapsed.

Mr. Bain has four letters that he has sent out on zoning violations.

Bruce Leonard, who had obtained a zoning variance from the township earlier this year for a trailer, has passed away, and his son is handling his affairs.

Siler St. has two problem properties. Mr. Kusmer asked whether the township could contact the bank that is believed to have purchased one of the properties recently regarding the problems there.

The American Legion property has reportedly been purchased by the Fremont City Schools and will be used for its parking lot.

PARKS BOARD REPORT - Bill Lagrou and Kerry Wood

Mr. Wood stated that there was a Parks Board meeting last week.

Trustee Kusmer advised that he contacted Gary Chudzinski recently and told him that the Chudzinski-Johannsen Park cannot be used for remote-controlled airplanes.

Mr. Wood reported that the township Halloween Party will be held Saturday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the back shelterhouse. It is hoped that staying away from having it during the week will boost attendance. It is surmised the City of Fremont's Halloween will probably be on October 31.

The group is seeking donations for the township's 200th anniversary in 2022, and Trustee Kusmer stated that this will be positive for the community.

The Parks Board meeting minutes from July 9, 2018 were entered into the township's meeting minutes.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Superintendent Bill Lagrou

The need for stops signs at Sunrise and Lawndale was discussed. There is a stop sign coming out of the parking lot from Sacred Heart Parish, but none on either of the streets. Trustee Kusmer advised he was concerned about an accident happening there, and also because of liability issues. After discussion, Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to add two stop signs, one each on Sunrise and on Lawndale, making this a three-way stop. Upon a vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried. Superintendent Lagrou will speak with Solicitor Jim Barney about proceeding with the signs and if there is a required waiting period.

Superintendent Lagrou said that Adkins was called to 1928 Finley Drive to clean out a tile. A large rootball was removed. The home there was recently sold, and a neighbor informed the township that a large catch basin was supposedly covered up years ago. Mr. Lagrou reported that the township crew found the circle catch basin and opened it up. Four tiles go into it, and they and worked on it so that there is a 12” riser and it is working properly.

The trustees had their OSS pictures taken at the Hydraulic Park dumpster site before tonight’s meeting, posing with desirable and undesirable recycling items.

Adkins was called out to CR 198. There was a broken tile there that may have been broken by the gas company, but was fixed by the township.

Trustee Kusmer and Superintendent Lagrou will meet soon to discuss the layout of Chudzinski-Johannsen Park in anticipation of work starting on the park.

Mr. Lagrou advised that ditches are being mowed, and there will be one more round before the end of the year.

Garza Construction turned in a bill for \$5,700.00 for milling of the township’s Issue II project. The truck charges have been received under a separate bill, for \$676.50, and it was discussed that the rate used for this was slightly less than quoted. The driveways were milled, and intersections were cleaned up. Erie Construction work will begin around the end of September-early October. Thanks were extended to Trustees Kusmer and Stotz who were the flaggers during during the milling work on those long, hot days.

Gerken Paving will begin repaving Poorman’s subdivision in mid-October.

Minnow Creek dipping was discussed, but this is all private property, connected to the yards of the adjacent properties, and the township cannot do this work for residents.

Mrs. Ickes asked the trustees if they were interested in paying off the Kenworth truck loan yet this year if it worked out in the Road and Bridge Fund. Looking at unused appropriations, the township may be able to pay off the \$10,500 balance and avoid future interest charges. The trustees are interested, and this can be discussed again in the future.

Mr. Lagrou advised that the township will have trees that need to come down yet this year.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Ickes will send letters for board members to indicate their interest in continuing on after their December 31, 2018 term expirations: Sue Babione – Parks; Brian Edwards – Board of Zoning Commission; Brad Lawrence – Board of Zoning Appeals.

The Ohio Township Association Scholarship information has been forwarded to local schools, and will be available through the township in various ways.

The 2019 health insurance renewal was discussed. Following a brief discussion, and considering an 8% increase in premium as well as other factors that would be detrimental if changes in the policy coverage were made, Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, to keep the Medical Mutual policy currently in place at the January 1, 2019 renewal date with the 8% increase in premium. Upon a vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – Yes; the motion carried.

Mr. Kusmer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geyer, for a reallocation among line items in several funds. The motion passed following a roll call vote: Mr. Stotz - Yes; Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer - Yes; as Resolution 2018-35:

RESOLUTION 2018-35

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BALLVILLE TOWNSHIP TO REALLOCATE AMONG ACCOUNT LINE ITEMS WITHIN VARIOUS FUNDS

Trustee Geyer pointed out that the trustees never actually voted on the motion and second made earlier in the meeting for opposition to Issue I since Judge Hart had continued to speak and discussion ensued. Mr. Geyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stotz, for the Board of Trustees to oppose Issue I. Upon a vote: Mr. Geyer – Yes; Mr. Kusmer – Yes; Mr. Stotz – yes; the motion carried. The trustees will have continued discussion with the Sandusky County Township Association and the Ohio Township Association regarding Issue I opposition to inform residents.

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 6:45 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

David P. Stotz, Chairman